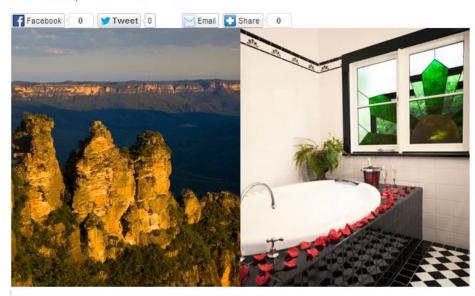


LUXURY AND SPA

# Winter Escape: Romantic art deco Blue Mountains

Yasmin Vought | Wednesday, July 31, 2013



"An art deco themed weekend of indulgence, dancing and decadence."

Yasmin Vought

First stop was to check-in at my luxury guest house fittingly named "The Gatsby".

The hustle bustle of the city can get to you if you let it. So

it was with great relief that I embarked on the two hour

train ride from Sydney to Katoomba for an art deco

themed weekend of indulgence, dancing and

decadence.

Decked out in true 1920's style, right down to the finer details of the delicate crystal glassware, art deco lamps and exquisite furnishings — The Gatsby was the perfect place for a bit of nostalgia and ultimate relaxation.

Topics:

Katoomba Leura

a Australia

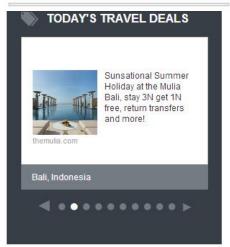
**New South Wales** 



Step back in time to 'The Gatsby'









### Step back in time to 'The Gatsby'

Fortunately for us, the gas log fireplace had already warmed the house for our arrival, accompanied by the atmospheric sounds of soft jazz and a very warm welcome from our lovely host Lorraine Allanson.

After a short rest and a much needed hot cup of tea, we embarked on a group outing to the quaint Leura Everglades.

The Everglade Historic House and Gardens — although historically the home of wealthy Belgian-born entrepreneur Henri Van De Velde — are now preserved by volunteers and funded mainly by donations and the revenue generated by function hire. In particular, it seems like a spectacular venue for a picturesque mountain weddina.



Spectacular: The Everglade Gardens.

Popping back home to recover from the wet weather, I took a much needed dip in the hot tub, sharpened up with a few mint juleps (in fashionable '20s style) and threw on my finest '20s garb. It was Charleston time!

The Great Art Deco Ball has been held annually since February 2011 in the Grand Dining Room of the historical grand Carrington in Katoomba. This was an absolute "must-do" on my agenda.

Walking into that decked out lavish ball room, we all muttered "oohs" and "ahhs" as we sauntered over to our decadently laid table.

On arrival to our seats, we were greeted by handsome young men wearing traditional service garb of the '20s. I could get used to this!



'20s babes: Yasmin, Lorraine and Lorrita. Image credit: Lorraine Allanson

It wasn't long until the more confident (albeit more experienced) Charleston dancers hit the dance floor and showed off their polished '20s moves.

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It took our group a few more champagnes until we were eventually coerced to join the frivolities by some eager young locals. And it wasn't long until we were joining in on learning the Charleston dance.

Eventually we fell flat from our three course meal and indulgent champagne and settled in for a nightcap at The Carrington's cocktail bar. Then, after a night of partying, I ventured home to The Gatsby for a long soak in the tub and more teal

After a much needed sleep-in to recover from the night's festivities and a warm breakfast in our back garden, we finished up our trip with a spot of antique shopping in the quaint little village centre of Leura.

Then a short tourist stopover at the famous Echo Point to see the glorious Three Sisters. Ahhh how's that for a view!

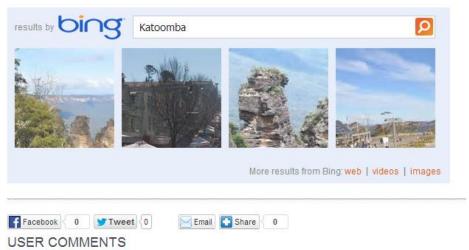


For more information on The Gatsby, visit: http://www.mountainwhispers.com.au.

To find out more about the 1920's art deco ball and things to do in The Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon area, contact Blue Mountains Tourism. http://visitbluemountains.com.au/.

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