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MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## The National Tourism Industry gathers in Sydney to celebrate the best of the best in tourism at the 2022 Qantas Australian Tourism Awards

The nation's best of the best in the tourism industry tonight gathered in Sydney for the 2022 [Qantas Australian Tourism Awards](#). Held at Sydney's Doltone House on Darling Island, the tourism industry united to celebrate the premier tourism businesses in the country and reveal the 2022 Gold, Silver and Bronze national winners at the black tie gala event.

"This is the biggest annual celebration of tourism business excellence in Australia. And we have much to celebrate recognising and elevating the very best of what tourism has to offer in this great country of ours," said Shaun de Bruyn, Chairperson, Australian Tourism Awards.

"Each of our award nominees have reached the status of absolute excellence in tourism and business to be here tonight – a night of reflection, triumph and solidarity for the industry. Australia's tourism operators and products are truly outstanding across the board, and we're seeing this with all states and territories represented in the winner's pool."

"As an industry we are susceptible to many external factors, which has been highlighted over the past several years, but we continue to innovate, collaborate and come back strong. Many of our tourism operators are going from strength to strength, bouncing back after the worst of the pandemic," Mr de Bruyn continued.

Overall, there were 75 awards presented across 25 categories with a Gold, Silver and Bronze winner announced for each category. The awards were once again supported by major sponsor, Qantas, with Tourism Australia and Destination NSW supporting sponsors.

Tonight, the most coveted award, Major Tourist Attraction, saw Adelaide Zoo in South Australia take Gold, with the Gold for Tourist Attraction category being awarded to Bundaberg Rum Distillery Visitor Experience in Queensland.

In the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island Tourism Experience, the Gold was awarded to wukalina Walk in Tasmania, and in the Ecotourism category, Gold went to Live Ningaloo in Western Australia. The Cultural Tourism award went to Geelong Gallery in Victoria, and in the Major Festivals & Events category, Gold was awarded to The Darwin Festival in the Northern Territory.

In the accommodation sector, Canberra's Jamala Wildlife Lodge won Gold in the Unique Accommodation category, whilst Mt Hay Retreat in NSW took Gold for 5 Star Luxury Accommodation.

"We congratulate all tourism businesses who have entered, and particularly those who leave with awards which truly demonstrates excellence in their individual categories. Australia continues to deliver exceptional tourism experiences across all states and tourism continues to remain an important industry for the economy," Mr de Bruyn concluded.

The Qantas Australian Tourism Awards celebrates innovation and exceptional standards in tourism; and is made possible through the generosity of sponsors, in particular Qantas, Tourism Australia, and the NSW Government through Destination NSW. A warm thanks to The Caravan Industry Association of Australia, Signature Media, Ultimate Winery Experiences, and Novotel: Darling Harbour for their support throughout the awards.

For more information on the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards, visit [www.qualitytourismaustralia.com/australian-tourism-awards/](http://www.qualitytourismaustralia.com/australian-tourism-awards/)

The full list of winners is listed below. Images and interviews with award recipients can be arranged on request.

***MEDIA CONTACT:***

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## MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

The following is the complete list of categories and winners at the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards 2022. Images and interviews with award recipients can be arranged on request.

