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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Quality Visitor Experiences leading the way at the 2023 Qantas Australian Tourism Awards**

Over 88% of businesses awarded at the 2023 Qantas Australian Tourism Awards are Quality Tourism Accredited Businesses, demonstrating the vital role of accreditation in supporting businesses to deliver quality tourism experiences.

57 of the Gold, Silver and Bronze winners also held Sustainable Tourism Accreditation, meeting the higher business standards of environmental management and sustainable tourism operations. This strong representation of Quality Tourism and Sustainable Tourism accredited businesses was a true testament to the incredible outcomes possible for businesses that achieve accreditation through the Quality Tourism Framework suite of programs.

“These businesses are continuously developing their products and services to provide exceptional visitor experience. This has positioned them well to take out top honours and continue to develop and grow their business further,” said Erin McLeod, CEO, Australian Tourism Industry Council.

“The Quality Tourism Framework not only supports businesses in their efforts for success, but also provides the wider community with peace of mind and confidence when making their travel choices by highlighting reliable, quality tourism products and services through the Quality Tourism Accredited Business brandmark,” explains Ms McLeod.

The Qantas Australian Tourism Awards recognise and celebrate businesses that have demonstrated a commitment to quality tourism products and experiences. It is the pinnacle event for the tourism industry, with close to 700 representatives from across Australia coming together to celebrate.

“The Australian Tourism Awards are the tourism industry’s most prestigious awards which showcases innovation and business excellence,” said Shaun de Bruyn, Chairperson, Australian Tourism Awards.

“There was an exceptional level of competition across all categories which demonstrates the dedication tourism operators have to developing extraordinary visitor experiences,” he said.

During 2023 awards gala, it was announced that Adelaide, South Australia would be the official Host Destination for the 2024 Australian Tourism Awards.

The 2023 awards were supported by returning naming rights sponsor, Qantas, as well as Platinum Sponsor, Tourism Australia, and Host Partners, the Northern Territory Government and Tourism NT. The awards were also supported by numerous Partners and Sponsors including GetAboutAble, the Big Red Group, Darwin Convention Centre, the Airport Development Group and Signature Media.

For more information on the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards, visit <http://www.qualitytourismaustralia.com/australian-tourism-awards/>

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

**- Ends -**

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**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tourism Experience**

GOLD – wukalina Walk TAS  
SILVER – Cape York Peninsula Lodge QLD  
BRONZE – Ngurrangga Tours WA

**Ecotourism**

GOLD – Fun Over 50 Holidays - Immersive Tours and Adventures QLD  
SILVER – Sydney by Kayak NSW  
BRONZE – National Arboretum Canberra CBR

**Self Contained Accommodation**

GOLD – The Woods Ocean Grove VIC  
SILVER – Tree Chalets WA  
BRONZE – The Granary | Richmond Hill TAS

**Unique Accommodation**

GOLD – Cygnet Bay Pearl Farm WA  
SILVER – Jamala Wildlife Lodge CBR  
BRONZE – Woodhouse Adventure Park SA

**Hosted Accommodation**

GOLD – The Dragonfly Inn TAS  
SILVER – Narrows Escape Rainforest Retreat QLD  
BRONZE – Kangaroo Ridge Retreat VIC

**Caravan & Holiday Parks**

GOLD – BIG4 Adventure Whitsunday Resort QLD  
SILVER – Alivio Tourist Park Canberra CBR  
BRONZE – NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park VIC

**Tourism Marketing & Campaigns**

GOLD – The Tweed Tourism Company NSW  
SILVER – Rockhampton Regional Council - Explore Rockhampton QLD  
BRONZE – BIG Reasons to visit Mandurah - Visit Mandurah WA

**New Tourism Business**

GOLD – On Board TAS

SILVER – Nexus Airlines WA

BRONZE – Port River Cruises SA

**Visitor Information Services**

GOLD – Canberra and Region Visitors Centre CBR

SILVER – Mandurah Visitor Centre WA

BRONZE – Port Lincoln Visitor Information Centre SA

**3 - 3.5 Star Accommodation**

GOLD – Urban Camp Melbourne VIC

SILVER – ibis Adelaide SA

BRONZE – Magnums Accommodation Airlie Beach QLD

**4 - 4.5 Star Deluxe Accommodation**

GOLD – Beach Huts Middleton SA

SILVER – Ship Inn Stanley TAS

BRONZE – Cape York Peninsula Lodge QLD

**5 Star Luxury Accommodation**

GOLD – The Reef House Boutique Hotel and Spa | Adults Tropical Escapes QLD

SILVER – Chocolate Gannets VIC

BRONZE – Pullman Bunker Bay Resort WA

**Business Event Venues**

GOLD – Darwin Convention Centre NT

SILVER – Peppers Silo Hotel TAS

BRONZE – Pullman Bunker Bay Resort WA

**Tour & Transport Operators**

GOLD – Air Adventure Golf TAS

SILVER – Swan River Seaplanes WA

BRONZE – NT Bird Specialists Birding & Photographic Safaris NT

**Major Tour & Transport Operators**

GOLD – Pennicott Wilderness Journeys TAS

SILVER – Ocean Rafting QLD

BRONZE – Searoad Ferries VIC

**Adventure Tourism**

GOLD – Ocean Rafting QLD

SILVER – Bendleby Ranges SA

BRONZE – Balloon Aloft Australia NSW

**Tourism Restaurants & Catering Services**

GOLD – Grain of the Silos TAS

SILVER – Potager NSW

BRONZE – CORE Cider House WA

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

GOLD – Origins Market WA

SILVER – The Museum Shop at the National Museum of Australia CBR

BRONZE – Go Adventure Nagambie VIC

### **Excellence in Accessible Tourism**

GOLD – Adelaide Fringe SA

SILVER – Accessible Accommodation VIC

BRONZE – Katherine Outback Experience NT

### **Excellence in Food Tourism**

GOLD – Love Lord Howe NSW

SILVER – The Truffle Farm - Home of Australia's first black Truffle TAS

BRONZE – Adelaide Showground Farmers' Market SA

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

GOLD – Bangor Vineyard Shed TAS

SILVER – Seppeltsfield Wines SA

BRONZE – Billson's Brewery VIC

### **Cultural Tourism**

GOLD – Royal Australian Mint CBR

SILVER – Fun Over 50 Holidays - Immersive Tours and Adventures QLD

BRONZE – Geelong Gallery VIC

### **Tourist Attractions**

GOLD – Katherine Outback Experience NT

SILVER – Bundaberg Rum Distillery Visitor Experience QLD

BRONZE – d'Arenberg SA

### **Major Tourist Attractions**

GOLD – Australian Reptile Park NSW

SILVER – Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary QLD

BRONZE – Zoos Victoria - Melbourne Zoo VIC

### **Festivals and Events**

GOLD – National Capital Authority - Lights on the Lake CBR

SILVER – 2023 Ord Valley Muster WA

BRONZE – Tumbafest Inc NSW

### **Major Festivals and Events**

GOLD – Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers QLD

SILVER – Tesselaar KaBloom VIC

BRONZE – Darwin Festival NT