



Friday, 4 November 2011

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S BEST IN TOURISM

Five of South Australia's finest tourism experiences have been inducted into the State's **Tourism Hall of Fame** at the [2011 South Australian Tourism Awards](#), after winning their category for a third year in a row:

- **Santos Tour Down Under** – *best Major Festivals & Events*
- **Getaways Reservation Service** – *best Specialised Tourism Services*
- **Yorke Peninsula Visitor Information Centre** – *best Visitor Information & Services*
- **Seppeltsfield Vineyard Cottage** – *best Hosted Accommodation*
- **The Sebel Playford Adelaide** – *best Luxury Accommodation*

Producer, writer and presenter, **Ron Kandelaars**, with Channel 9's tourism and lifestyle program *Postcards*, was also honoured for his involvement in tourism, receiving the award for an Outstanding Contribution by an Individual.

Ron's love of a good story and the pride he takes in his craft; his genuine interest in the characters and tourism businesses; his ability to connect with interviews and audiences; and his ongoing commitment to promoting and fostering the SA tourism industry make him a worthy recipient.

More than 550 people attended the black tie event at the Adelaide Convention Centre last night, where **28 awards** were presented to businesses and individuals judged to be the most outstanding in their category (full list attached).

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

Tourism Minister Gail Gago congratulated all winners and inductees to the Hall of Fame.

"The awards showcase outstanding tourism events, operators and services in South Australia," the Minister says.

"I was highly impressed by the breadth of talent from the Outback to the coast.

"It's tremendous to acknowledge and celebrate excellence in the industry."

South Australian Tourism Industry Council Chief Executive Ward Tilbrook says an impressive **150 entries** were received this year, with almost 65% of our winners from regional South Australia.

“South Australia’s tourism experiences are some of the best in this country and South Australians should consider holidaying at home and book one of these award-winning experiences with confidence when planning their next escape,” Mr Tilbrook says.

The South Australian Tourism Awards are the pinnacle of excellence within the tourism industry; they reward innovation and foster better business practices by setting benchmarks for all tourism operators to aspire to.

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.

<b>2011 South Australian Tourism Awards</b>
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**Category 1 – Major Tourist Attractions**

[Adelaide Casino](#)

Ph: (08) 8218 4159

**Category 2 – Tourist Attractions** *Supported by Caravan and Camping Industries Assoc. of SA*

[Old Timers Mine](#)

Ph: (08) 8672 5555

**Category 3 – Major Festivals & Events**

[Santos Tour Down Under](#) \*

Ph: (08) 8463 4500

**Category 4 – Festivals & Events** *Supported by Flinders University*

[South Australian Wooden Boat Festival](#)

Ph: (08) 8555 7240

**Category 5 – Ecotourism** *Supported by Department of Environment & Natural Resources*

[Rawnsley Park Station Eco-Villas](#)

Ph: (08) 8648 0030

**Category 6 – Heritage & Cultural Tourism** *Supported by Department of Environment & Natural Resources*

[Innamincka Hotel](#)

Ph: (08) 8675 9901

**Category 7 – Indigenous Tourism** *Supported by Department of Environment & Natural Resources*

[Aboriginal Cultural Tours – Adjahdura Land, Yorke Peninsula](#)

Ph: 0429 367 121

**Category 8 – Specialised Tourism Services**

[Getaways Reservation Service](#) \*

Ph: 08 8563 1000

**Category 9 – Visitor Information & Services** *supported by Bookeasy Tourism Solutions*

[Yorke Peninsula Visitor Information Centre](#) \*

Ph: (08) 8853 2600

**Category 10 – Meetings & Business Tourism**

[Hilton Adelaide](#)

Ph: (08) 8237 0729

**Category 11 – Major Tour &/or Transport Operator** *Supported by SeaLink Travel Group*

[Great Southern Rail](#)

Ph: (08) 8213 4444

**Category 12 - Tour &/or Transport Operators**

[Tour Barossa](#)

Ph: (08) 8563 1000

**Category 13 – Adventure Tourism**

[Adventure Bay Charters](#)

Ph: (08) 8682 2979

**Category 14 – Tourism Marketing** *Supported by Newstyle Printing*  
[Adelaide Convention Bureau – Conventions Adelaide Program](#) Ph: (08) 8237 0100

**Category 15 – Tourism Education & Training** *Supported by Education Adelaide*  
[Flinders University Tourism](#) Ph: (08) 8201 5905

**Category 16 – Tourism Restaurants & Catering Services** *Supported by Rymill Coonawarra*  
[Jacob's Restaurant @ Jacob's Creek Visitor Centre](#) Ph. (08) 8521 3000

**Category 17 – Tourism Wineries, Distilleries and Boutique Breweries**  
[Jacob's Creek Visitor Centre](#) Ph: (08) 8521 3000

**Category 18 – Tourist & Caravan Parks** *Supported by Caravan and Camping Industries Assoc. of SA*  
[BIG4 Adelaide Shores Caravan Park](#) Ph: (08) 8355 7320

**Category 19 – Backpacker Accommodation**  
[Adelaide Central YHA](#) Ph: (08) 8414 3006

**Category 20 – Hosted Accommodation**  
[Seppeltsfield Vineyard Cottage](#) Ph: (08) 8563 4059

**Category 21 – Unique Accommodation**  
[Glenrest Camper Trailers](#) Ph: 0428 485 651

**Category 22 – Standard Accommodation**  
[Narnu Farm](#) Ph: 0438 060 585

**Category 23 – Deluxe Accommodation**  
[Emaroo Cottages](#) Ph: 0418 862 260

**Category 24 – Luxury Accommodation** *Supported by McLaren Vale Beer Company*  
[The Sebel Playford Adelaide](#) \* Ph: (08) 8213 8888

**Category 25 – New Tourism Development** *Supported by Caravan and Camping Industries Assoc. of SA*  
[Heritage Highlights Interpretive Trail – West Terrace Cemetery](#) Ph: (08) 8139 7407

**Category 26 – Qantas Award for Excellence in Sustainable Tourism**  
[Sinclair's Gully](#) Ph: (08) 8390 1995

**Category 27 – Outstanding Contribution by an Individual** *supported by Qantas Airways*  
Ron Kandelaars, Channel 9's Postcards

**Category 28 – Excellence in Tourism by Local Government**  
[City of Onkaparinga](#) Ph: 0405 390 678

\* *Hall of Fame recipients*

**For images of winners, contact Bianca Borrett on telephone 0401 998 247.**