

# A home away from home – Canberra Furnished Accommodation



A home away from home—the dream of every business person who spends time travelling and who has spent too many a restless night on a lumpy bed or thrown their hands up in despair trying to cook in poorly equipped, self-contained accommodation.

Laurie McDonald is the owner and Director of Canberra Furnished Accommodation, which has 33 centrally located properties in its portfolio – from small studio units to two-bedroom executive apartments, all designed to meet client needs.

“We’ve listened to our clients about what they want, especially business people and their families,” says Laurie. “People are after comfortable and affordable accommodation, privacy, and prompt service if something goes wrong. The reality is that not all accommodation providers respect these basic requirements. It can often be about skimping to save money.”

In contrast the décor of Canberra Furnished Accommodation’s properties is modern and all are well appointed, with ‘little extras’ like espresso machines, Egyptian cotton towels, high thread-count bed linen and throw rugs on the beds. The kitchens are so well-equipped you can easily cook a five-course meal in them and the outdoor spaces are furnished, with many having barbecues.

Canberra Furnished Accommodation accepts bookings for any length of time – stay a day, a week or months. The business also has a reputation for being one of the most cost-effective accommodation alternatives in Canberra. Prices start at \$90 per night for a studio (\$360 per week, for 12 weeks or more) and go up to \$200 per night for a two-bedroom executive apartment (\$790 per week for 12 weeks or more). All prices include water and electricity.

Canberra Furnished Accommodation serves

corporate clients who are on work contracts or relocating. The business also caters for those needing short or long-term accommodation when moving to Canberra or temporary accommodation for those who are renovating, for example, or dealing with an insurance claim. The accommodation is also popular with people returning to the ACT from overseas as well as visitors and tourists to the region.

Occupants are left in peace and quiet throughout their stay. “We respect our clients’ right to privacy and only enter the property if we’re asked to drop something off or fix a maintenance issue,” says Laurie.

Extra services available include breakfast hampers on arrival, pantry stocking and family packages that include DVDs for the kids.

Canberra Furnished Accommodation currently has properties in Griffith, the city centre, Reid, Braddon and Turner – close to cafes, restaurants, bars and other amenities – and the portfolio is growing. The business opened in August 2003 with one investment property that Laurie and her husband bought and then furnished and equipped. “We needed to positively gear it to meet the mortgage payments,” says Laurie. “The level of inquiry was so strong we continued to take on properties and now have more than 30.”

Canberra Furnished Accommodation continues to expand and now has an office in Fyshwick and a growing team of staff. Clients can check availability and see photos of the accommodation online ([www.canberrafurnished.com.au](http://www.canberrafurnished.com.au)) or call 6295 0975.



Want guaranteed rent for your investment property?

Canberra Furnished Accommodation is an ideal option for investors wanting steady income and hassle-free arrangements for their property. There is guaranteed rent, and no real estate agency fees taken off the top. As an added bonus all advertising is taken care of by the company.

“We have our own maintenance person so investors avoid paying excessive call-out fees for plumbers, electricians or other service providers,” says Laurie. “We also don’t expect our owners to lose income over vacancies – we absorb that. And as an owner-run business we keep careful watch over all properties. We have a comprehensive maintenance program that ensures each property is given a detailed clean in between each client and all furniture and equipment is inspected and assessed to ensure it meets our high standards.”

If you have a well-located investment property, call to discuss the possibility of Canberra Furnished Accommodation handling it for you. ■