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LIFT & PEEL



# *Fine* CUISINE PREVAILS IN THE LOWER BLUE MOUNTAINS

**M**y daughter recently organised a pre-Father's Day dinner for me at restaurant *como* on a cold Friday night.

Tucked away in the lower Blue Mountains, *restaurant como*, opened in early 2004, and is just ten minutes into the foothills at Blaxland and a pleasant 45mins drive from Sydney. Chef, Grant Farrant, has done wonders with the food, delivering a contemporary Australian style with a delightful balance of flavour, texture and stunning presentation.

The staff are professionally attentive yet non-intrusive and we were never left with an empty glass of wine or water. The dishes are best described as being innovative and creative, with a sensible approach to portion control.

Whilst *como* is fully licensed, it also caters for the BYO enthusiast with of course a corkage charge that is quite acceptable. Grant is supported by his partner Rachel on



Owners Grant & Rachel

the floor as restaurant manager, who has worked in some of the best boutique hotels and country houses in the upper Blue Mountains.

Grant prepares seasonal local produce sourced from Orange to Hawkesbury Valley, resulting in a contemporary Australian style of dishes that tempt the taste buds, not to mention the stunning visual presentation.

*como*'s nightly degustation option offering eight of Grant's best dishes, each carefully matched to a fine wine, is a must for the food addict. When you try the sugar-cured Kingfish and Queensland tiger prawn, lychee pearls, avocado, quail egg, almond clouds matched with the local 2009 Cargo Road Gewurztraminer (Orange, NSW) followed by the seared sea scallops and coconut-braised pork belly, tartlet of carrot and ginger, watermelon and fetta, coconut caramel will please both the palate and the stomach. If you prefer the à la carte menu then you must try the slow cooked duck leg green curry, duck sausage, crisp potato galette, quince.

### Restaurant *como*'s hours

Lunch: 12pm to 2pm Saturday

Dinner: from 6pm Thursday- Saturday

Web: [www.restaurantcomo.com.au](http://www.restaurantcomo.com.au)

