



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### STATE'S BEST TOURISM BUSINESSES RECOGNISED BY GOVERNOR

South Australia's best tourism businesses have been honoured with a reception hosted by His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia to acknowledge their superior achievements.

The reception held at Government House celebrated the 30 state Tourism Award winners and seven national winners who were recognised for their recent successes and best business practices when delivering their world class visitor experiences.

South Australian Tourism Industry Council Chairman, Eoin Loftus says the reception is a great honour for our winners.

"This is the first-time Tourism Award winners have been recognised with an event at Government House, which signifies the growing importance of the tourism industry to the South Australian economy," Mr Loftus says.

"The Tourism Awards highlight the hard work and innovation of the people at the front line of our tourism industry and all South Australians should be extremely proud of their achievements and the amazing visitor experiences that South Australia has to offer."

Three of the State's regional experiences were recently awarded major prizes at the 2016 Qantas Australian Tourism Awards with *Seppeltsfield Estate Winery* (Barossa), *The Frames* (Riverland) and *Yondah Beach House* (Yorke Peninsula) all winning gold in their respective categories.

An additional, four South Australian businesses were also awarded silver and bronze medals, recognising their outstanding contribution to the industry.

"These wins were a fantastic and well deserved result for the State, raising the reputation of these businesses and the regions they call home, as well as our State on a whole," Mr Loftus says.

#### **Nominations are now open for the 2017 South Australian Tourism Awards.**

"I encourage all tourism businesses to nominate, as the program is a great opportunity to develop your business, raise your brand awareness and enhance your reputation.

"Both the SA Tourism Industry Council and our major awards sponsor, the SA Tourism Commission, are committed to providing increased benefits and entrant support to our nominees.

Nominations close on Monday, 26 June and submissions are due by Friday, 14 August.

For more information, visit: [www.satourismawards.com.au](http://www.satourismawards.com.au)