

Old-world splendour

Craig's Royal Hotel

Old-world splendour, suite in Craigs Hotel.



The Bistro at Craigs Hotel.



An opulent suite at Craigs Hotel.



Afternoon delights. High tea at Craigs Hotel.

Surrounded by the old-world finery of grandiose, gold-rush buildings, sweeping streetscapes, elaborate monuments and heritage-listed establishments, Ballarat can effortlessly induce inclinations to indulge your inner sophisticate. And what better way to enhance the experience than with a stay at Craig's Royal Hotel.

To truly immerse yourself in the traditional charm of yesteryear, a stay at Craig's Royal Hotel is ever-so-fitting. Perched proudly atop the significant heritage streetscape of Lydiard Street, Craig's Royal Hotel is the culmination of a multi-million dollar reconstruction that has repolished the hotel's gold rush glory.

It's the perfect place to celebrate Ballarat Heritage Weekend and Mother's Day from May 7-8.

With special presentations, activities, tours and tales of the past, Ballarat Heritage Weekend sees the town's rich history come alive in its grand buildings; and Craig's Royal Hotel is no exception.

The exquisite establishment will commemorate the annual occasion with high tea served on the Sunday. An afternoon nibbling petit fours in an opulent, grand colonial hotel? Such a splendid way to treat mum on Mother's Day!

Sugary pleasures manifest themselves in melt-in-the-mouth macaroons, flaky glazed pastries, cocoa-dusted truffles and heavy cream tarts bursting with berries. Savoury delights like silky salmon sandwich fingers and high-top scones provide welcome respite from the saccharine

rush. Each sumptuous morsel decorating the tiered china dishes waits to be devoured; then washed-down with steaming, golden tea – cascading from fine bone pots.

If you desire to sink your teeth into something more substantial, Craig's Royal Hotel offers a series of options to suit the mood.

The Gallery Bistro accommodates dining in a glass-roofed conservatory, encircled by an historic courtyard. Be seduced by star-lit views as you devour gourmet dishes.

For a casual bite, secure your seat at the communal table within Craig's Coffee Shop and Larder. Here, you can peruse the daily paper while sipping barista-prepared, Genovese coffee and munching a homemade meal.

To burn away some of those calories, head into town to enjoy Ballarat Heritage Weekend.

Once the day in town is done, a wealth of indulgence awaits at Craig's Royal Hotel.

Start the night right at Craig's Bar where boutique beer and classic cocktails will have you well on your way to relaxation.

And after one cocktail too many, you'll have the most luxurious slumber at Craig's Royal Hotel. All 41 suites within the 1853 building are individually-styled to reflect international themes.

Take the Royal Suites. These, the biggest and plushiest rooms, boast prime views of the Lydiard street precinct and Her Majesty's Theatre.

Allowing you to get just that little bit closer to these regal structures are the Royal Balcony Suites. Liberally furnished with antiques and fine bedding, the rooms marry stateliness with comfort. Some indulgent features in all suites include L'Occitane body care products, handmade French curtains, high-speed internet and cable television.

The marble trimmed bathrooms of many such suites include Roman or "Hydrotherapy" corner spas.

For those who prefer to remain grounded, The Royal Garden suites on the ground floor or the "Anglo-Japanese" styled suite with its oriental mood could be just the thing.

Then there are the Deluxe Rooms – featuring genuine antique mahogany or original Australian brass beds. One of two "Chinoiserie"-styled rooms allows guests to slumber upon a 600-year-old antique Chinese wedding bed.

The best way to truly stay here in style however, is with one of Craig's Legendary Accommodation packages.

The Heritage Heaven Escape package includes one night's accommodation for two, Continental breakfast, two-course dinner with complimentary wine, private tour of Craig's, valet parking, late checkout and a complimentary bottle of vintage sparkling wine and an exclusive "Legendary Stories from Craig's Royal Hotel" gift pack.

Food the foodies among us, there's the Grand Gourmet Getaway. It includes one night's accommodation for two, full breakfast, two-course dinner with complimentary wine, valet parking, late checkout and a "Grand Gourmet Secrets from Craig's Royal Hotel" recipe pack.

To treat the love of your life, opt for the Romantic Royal Retreat. You receive one night's accommodation for two, full Champagne breakfast, late checkout, valet parking, a complimentary gift of French Champagne and a music CD composed by Dario Marianelli and performed by Jean-Yves Thibaudet and the English Chamber Orchestra.

For a journey back in time that's laced with splendour, check-in at Craig's Royal Hotel.

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