

MEDIA RELEASE

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HOTELS HONOURED AT ACCOMMODATION INDUSTRY'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

The **Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour** and **Emirates One & Only Wolgan Valley** picked up major honours at the Tourism Accommodation Australia (NSW) Awards for Excellence last night.

The best hotels in the state's multi-billion-dollar tourism sector were recognised at a special ceremony at the Star Events Centre Sydney, before a crowd of almost 800 political, industry and business leaders including NSW Minister for Tourism and Major Events Adam Marshall.

This year's awards broke all records. More than 320 nominations were received from a record 82 hotels across 34 categories, and the night played out in front of the largest crowd in NSW TAA Awards for Excellence history.

The Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour won *Metropolitan Deluxe Hotel of the Year*, while **The Langham, Sydney** was highly commended for the second year running.

Regional Deluxe Hotel of the Year was won for the third consecutive year by **Emirates One & Only Wolgan Valley**.

Metropolitan Superior Hotel of the Year was won by **Novotel Sydney Darling Square** while **The Convent Hunter Valley** took out *Regional Superior Hotel of the Year*.

Mecure Sydney was named winner of the *Mid-Range Hotel of the Year* and its bar **Eve's**, won the award for *Bar of the Year (Mid-range and Superior Hotels)*.

The award for *Redeveloped/Refurbished Hotel of the Year* went to **Sheraton on the Park, Sydney** and the *Apartment/Suite Hotel of the Year* was won by **Meriton Suites, North Sydney**.

Health Club and Spa Facilities of the Year was won by **The Spa, at Chateau Elan Hunter Valley** and *Bar of the Year (Deluxe)* went to **Champagne Bar, Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour**.

Fraser Suites Sydney was inducted into the Hall of Fame, after winning *Apartment/Suite of the Year* for the past three years running.

TAA NSW chair Peter Tudehope said the 2018 TAA NSW Awards for Excellence winners exemplified the best in the tourism industry.

"NSW really does set the standard when it comes to the quality of our accommodation venues and their hard-working staff," he said.

"Each year at the Awards for Excellence we honour the best in the business for their tireless efforts throughout the year in providing a great experience for visitors to this state.

“I congratulate all the winners on a job well done.”

The 2018 TAA (NSW) Award for Excellence property winners also include:

- *Restaurant of the Year (Deluxe):* **Black Bar and Grill, The Star Sydney**, with **Darley's** at **Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort and Spa** highly commended.
- *Restaurant of the Year (Mid-Range/Superior hotels):* **Abode Bistro and Bar, PARKROYAL Darling Harbour**
- *Brasserie / Café of the Year:* **Silvester's, Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel**
- *Conference & Events Venue of the Year:* **Four Seasons Hotel Sydney**
- *Workplace Health and Safety Hotel of the Year:* **Holiday Inn Darling Harbour**
- *Outstanding Achievement in Training:* **Holiday Inn Potts Point Sydney**
- *Outstanding Community Contribution :* **Atura Blacktown**
- *Best Environmental Practices:* **Loxley on BellBird Hill**
- *Best Innovation Project:* **Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley**

For a full list of TAA NSW Award winners visit: www.taanswawards.com.au

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