

## World's first Ritz-Carlton Lodge in Australia's Blue Mountains by Emirates

- A Monitor Desk Report

Date: 05 February, 2026



Dubai: Emirates and Marriott International have signed an agreement to open Emirates Wolgan Valley, a Ritz-Carlton Lodge, a 40-key ultra-luxury, all-inclusive retreat set within a 7,000-acre conservancy in the UNESCO-listed Greater Blue Mountains, New South Wales. Scheduled to open in mid-2026, the lodge will mark the world's first Ritz-Carlton Lodge and a significant boost to regional tourism.

Emirates has invested AU\$150 million in the property since 2006 and is committing an additional AU\$50 million to transform it in collaboration with Marriott. The redevelopment will blend refined design and legendary service with deep environmental stewardship.

Less than two percent of the protected reserve will be developed, preserving native wildlife and flora, including over one million trees planted through conservation programs.

The lodge is expected to generate nearly 150 local jobs and support regional suppliers. Guests will access the retreat via four-wheel drive or helicopter and enjoy immersive nature-based experiences, private pool lodges, a signature “sleep-out” under pristine night skies, a spa, equestrian facilities, and curated culinary offerings.

The project underscores growing demand for premium, nature-led travel experiences in regional New South Wales.

-N