



# Robyn Parker MP

## Minister for the Environment

## Minister for Heritage

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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Sunday, 19 January 2014

#### EXPLORE THE BLUE MOUNTAINS THIS SUMMER

Environment Minister Robyn Parker and Blue Mountains MP Roza Sage today encouraged holiday makers to visit the Blue Mountains during summer to help the region's tourism economy following last year's fires.

Ms Parker said lost revenue from lower visitation was adding another burden to communities already impacted by fire.

"Last year's fires in the Blue Mountains were very serious with more than 200 properties lost, but most of the major visitor areas remained untouched. Visitors are beginning to return but the local community cannot properly recover until an important part of its industry is back on its feet," Ms Parker said.

"The majority of our beautiful bushland in the Blue Mountains was not affected by last year's fires and the same is true for most of the tourism businesses in the region.

"For these reasons, this summer, the NSW Government is getting behind the local community and tourism operators to promote this spectacular natural playground, right on Sydney's doorstep."

Mrs Sage said the NSW National Parks website now features a section called 'Summer in the Blue Mountains', which will help visitors to rediscover the wonderful World Heritage nature of the region.

"Some of our most iconic attractions - the Three Sisters and Govett's Leap lookout - can be found in Blue Mountains National Park, and many more nature experiences await, for a day trip or a weekend break," Mrs Sage said.

"Blue Mountains National Park activities range from gentle walks and picnics in beautiful surrounds to cycling and abseiling, and the towns in the region are equally enchanting.

"I encourage people planning day trips and holidays to explore the many Blue Mountains National Park experiences available at [www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/summerbluemountains](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/summerbluemountains) or call 1300 072 757."

Mr Randall Walker, Chairman of the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism said The Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon region offers world class nature-based visitor activities.

“Tourism operators are ready to welcome you, look after you and ensure you have a memorable experience. Come for a short break or a day trip and don’t forget your camera!” Mr Walker said.