

# Local operators serve up top honours

**These businesses have claimed serious silverware at Tasmanian Tourism Awards gala**

Owen Sinclair

LOCAL tourism operators have found the spotlight at the state's annual tourism night of nights.

The Tasmanian Awards Gala, held on Friday, October 31, drew at least 500 people to the Tasman Room at the Wrest Point in Hobart.

Grain of the Silos, The Dragonfly Inn and The Truffle Farm have been inducted into the Tasmanian Tourism Awards Hall of Fame.

Tourism Industry Council Tasmania chief executive Amy Hills said the Hall of Fame recognises businesses that achieve outstanding success in tourism by winning the same category for three consecutive years.

The Truffle Farm, known as the home of Australia's first black truffle, took out the Excellence in Food Tourism Award.

The Hosted Accommodation Award again went to The Dragonfly Inn, while Grain of the Silos claimed the Tourism Restaurant and Catering Services Award.

But the North's smooth operators didn't end their award haulage there.

Overall, operators from the North and North-East took home a combined 14 of the 30 award categories.

Indeed, Peppers Silo Hotel, in addition to its in-house restaurant taking out gold, also claimed two gold awards in the 4 - 4.5 Star Deluxe Accommodation and Business Event Venues categories.

Holm Oak Vineyards, about a 40 minute's drive north of Launceston, brought a drop of class, winning gold in the Tourism Wineries Award.

The Gustav Weindorfer Award for New Tourism

Business went to Evry Drive, in recognition of its state-wide network of electric hire vehicles.

BIG4 Launceston Holiday Park took out the Caravan and Holiday Parks Award, and Party in the Paddock won the Chair of Judges' Award for Positive Impact Tourism.

Ms Hills said the music festival was recognised for pioneering an innovative approach to festival culture while preserving the environment and celebrating all that is unique about Tasmanian creativity.

"The inaugural Local Government Award for Excellence in Tourism was presented to West Tamar Council, acknowledging its outstanding commitment to supporting and developing tourism within the region,"

Ms Hills said.

It comes only seven months after northern businesses excelled at the 2025 Australian Tourism Awards.

## FULL LIST OF GOLD WINNERS

- Chair of Judges' Award for Positive Impact Tourism - Party in the Paddock
- Tasmanian Tourism Champion - Séverine Demanet and Rodney Dunn
- Tourism Minister's Young Achiever Award - Sofia Tsamassiros
- People's Choice Award - Australian Wooden Boat Festival
- New Tourism Product Award - Cape Raoul Cruises (Pennicott Wilderness Journeys)

- Gustav Weindorfer Award for New Tourism Business - Evry Drive
- Local Government Award for Excellence in Tourism - West Tamar Council
- Major Tour and Transport Operators Award - Pennicott Wilderness Journeys
- Major Tourist Attractions Award - Port Arthur Historic Site
- Visitor Information Services Award - Smithton Visitor Information Centre
- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Tourism Experience Award - wukalina Walk
- Excellence in Accessible Tourism Award - The Cove Tasmania
- Tourism Wineries Award - Holm Oak Vineyards

- Tourism Distilleries and Breweries Award - Killara Distillery
- Tourist Attractions Award - Kuuma Nature Sauna
- Major Festivals and Events Award - Australian Wooden Boat Festival
- Festivals and Events Award - Bicheno Beams
- Ecotourism Award - Aquila Eco Retreat
- Cultural Tourism Award - Cascades Female Factory Historic Site
- Tourism Retail, Hire and Services Award - Yunique Stays
- Business Event Venues Award - Peppers Silo Hotel
- Tour and Transport Operators Award - eGuide
- Adventure Tourism Award - Blue Derby Pods Ride
- Tourism Restaurants and

- Catering Services Award - Grain of the Silos
- Caravan and Holiday Parks Award - BIG4 Launceston Holiday Park
- Hosted Accommodation - The Dragonfly Inn
- Unique Accommodation Award - Aquila Eco Retreat
- Self Contained Accommodation - Red Rock Hut, King Island
- 3 - 3.5 Star Accommodation Award - Freycinet Resort
- 4 - 4.5 Star Deluxe Accommodation Award - Peppers Silo Hotel
- 5 Star Luxury Accommodation Award - The Tasman, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Hobart
- Excellence in Food Tourism Award - The Truffle Farm



Grain of the Silos restaurant. Picture supplied.