



## Sunday Times (Perth)

Sunday 29/09/2019

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# THE BEST OF THE BEST IN WA



SKYDIVE GERONIMO ROTTNEST.

**O**n Thursday night, the finalists that will contest the 30 categories in the 47th Perth Airport WA Tourism Awards were announced at Optus Stadium.

The awards, which are run by Tourism Council WA, celebrate business excellence among tourism businesses of all kinds, ranging from hotels and wineries, through to tour guides and events, and everything in between.

This year there was a record number of entrants in the awards program, representing a diverse range of businesses from across Western Australia.

"The Perth Airport WA Tourism Awards are the most prestigious awards in the tourism industry, with

a long history of celebrating and recognising business excellence, innovation and outstanding customer service by tourism operators," Tourism Council WA CEO Evan Hall said.

Entrants complete a written submission showcasing their business's innovation, successes, customer service and sustainability, which is reviewed by a panel of

industry judges.

"It's exciting to see so many businesses entering the awards this year, many for the first time, to benchmark their business against their peers and gain recognition for their accomplishments and innovation," Mr Hall said.

"Becoming a finalist in the WA Tourism Awards is a fantastic achievement, and all of the finalists

should be proud they have made a commitment to reviewing their business.

"The longevity and process of the awards really does mean those that take home medals are the best tourism businesses Western Australia has on offer."

Medal winners in the Perth Airport WA Tourism Awards will be announced at a Gala Dinner at Crown Perth on Saturday November 9. Gold medallists in categories one to 25 go on to represent Western Australia at the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards, to be held in Canberra in March, 2020.

**For more information on the 2019 Perth Airport WA Tourism Awards, visit [www.tourismcouncilwa.com.au](http://www.tourismcouncilwa.com.au).**



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## 2019 FINALISTS

### CATEGORY 1

#### MAJOR TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

SPONSORED BY TOURISM WA

Busselton Jetty  
Fremantle Prison  
Rottneest Island  
WA Maritime Museum

### CATEGORY 2

#### TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

SPONSORED BY HELLO PERTH

Fremantle Markets  
Horizontal Falls Seaplane Adventures  
The Bell Tower, Home of the Swan Bells, Perth  
The Perth Mint

### CATEGORY 3

#### MAJOR FESTIVALS & EVENTS

SPONSORED BY WHAT'S ON

City of Perth Australia Day Fireworks  
Field of Light: Avenue of Honour  
Optus Stadium - Chelsea FC in Perth  
Perth Festival

### CATEGORY 4

#### FESTIVALS & EVENTS

SPONSORED BY DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SPORT AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

2019 Caravan & Camping Show  
Busselton Jetty Swim  
Kaleidoscope - Festival of Light | Art | Food  
CinefestOZ Film Festival  
IRONMAN Western Australia  
The Karijini Experience

### CATEGORY 5

#### ECOTOURISM

SPONSORED BY PARKS & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Busselton Jetty  
Cape to Cape Explorer Tours  
Kimberley Quest  
Live Ningaloo  
Rockingham Wild Encounters  
Rottneest Island

### CATEGORY 6

#### CULTURAL TOURISM

SPONSORED BY DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SPORT AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

Albany's Historic Whaling Station  
Fremantle Prison  
Kooljaman at Cape Leveque  
Perth Cultural Centre  
The Bell Tower, Home of the Swan Bells, Perth

The Perth Mint  
WA Maritime Museum

### CATEGORY 7

#### QANTAS AWARD FOR ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER TOURISM

SPONSORED BY QANTAS AND WAITOC

Go Cultural Aboriginal Tours & Experiences  
Kooljaman at Cape Leveque  
Luridgii Tours  
Ngurragga Tours

### CATEGORY 8

#### SPECIALISED TOURISM SERVICES

SPONSORED BY GURU PRODUCTIONS

Crystal Swan Cruises  
Eco BBQ Boats  
Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory  
Intlang Corporate Consulting

Mandurah Boat & Bike Hire  
Sightseeing Pass Australia  
Vasse Virgin  
WAITOC

### CATEGORY 9

#### VISITOR INFORMATION SERVICES

SPONSORED BY RAC PARKS & RESORTS

Albany Visitor Centre  
Kalgoorlie Boulder Visitor Centre  
Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association  
Perth Hills Visitor Centre  
Rottneest Island Visitor Centre  
Swan Valley Visitor Centre

### CATEGORY 10

#### BUSINESS EVENT VENUES

SPONSORED BY PERTH CONVENTION BUREAU

Crown Perth  
Optus Stadium  
Pullman Bunker Bay Resort Margaret River Region

### CATEGORY 11

#### MAJOR TOUR & TRANSPORT OPERATORS

SPONSORED BY BUDGET CAR AND TRUCK RENTAL

ATG Downunder  
Busy Blue Bus  
HeliSpirit  
Kimberley Wild Expeditions  
Rottneest Express

### CATEGORY 12

#### TOUR & TRANSPORT OPERATORS

SPONSORED BY VANGUARD PRESS

Broome Explorer Bus  
Eat the Street Walking Tours  
Eco Abrolhos

Coral Coast Helicopter Services

Harvest Tours  
Kimberley Air Tours  
Kimberley Pearl Charters  
Kimberley Quest  
Walk into Luxury

