

Friday, 18 October 2019

## **NSW TOURISM AWARDS FINALISTS HIGHLIGHT INDUSTRY LEADERS**

The finalists of the 2019 NSW Tourism Awards have been announced today identifying innovation, leadership and excellence across the State's tourism industry.

A total 146 entrants nominated for the awards across 26 categories including tourist attractions, festivals and events, ecotourism, new tourism business, destination marketing, accommodation and excellence in accessible tourism.

In its 30<sup>th</sup> year, the NSW Tourism Awards acknowledge tourism businesses that demonstrate outstanding achievement throughout the year.

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres said NSW's strong visitor economy is testament to the work of these exceptional operators.

"The NSW Government has set an ambitious target of delivering \$55 billion in overnight visitor expenditure for the State's economy by 2030, and the calibre of industry leaders recognised by these awards give me great confidence that we will surpass that target," Minister Ayres said.

The awards are managed by the NSW Business Chamber's Tourism Industry Division and supported by the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.

Destination NSW Chief Executive Officer Sandra Chipchase said the State's tourism businesses had shown great vision and professionalism in building NSW's record as the country's top State for visitation.

"From hospitality to accommodation providers, tour and experience leaders to event owners, it is the people behind NSW's tourism industry that keep us on top in terms of international and domestic visitation in Australia," Ms Chipchase said.

NSW Business Chamber Chief Executive Officer Stephen Cartwright said the NSW Tourism Awards were the most prestigious accolades for the industry.

"We're thrilled to see so many businesses entering the Awards again this year, many for the first time, to benchmark their business against peers and gain recognition for their accomplishments and innovation," Mr Cartwright said.

The winners of the 2019 NSW Tourism Awards will be announced at a Gala Dinner on 14 November at the Four Seasons Hotel. Gold Medal winners go on to represent NSW at the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards held in Canberra in March 2020.

For more information: [nswtourismawards.com.au](https://nswtourismawards.com.au)

## About Destination NSW

Destination NSW is the lead NSW Government agency for the State's tourism and major events industry and is responsible for devising and implementing strategies to grow the State's visitor economy. Our particular focus is driving tourism and acquiring and developing major sporting and cultural events for Sydney and regional NSW. In addition, Destination NSW is the major investor in Business Events Sydney with the aim of securing more international conventions, incentive travel reward programs, corporate events and exhibitions.

## Note to editors

Video, images and editorial can be found in the Destination NSW [Content Library](#).

## 2019 NSW TOURISM AWARDS FINALISTS

### DESTINATION COUNTRY & OUTBACK NSW

- Bandalong Cottages - Mudgee
- Bathurst Regional Council: Bathurst Winter Festival
- Bathurst Visitor Information Centre
- City Centre Motor Inn, Armidale
- Dubbo Regional Council: Dubbo + Great Western Plains Destination Marketing Campaign
- Dubbo Regional Council: Dubbo Visitor Information Centre
- Eldee Station, Silverton
- Faraway Domes, Warialda
- Gawura Gallery, Glen Innes
- Grazing Down the Lachlan, Forbes
- Heifer Station Wines, Borenore
- Kirsten Serviced Accommodation, Mudgee & Parkes
- Manera Heights Apartments, Dubbo
- Mudgee Region Tourism: Visitor Information Services
- Mudgee Region Tourism: Water to Wine Campaign
- Nundle Woollen Mill

- Old Dubbo Gaol
- Orange Visitor Information Centre
- Orange360: Extend the Weekend campaign
- Outback Astronomy, Broken Hill
- Peppertree Hill Luxury Farm Cottages, Eurunderee
- Sierra Escape, Mudgee
- Tamworth Regional Council: Tamworth Country Music Festival
- The Parkview Hotel Mudgee
- Warrumbungle National Park Visitor Centre
- Wolgan Valley Eco Tours

### DESTINATION NORTH COAST NSW

- Bent on Food, Wingham
- BIG4 Great Lakes at Forster-Tuncurry
- Blue Dolphin Holiday Resort, Yamba
- Blue Ginger Picnics, Banora Point
- Clarence Valley Council: Grafton's Jacaranda Season
- Coffs Coast Surf Tours, Coffs Harbour

- Coffs Harbour City Council: Coffs Coast Destination - Naturally Connected
- Elements of Byron, Byron Bay
- Forestry Corporation of NSW: Sealy Lookout, Orara East State Forest, Coffs Harbour
- Go Sea Kayak Byron Bay
- Hello Koalas Sculpture Trail, Ellenborough
- Ingenia Holidays South West Rocks
- Lismore City Council: Eat the Street Lismore
- Lismore Lantern Parade
- Macquarie Waters Boutique Apartment Hotel, Port Macquarie
- North Star Holiday Resort, Hastings Point
- NRMA Port Macquarie Breakwall Holiday Park
- Observatory Holiday Apartments, Coffs Harbour

