



Local winery scoops pool at tourism awards

Sinclair's Gully Wines at Norton Summit, was the stand out winner for the Adelaide Hills at the 2010 South Australian Tourism Awards Ceremony, winning the prestigious Qantas Award for Excellence in Sustainable Tourism and receiving Gold for Tourism Wineries, Distilleries and Boutique Breweries and Silver for the Ecotourism categories at the gala dinner and presentation ceremony, in front of 650 guests at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

These awards top off an amazing year for Sinclair's Gully, following recent wins at the AdvantageSA Regional Awards and the National Landcare Awards.

"This is such a great honour. We are thrilled to have been recognised by the South

Australian Tourism Industry Commission for our sustainable tourism initiatives and commitment to reducing our carbon footprint, Sue Delaney said.

"As far as being acknowledged by the tourism industry, it doesn't get any better than this."

This successful Adelaide Hills family business employs triple bottom line approach across all aspects of their operations. Environmental practices focus on conservation of the endangered candlebark ecosystem and the use of biodynamic vineyard practices to ensure sustainable outcomes. Other sustainable initiatives include a zero waste 100 per cent recycling program, the onsite collection of all water

and reuse of grey water on the surrounding garden, its energy efficiency program and

solar power project, through to measuring and implementing strategies to reduce its carbon and ecological footprint.

Passionate about their wine, the Delaneys' believe the secret to producing a great wine starts in the vineyard.

"We have a strong focus on soil health, using a combination of biodynamic methods and native grasses in our vineyard to encourage beneficial insects, ensuring the vineyard remains in balance with nature. The wines produced display great expression and cleanliness, reflecting the unique site specific characteristics", Sean explains.

"We offer visitors to our cellar door interpretive experiences on the conservation value of our candlebark ecosystem.

Showing visitors the bush care work we have completed over the past 13 years, the biodynamic practices in the vineyard and the sustainable land and business practices that follow provides an out of the ordinary cellar door experience. Walking through the wildflowers in spring, watching the black cockatoos fly through the candlebark forest at dusk at a summer twilight tasting, or just sitting back on the deck with a glass of wine and a platter provides a very personal Australian wine and ecotourism experience, with visitors returning again and again."

As a South Australian Tourism Awards winner, Sinclair's Gully is now automatically entered into the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards to be held in Perth in March 2011, to compete against the best in each State and Territory.



Sean and Sue Delaney on their property near Norton Summit