### CATEGORY 13

#### ADVENTURE TOURISM

SPONSORED BY RAC PARKS & RESORTS

Coral Coast Helicopter Services  
Eco Abrolhos  
Forest Adventures South West  
HeliSpirit  
Kimberley Quest  
Live Ningaloo  
Skydive Geronimo Rottneest  
Skydive Jurien Bay  
Ultimate Watersports  
West Oz Active Adventure Tours  
Wagoe Beach Quad Bike Tours

### CATEGORY 14

#### DESTINATION MARKETING

SPONSORED BY COUNTRYWIDE PUBLICATIONS

Destination WA - Summer Series 7  
Magic Kimberley - Australia's North West  
Squid Productions  
StudyPerth  
WAITOC

### CATEGORY 15

#### TOURISM RESTAURANTS & CATERING SERVICES

SPONSORED BY TOURISM WA

Boston Brewing Co.  
Odyssea City Beach  
Sandalford Wines  
The Crooked Carrot  
The Lake House Denmark

### CATEGORY 16

#### TOURISM WINERIES, DISTILLERIES & BREWERIES

SPONSORED BY VANGUARD PRESS

Boston Brewing Co.  
Little Creatures Brewing  
Sandalford Wines  
Singlefile Wines  
The Lake House Denmark

### CATEGORY 17

#### CARAVAN & HOLIDAY PARKS

SPONSORED BY CARAVAN INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION WA



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BIG4 Middleton Beach Holiday Park  
RAC Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort

### CATEGORY 18

#### HOSTED ACCOMMODATION

SPONSORED BY THE SUNDAY TIMES

Amaroo Retreat & Spa  
Holberry House  
Diamond Forest Farm Stay

### CATEGORY 19

#### UNIQUE ACCOMMODATION

SPONSORED BY BAILLWICK LEGAL

Bungle Bungle Savannah Lodge  
Horizontal Falls Seaplane Adventures - The  
Horizontal Hotel  
Kimberley Coastal Camp  
Kimberley Quest

### CATEGORY 20

#### SELF-CONTAINED ACCOMMODATION

SPONSORED BY PARKS & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Balingup Heights Hilltop Forest Cottages  
Bina Maya Yallingup Escape  
The Aqua Resort

### CATEGORY 21

#### STANDARD ACCOMMODATION

SPONSORED BY COMMONWEALTH BANK

Kangaroo Inn  
Metro Hotel Perth  
SurfPoint Resort

### CATEGORY 22

#### DELUXE ACCOMMODATION

SPONSORED BY QUICK SLIP FRAMES

Kununurra Country Club Resort  
Onslow Beach Resort

### CATEGORY 23

#### LUXURY ACCOMMODATION

SPONSORED BY TOURISM COUNCIL WA

Pullman Bunker Bay Resort Margaret River Region  
The Westin Perth

### CATEGORY 24

#### NEW TOURISM BUSINESS

SPONSORED BY GALLAGHER

Discovery Rottneest Island  
Pirate Ship Mandurah  
QT Perth  
The Hike Collective  
WA HomeStay

### CATEGORY 25

#### EXCELLENCE IN FOOD TOURISM

SPONSORED BY TOURISM AUSTRALIA

Chestnut Brae  
Eat the Street Walking Tours  
Two Feet & a Heartbeat  
Vinofood - The Lake House Denmark

### CATEGORY 26

#### EXCELLENCE IN CHINESE TOURISM

SPONSORED BY CHINA READY & ACCREDITED

Sandalford Wines  
Skeetas Restaurant and Cafe  
Valentino Holidays  
LH Global Tours

### CATEGORY 27

#### EXCELLENCE IN TOURISM EDUCATION & TRAINING

SPONSORED BY GURU PRODUCTIONS

Adventure World

### CATEGORY 28

#### EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT TOURISM

SPONSORED BY WA SUPER

City of Albany  
City of Karratha  
Experience Perth Hills - City of Kalamunda  
Shire of Northam  
Shire of Toodyay

### CATEGORY 29

#### FACET GOLDEN GUIDE AWARD

Walter McGuires - Go Cultural Aboriginal Tours & Experiences

Vaughan Sadler - Two Feet & a Heartbeat  
Marielle Sengers - Travel Western Australia  
Clinton Walker - Ngurrangga Tours  
Tim Willing - Kimberley Quest

### 2019 JUDGES

Bonnie Allen	Gemma Hunter
Julian Barry	Marilyn Kestel
Richard Campbell	Peta McAuliffe
Deb Carr	Tracy McCullough
Karen Castiglioni	Michael Meade
Julie Coleman	Jasmine Meagher
Tara Colyer-Long	Joan Mulcahy
Steve Crawford	Emma Page
Ross Dowling	Sally Pullin
Brendan Dugan	Rod Quartermain
Kym Francesconi	Claire Savage
Dave Humphreys	

### FACET GOLDEN GUIDE AWARD

#### JUDGES

Ryan Mossny  
Tracy Shea  
Cherie Toovey

### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS JUDGES

Tahn Donovan  
Paul Grootveld  
James Mulholland  
Matt Norton  
Robert Taylor  
Margaret Wilson

### CHAIR OF JUDGES

Pat Strahan

### WA TOURISM AWARDS COORDINATOR

Julie Wood



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WA MARITIME MUSEUM



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