

NSAS - Hunter Valley Star Party



NSAS is proud to announce the Hunter Valley Star Party is now up and confirmed for Thursday 26th Sept to Sunday 29th September 2019.

The Star Party will be at the Grapevines Estate which is in a picturesque setting and has a large area available for us to park cars and set up our telescopes. The site has been purposely chosen as it is central to the winery area with a range of accommodation nearby and also has an SQM rating of 20.9-21.2 mag/arcsec² which is almost 2 bands darker than our Terry Hills site.



The Hunter Valley Star Party is aimed to be a spouse, family and friend friendly event where members are welcome and encouraged to bring spouses and friends. The setting in the beautiful Hunter Valley provides lots of opportunity to explore the area with vineyards, tours, incredible dinner experiences, many restaurants and many things to see and do. Refer -

<https://www.winecountry.com.au/>.



This is not a public event and registration is restricted to members and their guests. We also intend to liaise with the local astronomy club up there and invite their participation.

Accommodation is now available to be booked and you can choose any place to stay. We have arranged for discounts at the following venues and these can and now should be booked to avoid disappointment.

Accommodation

- Grapevines estate
 - Studio - Thursday \$180 p/night - Weekend \$250 p/night - Sleeps 2, Queen Bed
 - 2 Bedroom Villa - Thursday \$360 p/night - Weekend \$500 p/night - Sleeps 4, 2 x Queen Beds, plus has a lounge room/kitchenet
 - Deluxe Villa - Thursday \$620 p/night - Weekend \$750 p/night - Sleeps 6, 2 x Queen Beds, 1 x double, 1 x single bed. Room 1 has queen, room 2 has queen and single, rumpus has pull out double bed. This Villa has a full lounge room, dining table, and kitchen
 - Booking Contact:
 - Geoff McLennan. Ph +61 499 985 960.
 - Booking Code “STARPARTY19” when booking.
- Harrigan’s Irish Pub
 - Single Share Studio Rooms @ \$190 per room
 - Single Share Executive Rooms @ \$240 per room
 - Twin Share Executive Rooms @ \$260 per room
 - Single Share Deluxe Rooms @ \$280 per room
 - Twin Share Premium Rooms @ \$260 per room
 - Twin Share 2BD APT @ \$300 per room
 - Triple Share 3BD APT @ \$320 per room

- NOTE: Rooms include Full hot buffet breakfast each day
- Booking Contact:
 - Kim Hodgins Phone 02 4998 4300 or email at functions@harrigans.com.au
 - Booking Code “STARPARTY19” when booking.
- Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Gardens – 10% Discount on Room and Breakfast rates
 - Booking Contact:
 - Reservations / Mary Watson
 - (02) 4998 2097 or email at reservations@mercurehuntervalley.com.au
 - Please note Mercure reserve the right to change the price in the event a concert is announced for that weekend.

In the coming months we will providing further details about discounts for wine tours and other events around the valley that you can choose to do. Our aim is to provide you with a range of things to see and do to enable you to pick and choose what is right for you. If you choose and like to hike and wander around the National Parks or if you prefer a wine tour, then this will be your choice. Our aim is to make it easy for you to enjoy yourself and will provide you with the information to help you to do this. The organising committee will be managing and arranging the Star Party venue at GrapeVines Estate but outside of this you will be free to arrange what you want to do.

Costs

The fee is \$75 for attending the event whether you stay 1, 2 or all 3 nights or \$100 per couple or family. This fee covers the attendance at the HVSP site at the Grapevines Estate and the costs associated with the hire and use of the estate, provision of toilets and other amenities at the site. All costs associated with accommodation, food, travel and tours etc are not included.

I'm looking forward to the Hunter Valley Star Party and the fun and relaxation of the long weekend and I hope you are too. I look forward to seeing you there. Details about registration will be forthcoming.

Contact details

If you have any questions, then please direct them to HVSP@nsas.org.au .

David Stevenson
Hunter Valley Star Party Coordinator