### **Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island Tourism Experience**

GOLD- wukalina Walk TAS

SILVER - Spirits of the Red Sand QLD

BRONZE - Angkerle Atwatye - Standley Chasm NT

### **Cultural Tourism**

GOLD - Geelong Gallery VIC

SILVER - The Cedars Hahndorf SA

BRONZE - Venture North Safaris NT

### **Adventure Tourism**

GOLD - The Hike Collective WA

SILVER- Ocean Rafting QLD

BRONZE - Bendleby Ranges SA

### **New Tourism Business**

GOLD - Wildcat Mackay QLD

SILVER – CENTREPIECE at Melbourne Park VIC

BRONZE – Sequoia Lodge SA

### **Tour & Transport Operators**

GOLD - Fun Over 50 Holidays QLD

SILVER - The Hike Collective WA

BRONZE - Air Adventure Golf TAS

### **Major Tour & Transport Operators**

GOLD - SeaLink WA

SILVER- Searoad Ferries VIC

BRONZE - Sea World Cruises QLD

### **Caravan & Holiday Parks**

GOLD - BIG4 Adventure Whitsunday Resort QLD

SILVER - BIG4 St Helens Holiday Park TAS

BRONZE - Oasis Tourist Park NT

### **Hosted Accommodation**

GOLD - Bli Bli House QLD

SILVER - Tallawarra Homestead VIC

BRONZE - Redwing Farm SA

### **Unique Accommodation**

GOLD - Jamala Wildlife Lodge CBR

SILVER - Woodhouse Activity Centre SA

BRONZE - Mitchell Grass Retreat QLD

### **Self Contained Accommodation**

GOLD - The Woods Ocean Grove VIC

SILVER - Tree Chalets WA

BRONZE - Villa Talia TAS

### **Ecotourism**

GOLD - Live Ningaloo WA

SILVER - Tasmanian Walking Company TAS

BRONZE - Lady Elliot Island Eco Resort QLD

### **Tourism Retail and Hire Services**

GOLD - Willie Creek Pearls WA

SILVER - Sydney Harbour Kayaks NSW

BRONZE - Uluru Audio Guide NT

### **Visitor Information Services**

GOLD - Mudgee Region Tourism NSW

SILVER - Quilpie Visitor Information Centre, Museum & Gallery QLD

BRONZE - Bendigo Visitor Centre VIC

### **Business Event Venues**

GOLD - Pullman Bunker Bay Resort WA

SILVER - Darwin Convention Centre NT

BRONZE - Peppers Silo Hotel TAS

### **Tourism Restaurants & Catering Services**

GOLD - Char Restaurant and The Darwin Club at Admiralty House NT

SILVER - Potager NSW

BRONZE - Mures Tasmania TAS

### **Tourism Wineries, Distilleries & Breweries**

GOLD - Bangor Vineyard Shed TAS

SILVER - Courabyra Wines NSW

BRONZE - Billson's Brewery VIC

### **Tourism Marketing & Campaigns**

GOLD - 'Viva Bendigo' by City of Greater Bendigo VIC

SILVER - MidCoast Council - Destination Barrington Coast NSW

BRONZE - Tourism Tropical North Queensland QLD

### **Excellence in Food Tourism**

GOLD - Coal River Farm TAS

SILVER - CORE Cider House WA

BRONZE - Margan Wines & Restaurant NSW

### **3-3.5 Star Accommodation**

GOLD - Urban Camp Melbourne VIC

SILVER – Broadwater Resort Busselton WA  
BRONZE – Magnums Unique Accommodation Airlie Beach QLD

#### **4-4.5 Star Deluxe Accommodation**

GOLD – Cape York Peninsula Lodge QLD  
SILVER – Ship Inn Stanley TAS  
BRONZE – The Byng Street Boutique Hotel NSW

#### **5 Star Luxury Accommodation**

GOLD – Mt Hay Retreat NSW  
SILVER – COMO The Treasury WA  
BRONZE – Eos by SkyCity Adelaide SA

#### **Festivals & Events**

GOLD – Outback Queensland Masters QLD  
SILVER – Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival VIC  
BRONZE – Tumbafest Inc NSW

#### **Major Festivals & Events**

GOLD – The Darwin Festival NT  
SILVER – Tesselaar KaBloom VIC  
BRONZE – Optus Stadium – AFL Grand Final 2021 WA

#### **Tourist Attractions**

GOLD – Bundaberg Rum Distillery Visitor Experience QLD  
SILVER – Katherine Outback Experience NT  
BRONZE – Willie Creek Pearl Farm WA

#### **Major Tourist Attractions**

GOLD – Adelaide Zoo SA  
SILVER – National Zoo & Aquarium CBR  
BRONZE – Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary QLD