## **DESTINATION NORTH COAST NSW**

- Reflections Holiday Parks Seal Rocks
- Riverside Holiday Resort Urunga
- Splendour in the Grass 2018, Byron Bay
- Table Under a Tree, Rosebank
- Tasting Plate Tours, Terranora
- Telegraph Retreat Cottages, Telegraph Point
- The Giingan Experience by Bularri Muurlay Nyanggan Aboriginal Corporation, Coffs Harbour
- Vision Walks - Eco Tours, Brunswick Heads
- Wajaana Yaam Gumbaynggirr Adventure Tours, Coffs Harbour

## **DESTINATION RIVERINA MURRAY NSW**

- Albury Visitor Information Centre
- Bundyi Cultural Tours, Wagga Wagga
- Cadell on the Murray Motel Resort, Moama - Echuca
- DC on the Lake Holiday Park, Mulwala
- Deni Ute Muster, Deniliquin
- Food I Am, Wagga Wagga
- Mantra Albury Hotel
- The River Deck, South Albury
- Tumut River Brewing Co

## **DESTINATION SOUTHERN NSW**

- Eucumbene Trout Farm, Rocky Plain
- Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa
- South East Arts: Giyyong Festival, Bega
- Southbound Escapes, Narooma

## **DESTINATION SYDNEY SURROUNDS NORTH**

- Ask Roz, Lawson
- Beyond Ballooning, Lovedale
- Blacksmiths Beachside Holiday Park, Blacksmiths
- Blueberry Hills on Comleroy, Kurrajong
- Brokenwood Wines Cellar Door, Pokolbin
- Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley, Lovedale
- Fairmont Resort & Spa Blue Mountains
- Glenworth Valley Outdoor Adventures
- Hunter Valley Gardens: Christmas Lights Spectacular
- Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association: Hunter Valley

'Here's to the Good Life'  
Campaign

- Macquarie 4 Star, Lake Macquarie
- Margan Wines & Restaurant, Broke
- Moonshadow - TQC Cruises, Nelson Bay
- Oakvale Wildlife Park, Salt Ash
- Pearls of Australia, Mooney Mooney
- Port Stephens 4WD Tours, Nelson Bay
- Sand Dune Adventures, Williamtown
- The Australian Reptile Park, Somersby

## **DESTINATION SYDNEY SURROUNDS SOUTH**

- Bangalay Luxury Villas, Shoalhaven Heads
- Cupitt's Winery, Brewery & Fromagerie, Ulladulla
- Dovecote, Gerringong
- Fern Street Gallery, Gerringong
- Morvern Valley Farm Stay, Bundanoon
- Mt Hay Retreat, Berry
- Science Space, North Wollongong
- Shoalhaven Tourism: Shoalhaven Visitor Centre
- South Coast Nannies, Nowra
- Stand Up Paddle Boarding Shellharbour

- Symbio Wildlife Park, Helensburgh

## **NATIONAL**

- Accessible Accommodation

## **SYDNEY METRO**

- AAT Kings, Sydney
- Australia in Style, Randwick
- Birkenhead Point Brand Outlet, Sydney
- Boomers Bike Tours Sydney, Paddington
- Cocky Guides, Hammondville
- Culture Scouts, Redfern
- Destination NSW: Vivid Sydney 2019
- Emu Trekkers, Sydney & Blue Mountains
- Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour 2019: West Side Story
- Q Station, Sydney Harbour National Park, Manly
- Sydney by Kayak: Sunrise 'Clean-up' Kayak and Coffee, Lavender Bay
- Sydney Cricket Ground: SCG Tour
- Sydney Harbour Boat Tours, Point Piper
- Sydney Harbour Yacht Charter, Waverton
- Urban Winery Sydney, Moore Park
- Yots Cafe, Darling Harbour

**Finalists will contest the following categories at the 2019 NSW Tourism Awards:**

- Major Tourist Attractions
- Tourist Attractions
- Major Festivals and Events
- Festivals and Events

# Media Release



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- Ecotourism
  - Cultural Tourism
  - Excellence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tourism
  - Specialised Tourism Services
  - Visitor Information Services
  - Business Event Venues
  - Major Tour and/or Transport Operators
  - Tour and/or Transport Operators
  - Adventure Tourism
  - Destination Marketing
  - Tourism Restaurants and Catering Services
  - Tourism Wineries, Distilleries and Breweries
  - Caravan & Holiday Parks
  - Hosted Accommodation
  - Unique Accommodation
  - Self-Contained Accommodation
  - Standard Accommodation
  - Deluxe Accommodation
  - Luxury Accommodation
  - New Tourism Business
  - Excellence in Food Tourism
  - Excellence in Accessible Tourism