



Destination North Coast NSW

North Coast News & Views No. 29

Finalists Announced

Finalists for the 2018 NSW State Tourism Awards have been announced and the North Coast is VERY well represented across most categories.

Congratulations to our finalists! The team and Board of Destination North Coast wish you every success at the gala dinner and ceremony being held in Sydney on November 22nd where WINNERS will be announced

2018 Finalists

Tourist Attractions

Forestry Corporation of NSW - Sealy Lookout, Orara East State Forest (North Coast NSW)
Hello Koalas Sculpture Trail (North Coast NSW)

Major Festivals and Events

Splendour in the Grass 2017 (North Coast NSW)

Festivals and Events

Lismore City Council - Eat the Street Lismore (North Coast NSW)
Woolgoolga and Northern Beaches Chamber of Commerce - Woolgoolga Curryfest (North Coast NSW)

Ecotourism

Byron Bay Eco Cruises & Kayaks (North Coast NSW)
Go Sea Kayak Byron Bay (North Coast NSW)
Jetty Dive Centre (North Coast NSW)
Koala Preservation Society - Port Macquarie Koala Hospital (North Coast NSW)
Tweed Eco Cruises (North Coast NSW)

Cultural Tourism

Bunker Cartoon Gallery (North Coast NSW)
Hello Koalas Sculpture Trail (North Coast NSW)
Port Macquarie Museum (North Coast NSW)

Qantas Award for Excellence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tourism

Bularri Muurlay Nyanggan Aboriginal Corporation - Giingan Gumbaynggirr Cultural Experience (North Coast NSW)
Wajaana Yaam Gumbaynggirr Adventure Tours (North Coast NSW)

Specialised Tourism Services

Arts Mid North Coast - Mid North Coast...the Creative Coast (North Coast NSW)

Business Event Venues

Elements of Byron (North Coast NSW)

Destination Marketing

Clarence Valley Council - My Clarence Valley (North Coast NSW)
Industry and Destination Development – CHCC - Destination Coffs Coast (North Coast NSW)

Tourism Restaurants & Catering Services

Bent On Food (North Coast NSW)
Potager - A Kitchen Garden (North Coast NSW)

Caravan and Holiday Parks

BIG 4 Karuah Jetty Holiday Park (North Coast NSW)
BIG4 Great Lakes at Forster-Tuncurry (North Coast NSW)
NRMA Port Macquarie Breakwall Holiday Park (North Coast NSW)
Reflections Holiday Parks Seal Rocks (North Coast NSW)
Tweed Coast Holiday Parks Kingscliff Beach (North Coast NSW)

Self Contained Accommodation

Macquarie Waters Boutique Apartment Hotel (North Coast NSW)
Riverside Holiday Resort Urunga (North Coast NSW)

Standard Accommodation

Heritage Hotel Motel (North Coast NSW)

Deluxe Accommodation

Sails Port Macquarie by Rydges (North Coast NSW)

Luxury Accommodation

Elements of Byron (North Coast NSW)

New Tourism Business

Blue Ginger Picnics Le Chic Experience (North Coast NSW)
Open Air Picnics (North Coast NSW)

Excellence in Food Tourism

Bent On Food (North Coast NSW)
Tasting Plate Tours (North Coast NSW)
The Cheesemaking Workshop (North Coast NSW)

Tourism Education and Training

TEACH at TAFE NSW Wollongbar (North Coast NSW)

REMINDER - Incubator Event Fund 2019 - OPEN

This Destination NSW funding stream offers grants of up to \$20,000 to events in their first or second year as seed funding for activities that are likely to establish the event as a driver of visitation. These include but are not limited to temporary event infrastructure; venue hire; marketing and promotions; marketing, PR and digital consultancies; brand design and development; and attendee research.

An event may apply for any amount up to and including \$20,000. The Incubator Event Fund Round One is for events taking place in January–June 2019.

Events are invited to [apply](#) for funding through the online application portal with full eligibility and other details at [Destination NSW](#).

Applications will close at midnight on Sunday 4th November 2018.

