

VICTORIA'S BEST ACCOMMODATION HOTELS HONOURED

Victoria's top accommodation hotels have been recognised at the 2016 Tourism Accommodation Australia (Victoria) Accommodation Awards for Excellence. The winners were announced at a gala dinner held at the Grand Hyatt Melbourne on Wednesday 15 June 2016.

The dinner was attended by 550 accommodation providers and hospitality industry leaders from Tourism Victoria, City of Melbourne, Tennis Australia, VTIC, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Visit Victoria, Australian Grand Prix Corporation, Public Transport Victoria, Food and Wine Festival and Destination Melbourne.

The prestigious TAA (Vic) award for "Outstanding Contribution to the Industry" and the "Hotel Industry Rising Star" award was presented by the Honourable John Eren, Minister for Tourism and Major Events.

The "Outstanding Contribution to the Industry" award recognises a sustained contribution by an accommodation provider or industry leader who has made a significant contribution to Victoria's tourism and accommodation industries. The 2016 awardee was Lord Mayor Robert Doyle. In his 8 years as Lord Mayor of Melbourne, he has lead the City of Melbourne through a period of remarkable growth and success which has been one of the foundation blocks of Melbourne's tourism success in recent years.

The 2016 awardee of the "Hotel Industry Rising Star" was Annabelle Gibney, from Pullman Melbourne on the Park.

Other winners honoured were:

Accommodation Category Award Winners:

1. Deluxe Accommodation Hotel of the Year – Crown Towers, Melbourne
2. Apartment Accommodation of the Year - Citadines on Bourke Melbourne
3. Superior Accommodation Hotel of the Year - PARKROYAL Melbourne Airport, Tullamarine
4. Mid-Range Accommodation Hotel of the Year - The Swanston Hotel Melbourne, Grand Mercure
5. Boutique Style Accommodation of the Year - Adelphi Hotel, Melbourne
6. Resort Style Accommodation of the Year - Balgownie Estate Vineyard Resort and Spa, Yarra Glen
7. Regional Accommodation of the Year - Royal Mail Hotel, Dunkeld

Specialty Category - Winners:

8. Deluxe Restaurant of the Year - Park Hyatt Melbourne, radii restaurant & bar
9. Hotel Restaurant (All Day Dining) of the Year - Radisson on Flagstaff Gardens, Melbourne, HQ's on William
10. Regional Hotel Restaurant of the Year - Royal Mail Hotel, Dunkeld, The Royal Mail Dining Room
11. Hotel Bar of the Year – Sheraton Melbourne Hotel, Terrace Bar
12. Hotel Club Lounge of the Year - Crown Towers, Melbourne

Individual Excellence - Winners:

13. Administration Employee of the Year – Grand Hyatt Melbourne, Fil Ruberto

14. Concierge of the Year – InterContinental Melbourne The Rialto, Paul Rumpff and Melbourne Marriott Hotel, Anthony Szostak
15. Engineer and Maintenance Employee of the Year - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins, Tony Wischer
16. Food and Beverage Services Employee of the Year – Silverwater Resort Phillip Island, Dan Child
17. Front Office Services Employee of the Year – Pullman Melbourne on the Park, Sevag Keroghlian
18. Hotel Industry Rising Star - Pullman Melbourne on the Park, Annabelle Gibney
19. Housekeeper Employee of the Year – Crown Towers, Melbourne, Donna Musarella and Hilton Melbourne South Wharf, Vicki Curran
20. Marketing & Public Relations Employee of the Year - The Langham Melbourne, Evan Hinrichsen
21. Revenue Management Employee of the Year - The Hotel Windsor, Melbourne, Leah Hyndes
22. Sales Employee of the Year - Balgownie Estate Vineyard Resort and Spa, Yarra Glen, Melanie Watson and Sofitel Melbourne on Collins, Conny Bartl.

Property Performance - Winners:

23. Best Environmental & Energy Efficiency Practice - Quality Hotel Downtowner on Lygon, Carlton
24. Best Marketed Accommodation Provider – Grand Hyatt Melbourne
25. Excellence in Innovation - Grand Hyatt Melbourne
26. Outstanding Achievement in Training - Stamford Plaza Melbourne
27. Outstanding Community Service & Achievement - Melbourne Marriott Hotel and Atura Hotel, Dandenong

Darryl Washington, General Manager of TAA (Vic) praised the finalists, award-winners and individuals who were honoured. "The TAA (Vic) Accommodation Awards for Excellence is a celebration of the diversity and success of metropolitan and regional Victorian accommodation providers. Melbourne and Victoria properties offer a world class and diverse selection of properties that cater well for our visitors. The industry constantly strives to raise the bar and again this year, the nominated properties, and in particular those that have been honoured at the 2016 TAA (Vic) Accommodation Awards for Excellence emphasise this point. Congratulations to finalists and in particular all winning accommodation providers."

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