



River Cottage

AUSTRALIA





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Fifteen years ago, Englishman Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, embarked on an experiment in sustainability and self-sufficiency. He moved to a cottage on a small land-holding in Dorset and set about learning how to grow his own produce, raise livestock and become part of a community where sharing not only knowledge, but the fruits of farm labour, were an important part of life. The River Cottage programmes have encouraged interest and debate about the importance of local and seasonal produce, and the broader issues of sustainable agriculture and fishing on a global scale.

Now, Hugh is ready to take that experiment in downshifting and the message of sustainability Down Under. In *River Cottage Australia*, Hugh hands the River Cottage baton to Australian counterpart and Tasmanian chef, Paul West, who faces new challenges as he attempts to set up his own farm near the historic and picturesque village of Central Tilba on the NSW Far South Coast.

Hugh travels to meet Paul at *River Cottage Australia*; a former dairy farm nestled between the pristine Sapphire Coast and the

imposing Mount Gulaga – a sacred place of huge significance for the indigenous Yuin people. Hugh and Paul map out a sustainable plan for the future, discover fantastic bounty as they forage locally for food and share the products of their culinary skills with the locals, who try to help them overcome the challenges of living off the land. But as the series unfolds, it's up to Paul to make a go of it without Hugh to guide him. He learns how to dish up whatever he's grown, reared or caught and stocks the farm with chickens, pigs and cows, establishes vegetable gardens, hunts for wild food, and learns the secrets of bush tucker.

Can Paul build on the practices and passions developed at River Cottage in the UK? What new challenges will the Australian environment bring? The River Cottage ethos of respect and knowledge of the land and its produce doesn't just put good food on the table – it makes great viewing as well.

Shot in HD
Australian Broadcaster: Lifestyle
Produced by ITV Studios Australia and Keo Films

