



# Eat, play, stay IN ORANGE

Now we're out of lockdown, it's time to explore our beautiful country. First stop: Orange, NSW. Premium member and Quest Orange owner AMY VAN DE VEN takes us on a tour.

**EAT**

For brunch, you definitely can't go past **Groundstone Cafe** for the best eggs and avo smash in town – my girlfriends and I always nab a sunny spot outside with our dogs. For dinner, head to **Mr Lim** for the most amazing Korean BBQ, and if you're visiting on a Saturday night you'll be treated to the best karaoke bar in the Central West!

**PLAY**

My weekends are filled with hiking **Mount Canobolas** into the stunning Federal Falls which sit tucked behind amazing rock transformations. I always grab a local-produce picnic hamper from **Agrestic Grocer** – throw in the picnic blanket and you're set. I also love to pop by **Jumbled** – an eclectic homewares store – and visit the animals at **Heifer Station Wines** (plus drink a glass of Orange wine, of course!).

**STAY**

**Quest Orange** is Orange's newest hotel and is located smack-bang in the middle of town. Book directly and ask for a one-bedroom apartment with a view – the sunrises and sunsets over Orange are something else. If you're an early worm, head onto the rooftop terrace between 3–5am over winter and you'll be treated to an amazing stargazing experience!



**KIM MASON**

Personal travel manager, TravelManagers Australia; lead host, Snow Safaris [travelmanagers.com.au](http://travelmanagers.com.au), [snow-safaris.com.au](http://snow-safaris.com.au)

**THREE WORDS TO DESCRIBE YOU:**

Innovative, playful and determined.

**WHY ARE YOU A BUSINESS CHICKS MEMBER?**

I renewed my membership with Business Chicks just as this crisis was starting to hit home. It was the realisation that this network was exactly what was needed to help in these crazy times. The learning from the masterclasses alone has brought so much value to my business.

**HOW HAS COVID-19 AFFECTED YOU AND YOUR WORK?**

Having worked from home as a personal travel manager for the past 13 years, there is little change to my daily work environment. But the travel industry has literally stopped. For me personally, this has meant long hours of work in cancelling forward bookings and negotiating refunds for my clients. It has also brought a great deal of emotion. People travel for many reasons, and knowing my clients' stories makes the process of undoing my work, and seeing their disappointment in not being able to take their dream holiday or honeymoon, truly heartbreaking. Financially, it is devastating as not only do I face many months ahead of potentially no income, but the prospect of having to hand back previously earned income as well.

If anything, this new environment has highlighted the changes I need to take in my business to make it robust. It has also given me the luxury of time to work on how my business will relaunch when the world is ready for exploration. I am still open for business, it's just the trips I can plan may be further in the future than normal.

**WHAT BROUGHT YOU JOY IN ISOLATION?**

Not having to rush out the door to school drop-offs, pick-ups and all the kids' sports activities. Not having to make school lunches was a bonus too!

**WHAT'S THE MOST TRIVIAL THING YOU MISSED DURING ISOLATION?**

Getting all dressed up and heading out to dinner with the family – someone else doing the cooking!

**WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN WATCHING OR READING?**

Besides catching up on the large pile of books I have been meaning to read, *Secret City* on Netflix has my attention. It's all about politicians conspiring to cover up whatever deed they have done ... definitely fiction, right?!