

TRAVEL

PARADISE BY THE MURRAY

REVITALISED ALBURY IS THE PERFECT PLACE TO UNWIND

Sharon Green

ART, Aboriginal culture and a fine selection of food are on offer in Albury.

The charming town on the NSW side of the Murray River is enjoying a revival, with several recent additions giving travellers more than one good reason to visit.

The town's vibrant arts scene will soon be boosted by a \$10.5 million redevelopment of its arts museum which will be transformed into a grand and modern centre to showcase contemporary works.

Due to open in September,

it will be renamed the Murray Art Museum Albury and director Jacqui Hemsley says it will become "an important part of the arts and culture identity of Albury".

Albury City Council estimates it could attract at least 80,000 visitors each year, with a flow-on effect to hotels, shops and other attractions.

For a meal that's sure to satisfy food connoisseurs and casual diners alike, head to The River Deck.

Set on the leafy grounds of Noreuil Park and overlooking the Murray River, the newly revamped restaurant offers exquisite



Albury is nestled on the NSW side of the Murray River and provides a wonderful backdrop to a relaxed weekend of fine food, culture and art.

cuisine and a relaxed countryside atmosphere.

If you're in the mood for a stroll that unfolds a story along the way, the Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk is a pleasant way to discover the narrative of the Wiradjuri people.

Described as "a powerful

concept of respect", the route is best enjoyed on foot so you can take in the 11 sculptures created by local Aboriginal artists.

Recently refurbished Atura Albury has breathed new life into the region's former hotel, with the art-inspired design bringing a



Picture: SHARON GREEN

touch of contemporary, city-style accommodation to the heart of Albury's central Dean St.

Hire a bike, free of charge for hotel guests, and pedal through the nearby Albury Botanic Gardens to discover more than 1000 native and exotic plant species.

CHECK-IN

STAY

■ Atura Albury, 648 Dean St, aturaalbury.com.au

SEE

■ Murray Art Museum Albury (September), 546 Dean St
 ■ Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk, Kremur St
 ■ Albury Botanic Gardens, Wodonga Place

EAT

■ The River Deck
 48 Noreuil Pde
 riverdeckcafe.com.au
 ■ Border Wine Room
 492 Dean St
 borderwinerom.com.au
 ■ Brick Lane Restaurant & Bar
 479A Dean St
 bricklanealbury.com
 ■ Green Zebra
 484 Dean St
 greenzebra.com.au

Finish your day with a drink from the hotel's bar or put your feet up and relax, just the way a stay in Albury is intended.

Sharon Green was a guest of Destination NSW, Albury City Council, Atura Albury and Murray Regional Tourism

\$33,000

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