Special Advertising Feature



## **Top tourist destination**

MOUNTAIN Whispers has enjoyed 20 per cent growth in bookings this quarter, compared with the same time last year and owner Lorraine Allanson said the growth followed the recent relaunch of the newly designed website.

"The website offers visitors a better online experience," she said. "People can see more accurately the products on offer."

Pleased with the performance of the site, Ms Allanson also attributes the spike in bookings for her four luxury properties to strong visitor interest in the Blue Mountains.

"The Blue Mountains is the top tourist destination in NSW, with stable year-on-year visitor growth as well as for what it's known for: its rich heritage, unique landscape and romantic atmosphere," she said. "Overnight visitors often seek out luxury accommodation and pamper packages to complete their ideal Blue Mountains experience. What Mountain Whispers offers is the full luxury indulgence package that

not only includes total privacy and exclusive use of the

properties, personalised in-house services and decadent extras, but even more importantly, great value for money."

Ms Allanson said that while the properties can welcome between four and six guests, couples who book their stay at a property will enjoy the entire place to themselves for the duration of their stay.

"And while couple bookings remain strong, we are seeing more and more group bookings come through, especially groups of girlfriends, small corporate groups and bridal parties," she said.

Ms Allanson believes the new website along with the attention to detail, value-added extras and personalised services will see bookings continue to grow. Rooms start from \$300 per couple, per night and

include exclusive use of the property, a bottle of boutique wine from Orange, hand-crafted chocolates by award winning Josophan's of Leura, a gourmet breakfast and fresh flowers. Additional guests per property pay \$75 per person.

Details: Visit www.mountainwhispers.com.au.

## Music, art and food



IF you are looking for something truly special for your Christmas celebrations this year, Sofitel Sydney Wentworth has joined with the Art Gallery of NSW to present The 7 Sopranos spectacular *Joyeaux Noel* Christmas Concert for two nights only: Friday, November 30, and Sunday, December 2, from 5.30pm.

Priced at just \$125 per person, this visual, aural and culinary feast will feature a stunning performance by the world-acclaimed 7 Sopranos, with Australian conductor Simon Kenway, a private viewing of the Francis Bacon exhibition and a welcome glass of champagne. The all-female 7 Sopranos will sing

The all-female 7 Sopranos will sing Christmas classics such as Brahms' Silent Night as well as operatic masterpieces including Ave Maria, Rachmaninoff's Vocalise and more against a backdrop of one of the finest collections of 19th century art in the country. Afterwards the Sofitel, Sydney's Hotel of the Arts, will host a special two-course set menu dinner where guests can mingle with and meet the glamorous 7 Sopranos while they dine.

This exclusive two-course dinner is an additional \$75 per person and includes a glass of sparkling wine on arrival. And for those who wish to make a weekend of it, the hotel will also offer a special stay rate of just \$245 including full buffet breakfast for two.

In the spirit of Sofitel's French-inspired l'art de vivre, Sofitel Sydney Wentworth is the harbour city's most active hotel in the arts space, partnering with the Art Gallery of NSW, the Biennale of Sydney, the Sydney French Festival, major musicals and many other artistic endeavours to bring high culture to Sydneysiders and guests.

Bookings: ticketek.com.au or phone 132 849.

Details: Visit sofitelsydney.com.au.



Spend a special weekend away from only \$145 and enjoy our **hot buffet breakfast, a bottle of sparkling wine on arrival and parking with our compliments.** 

Call us on 02 9491 9500 or visit www.courtyardnorthryde.com inserting 'W11' into the promotional box.

**Courtyard by Marriott North Ryde** 7-11 Talavera Road, North Ryde 2113 For reservations call 02 9491 9500 courtyard.northryde@courtyard.com COURTYARD Marriott.

Terms and conditions apply, rates valid Friday and Saturday, 1st October to 30th December 2012. All rates are subject to availability.