



Best Baillie Wishes for a Fabulous Festive Season

It's been a big year for us all at Baillie Lodges, welcome to the Christmas edition of our news, luxe_essential*. We love the summer festive season, when the Lodges come into their own with relaxed celebrations, fabulous dining and we welcome guests as our friends from around Australia and the world to share easy days and the simple joy of special times spent with the ones you love. We're thrilled to reflect on the cache of accolades received and we're especially excited to welcome Longitude 131° to the fold as our collection of two luxury lodges became three!

Our Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas, and may the New Year be a great one - we hope to see you in 2014!

James, Hayley & the team at Baillie Lodges



From little things big things grow – we welcome Longitude 131°



One of Australia's most recognised luxury lodges, Longitude 131° in the sights of the mighty monolith Uluru joined the Baillie Lodges portfolio from November this year, creating a trio of Baillie properties and offering guests a luxury desert bolthole and a new experience of Australia's iconic rust red outback. James and Hayley have engaged Southern Ocean Lodge architect **Max Pritchard** to refresh the 15-pavillion lodge, promising to bring a true sense of the outback and its indigenous custodians as well as the 'Baillie touch' to the lodge. "We feel very privileged to be entrusted with its stewardship and to take Longitude 131° forward into its next decade," said James. **Watch this space! To learn more, visit longitude131.com.au**

It's an Aussie Christmas celebration at SOL!

In the spirit of a traditional Australian Christmas, celebrations at Southern Ocean Lodge are both festive and relaxed, combining the laid back and the luxe in true Baillie Lodges style! A long and leisurely breakfast is the perfect start, with fun and games to follow, including a 'Christmas Hunt' amongst the mallee gums for the kids and an unforgettable quad bike safari or kayak adventure optional. Return for a spectacular 8-course degustation lunch featuring Kangaroo Island's finest produce, including such rare delights as local Berkshire pork, marron and Christmas pudding ice cream! After lunch, take to the beach and tip-toe across the hot white sand for a swim in the salty Southern Ocean, relax with a stroll or a game of beach cricket before welcoming the gentle dusk with sundowners overlooking the ocean. **A very Merry Christmas!**





The balloons are up, the benchmark has been set – Capella Lodge on Lord Howe, the first luxury lodge on the world’s last paradise has turned ten! Big congratulations to the Capella team and most especially to much-loved managers Mark and Libby who have welcomed guests and friends to Lord Howe’s most luxurious, favourite beach house for a most memorable decade. Capella holds a fond place in our hearts as the first lodge in the Baillie Lodges collection, creating the magic of barefoot luxury and the irresistible elixir that continues to draw guests back for more. **Happy Birthday!**

An Outback Christmas, in Style



We’re excited to be planning our first Christmas in the Australian outback at Longitude 131, with fun and festivities on the menu. The Christmas tree has pride of place in The Dune House, replete with fun desert-themed decorations – think sequined Sturt Desert Pea, galahs, cockatoos and boomerangs, a dingo and Uluru too – “Priscilla” would be pleased! Executive Chef Seona Fae McBurney has created a delicious degustation-style Christmas lunch with local fare and outback themes, including kangaroo fillet with roasted peaches and Eucalypt Pavlova! Take a plunge into the cool pool, and don a hat for a friendly game of cricket with the red desert sands as pitch, under the gaze of Uluru. **A very outback Christmas!**

Tim's Magic Pudding!

Here, Southern Ocean Lodge Executive Chef Tim Bourke shares a treasured family heirloom, try it at home and be transported! Tim says, “This is the recipe for my grandma's Christmas pudding. I have made this pudding every year either for home or work since I could reach the kitchen bench... The version we use at Southern Ocean Lodge uses the same recipe, tweaked slightly with the inclusion of Kangaroo Island Spirits (you can substitute any superior make) perfect for a hot and lazy Kangaroo Island Christmas day... enjoy!”.

Get your pudding here!



Welcome Executive Chef Pete Smit - and his Christmas Menu!



We’re thrilled to welcome Pete Smit to the helm as Executive Chef at Capella Lodge and can’t wait to see what he’s serving up this Christmas! Pete has simply hopped islands, arriving at Capella from his previous role as Sous Chef at Southern Ocean Lodge, so he’s a natural in the Baillie Lodges kitchen. What makes a Capella Christmas menu? Pete is planning to make the most of Lord Howe’s fresh island ingredients, especially seafood, including kingfish and tuna, and vibrant local greens. Guests will enjoy a long, island-style lunch before strolling to Lover’s Bay for a swim in the crystal-clear lagoon - **what better way to spend Christmas Day?**

Vote! 2014 Gold List Awards

Voting is now open for the 2014 Gold List Awards. Cast your vote now for the chance to be our guest! Awards are given to the world’s best hotels, resorts, spas, destinations and more based on nominations from Luxury Travel readers and most valuably from those who have experienced exceptional properties. As a past guest and friend of Capella, Longitude 131° and/or Southern Ocean Lodge, we’d love it if you’d nominate one or all properties for a 2014 Gold List Award. Complete the short survey [here](#). Nominations must be received by **10 February 2014**. You need only vote in the categories relevant to your experience ~ Best Australian Lodge would be nice! **There’s a chance to WIN a luxury holiday for two to your Baillie Lodges retreat of choice** (wow!), so we can all be in it to win it!

Thanks + good luck!



**Southern Ocean
Lodge**
Longitude 131
Capella Lodge
Baillie Lodges

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Brochure
Brochure
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