

# Mudgee Sketching Escape with Leonie Norton

**13-16 May 2021**

## Itinerary

### **Day 1 Thursday 13th**

Minibus pick up at 9am. You will be informed of pick-up points. We will travel to Mudgee via Katoomba, where we will stop for morning tea, before continuing onto Rylstone for sketching and lunch. Nestled in the celebrated Mudgee region, just 3 hours out of Greater Sydney, Rylstone is a rare colonial treasure. It is one of the oldest heritage villages west of the Great Dividing Range. Arriving in Mudgee late afternoon, we will have ample time to settle in and relax before heading into town. Welcome Drinks at one of the iconic pubs followed by group dinner.

### **Day 2 Friday 14th**

Strolling along the elegant tree-lined streets, we will come across many beautifully preserved colonial buildings including the quaint rotunda. Known primarily for its boutique wine and sophisticated country charm, Mudgee is nestled in hills, surrounded by iconic country towns. In the early afternoon, we will head off to the stunning Di Lusso Winery for lunch followed by afternoon sketching of the surrounding vineyards overlooking the serene lake. Lunch included followed by an optional dinner.



### **Day 3 Saturday 15th**

Parks and café sketching. Autumn is the perfect time to appreciate Mudgee's glorious parks with their red and gold trees framing pathways. Alby and Esters café with its cobbled-stone courtyard and pots of scarlet geraniums is a lovely spot for our morning tea and to sketch some café scenes. Late afternoon we sketch at Wirruna Hill with its panoramic vista of rolling hills. Sunset farewell drinks and nibbles from this stunning estate followed by optional dinner at our hotel.

### **Day 4 Sunday 16th**

9am: Depart hotel for Hill End, home to around 130 National Trust-listed buildings, many complete with their original verandahs and iron-lace balconies, dating back to the 1870's gold rush. Hill End has inspired many Australian painters including Brett Whiteley, John Olsen and Russell Drysdale. We will continue on to Sofala, Australia's oldest

surviving gold town, nestled in the Turon River valley. This tiny township once stretched for 16 km and its streets are filled with wonderful sketching subjects including a handful of great cafes and pubs for lunch.

Continuing onto Sydney in the late afternoon, you will be dropped off at the same spot where you were picked up, with so many wonderful memories captured in your sketchbooks from our fabulous Mudgee Sketching Escape!

