



Jamestown business wins state tourism award

The Jamestown-based Glenrest Camper Trailers won a state tourism award on Friday night for providing a unique accommodation experience.

Glenrest, which was founded by Mannanarie farmers Chris and Daphne Bretag five years ago, hires out and sells camper trailers to help people explore the Flinders Ranges and outback regions of the state.

Mr Bretag said it was the first time the business had entered the South Australian Tourism Awards in which it won the Unique Accommodation category. "It's also a credit to the other operators with whom we have linkages," he said.

"You can't run a tourism business on your own, it's all about having linkages throughout the region and South Australia."

Those linkages included vehicle hire firms and even more traditional accommodation operators who referred customers when they were at full capacity.

Each of Glenrest's Australian-made camper trailer is equipped with a queen-size bed, kitchen, comfortable living areas, and an awning that accommodates from two to six people. The Deluxe and Executive models also include a range of extras as part of the package.

"The beauty of hiring a Glenrest camper trailer means visitors can discover Australia by road, travel in comfort, stop along the way, and explore destinations at their leisure," they said in their submission.

The other major award winner from the region was Rawnsley Park Station, which is owned and managed by fourth generation Flinders Ranges' residents, Tony and Julieanne Smith.

The Rawnsley Park Station Eco Villas won the

Eco Tourism category and received a bronze medal in the Qantas Award for Excellence in Sustainable Tourism.

More than 550 people attended the black tie presentation dinner at the Adelaide Convention Centre, where 28 awards were presented to businesses and individuals judged to be the most outstanding in their category.

A further 78 entrants who achieved a high standard in their category were recognised with a gold, silver or bronze medal.

Brice Hill Country Lodge was awarded a silver medal for Hosted Accommodation and the Regional Council of Goyder and the District Council of Peterborough - Steamtown Heritage Rail Centre both received bronze medals for Excellence in Tourism by Local Government.

South Australian Tourism Industry Council Chief Executive Ward Tilbrook said an impressive 150 entries were received this year.

"South Australia's tourism experiences are some of the best in this country and South Australians should consider holidaying at home and book an award-winning experience with confidence when planning their next escape," Mr Tilbrook said.

"The Tourism Industry Council aims to present the South Australian tourism industry as professional and high quality, and as a result we have seen some of the State's finest tourism businesses rewarded for excellence."

The awards are judged in accordance with a strict set of rules and criteria, and winners will represent the State at the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards in March 2012, to be held in Cairns.



Owners Chris and Daphne Bretag (front) with employee George Seppelt (left) and Peter Adams