



**NATIONAL TRUST**

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## MEDIA RELEASE

**Monday 21 December 2009**

### **Gold Coin Entry on Australia Day**

To celebrate Australia Day on 26 January the National Trust is throwing open its doors in exchange for a gold coin donation. The usual entry fees will be waived to encourage young and old alike to sample Australia's heritage.

With 10 house museums open on Australia Day, dotted around New South Wales from Armidale to Yass, this is a great chance to visit and learn more about early colonial life and the history behind our nation. As an added special if you join up and become a member of the National Trust on Australia Day, the normal joining fee is waived, a saving of up to \$30. Membership benefits include free access to over 800 heritage places worldwide.

Here's a few ideas of places to visit in New South Wales on Australia Day:

**Old Government House, Parramatta:** In the bicentennial year of Lachlan Macquarie's governorship, come and visit the fully restored house he and his wife Elizabeth built. Amid the music, rides, activities and crowds of Parramatta Park there will be a quiet haven in the grounds of Old Government House. Activities include children's story telling, stalls of second hand books and other items, barbeque and lamingtons, wine tasting and house tours. Or simply while away the day in the quiet surrounds as you contemplate centuries of history. Take home a commemorative certificate and much, much more as memories of your Australia Day visit to Old Government House.

**Open:** 10am – 4pm

**Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge:** The stunning Norman Lindsay Gallery, home to one of Australia's most prolific and controversial artists, is filled with the beautiful etchings, oils, watercolours, ship models and novels for which he became famous. Join a guided garden tour or bushwalk to discover this picturesque place in the Blue Mountains.

**Open:** 10am – 4pm

**Everglades House and Gardens, Leura:** Stroll through the beautiful gardens of Everglades, Australia's most spectacular inter-war garden. Enjoy gorgeous gardens, native bushland, stunning Jamison Valley views and the impeccably furnished Art Deco house. Treat the family to the all-day sausage sizzle and there'll be other food, drinks and home made cakes are available to purchase on the day.

**Open:** 10am – 5pm

These National Trust properties will also open be on Australia Day:

- Experiment Farm Cottage, Harris Park
- Saumarez Homestead, Armidale
- Dundullimal, Dubbo
- Harper's Mansion, Berrima
- Riversdale, Goulburn
- Cooma Cottage, Yass

National Trust Day on **Sunday 18 April 2010** will help celebrate Australia's heritage. Entry to National Trust properties on this day will also be through gold coin donation.

For more information on National Trust properties around NSW visit [www.nationaltrust.com.au](http://www.nationaltrust.com.au).

ENDS

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