

Where to go off the grid and sleep in luxury under stars in regional NSW

Eco-huts, bubble tents and off the grid glamping are the accommodation trends winning the rural tourism dollars in NSW. See why.



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Eco-huts, bubble tents and off the grid glamping – these are the accommodation trends winning the rural tourism dollars in NSW.

With sustainability a huge focus for local tourists, cost of living hurting the hip pockets and city families desperate for a tech break, off the grid and quirky weekend stays are proving popular alternatives to classic Airbnbs.

Cathryn Van Der Walt owns the Mirumiru Bubbletent in Tenterfield, where guests can log off for the weekend and sleep under the stars while still protected within a luxury tent.

“People want more than the same old same old,” she said.



A Mirumiru 'Bubbletent' nestled in Tenterfield bushland.

“Sustainability is a really big influencing factor. People are making the time to travel to a more distant location and people love knowing, when they leave, they’ve consumed the least amount of power or water, and everything is recycled.”



Stargazing from the Dulli Tent at Sierra Escape in Piambong, in central western NSW.

Ms Van Der Walt said eco-tent getaways are popular, especially with honeymooners wanting a private weekend away without breaking the bank.

“Even in regional Australia, honeymooners will go for a very short honeymoon locally and do an overseas trip later ... plus, after Covid, it reminded us how interesting and beautiful it can be in our own backyard in NSW.



Hideaway Domes in Mudgee is a glamping getaway.

“It’s a more natural way to connect. Connect to each other and the environment, and come away knowing they are something part of a unique stay and approach. We’ve had solo travellers, single parent families, friends, couples, honeymooners, long time partners and married couples with the same goal of sharing something slower and more sustainable together.”

Across the state, these types of experiences are popping up everywhere, from the farm stay Hideaway Domes in Mudgee, to African style safari tents in Paperback Camp in Jervis Bay, to Lily pad – a floating villa on the water at Palm Beach.