For any queries, please contact the Regional Flagship Events Team, on 02 9931 1431 or email rfep.admin@dnsw.com.au or contact Destination North Coast.

Barrington Coast - Farm to Fridge – Register Interest

A new venture aiming to connect local Barrington Coast farmers and producers with their customers was announced last week.

The [Farm to Fridge project](#) is a collaboration between local marketing gurus [Heath and Hoff](#) and Sue Williams from [Topi Open Range](#) and will offer local producers the opportunity to retail direct to their customers providing a range of fresh, local, pasture-raised, organic produce across the Barrington Coast, straight from the farms to the fridge.

You can register your interest in Farm to Fridge to be the first to order when the online store opens.

New Report on Australia's Hotel Industry

Tourism Accommodation Australia has published a new report titled the [Innovation Revolution Transforming Australia's Hotel Industry](#).

Some of the findings could help shape the North Coast Nature-based Tourism Investment Activation Project.



Coffs Harbour Awarded World Festival & Events City

NSW has once again been recognised as the home of major events with Sydney and Coffs Harbour both bestowed the International Festivals & Events Association (IFEA) 2018 World Festival and Event City Award.

Coffs Harbour received the Award for the fourth year in a row. The region has hosted some of the biggest sporting events in Australia over the past year, including Rally Australia, the Australian Ladies Classic and Women's NSW Golf Open, the FFA National Youth Championships and two one-day internationals as part of the Women's Ashes series.

Well done Coffs Harbour!

Industry Upskilling

Accessible Tourism Webinar

Tourism Australia is hosting a free [Accessible Tourism Webinar](#) on Tuesday 30 November at 1pm. Australian tourism operators interested to learn more can register to watch the webinar live and have the ability to ask questions or watch it later on-demand.

Accessible Tourism Workshops – Clarence Valley

Did you know the Inclusive Tourism market in Australia was worth \$8.9 billion in the first quarter of 2017?

Sign up for the free accessibility workshops to find out to improve and so as to become a more accessible business.

Introduction to Accessibility Workshop in [Grafton](#) and [Yamba](#) and [Disability Awareness Training, Grafton](#)

Food & Agribusiness Investor Ready Workshop

Food/Agri Business companies and individuals who have great business ideas in the Food/Agri space wanting to learn more about attracting investors, are invited to a three-hour workshop with one of Australia's leading food and ag-tech businesses and investors, AgThentic.

The RDA Northern Rivers-supported workshop to be held in Bangalow will provide a broad understanding of how to become investor ready, as well as the latest thinking in innovation in the food system and agtech space. It will also include how startups and innovators with good ideas can raise capital through AgTech or FoodTech investor funds.

[More details and register online](#)

North Star's Holiday Resort – Product Update

A major upgrade of the swimming pool area and installation of new water slides at North Star Holiday Resort at Hastings Point was completed in September, just in time for the school holiday season.



Please find attached media release and images of our brand new "Super Slides".

Upcoming Events on the North Coast

To aid in your planning, keep in mind these upcoming events across the North Coast over the coming weeks.

[Grafton Jacaranda Festival - 27 Oct – 4 Nov, Grafton](#)

Each year in late October, the festival celebrates

the annual blossoming of the magnificent Jacaranda trees, embraces community engagement and promotes an idyllic lifestyle in regional NSW through a nine-day program of events that include colourful street parades, markets, cultural events and handicraft displays.

The Art of Good Health & Wellbeing - 12 - 15 Nov, Port Macquarie

The overarching theme of the conference is "Mental Health and Resilience through the Arts". Three key areas of practice and research will be explored: Mental Health and Resilience, Creative Ageing, Arts and Health in Hospitals, Healthcare Services and Health Promotion.



The Mullum Music Festival -15 - 18 Nov, Mullumbimby

A four-day family friendly event, the Mullum Music Festival is one of Australia's leading boutique music festivals, having established a unique place in the hearts and minds of music lovers from all over the country and internationally. The event showcases local, national and international music as well as the regional town of Mullumbimby on the north coast of NSW.



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