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## North Coast News & Views No. 51

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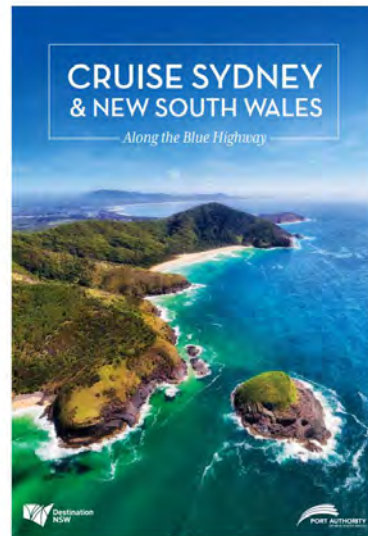
### **Cruise Sydney & New South Wales – Along the Blue Highway**

New South Wales' position as Australia's leading cruise destination is highlighted in a new industry brochure unveiled last week.

This new cruise brochure profiles NSW's nine cruise-ready ports highlighting key attractions and port parameters. The brochure was developed by tourism and major events agency Destination NSW and the Port Authority in response to the Government's Cruise Development Plan and was unveiled at the recent Australian Cruise Association Conference.

On the North Coast, Trial Bay, Coffs Harbour and Yamba are our regional ports supporting the major ports of Sydney, Newcastle, Eden and Port Kembla.

Read the [Media Release](#) and view the [Cruise Along the Blue Highway](#) brochure.



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### **Commercial Tourism Operators & Commonwealth Marine Parks**

Parks Australia has released new guidelines for commercial operators licenced to work in Australian Marine Parks.

Commercial tourism operators must have a current licence from the Director of National Parks to operate the following activities in marine parks:

- charter fishing
- nature watching
- SCUBA and snorkelling
- cruise ship (where the ship stops or slows in an Australian Marine Park)
- aviation (up to 3000 metres from sea level).

Marine operators should review the [commercial tourism users factsheet](#) to ensure you know where you can operate and the rules of operation within the marine parks.

Further information is available at [Australian Marine Parks](#), or via [email](#) or by calling 1800 069 352.

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## **Solitary Islands & Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park Advisory Committees**

Keeping to a marine theme, there is a call for nominations for the Solitary Islands & Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park Advisory Committees.

Please note that both committees are specifically seeking a member with tourism expertise. More information can be found in this [media release](#) with nominations due to close on 22 September.

If you'd like to provide a voice for your local community on marine park management and usage and have relevant skills and experience, this is such an opportunity.

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## **Tourism Research Australia Releases Tourism Forecasts**

A Tourism Forecasting Reference Panel, comprising experts from industry and government, was established by Tourism Research Australia (TRA) to review and provide feedback on TRA's draft tourism forecasts.

Read the final [Tourism Forecasts 2019](#) which supports policymakers, planners and investors with a ten-year view so tourism growth can be managed in a sustainable way with consideration for the economic impact as well to environmental and social impacts.

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## **Industry Development Opportunities**

### **Social Media Tips From Tourism Australia**

Want to know how to get your content featured on Tourism Australia's social media accounts? The answer is simpler than you may think.

In the third episode of [TA's social media video series](#), Nick Henderson, Head of Social, sits down with his colleague, Novy Wong, Tourism Tasmania's Liza-Jane Sowden and SATC's Georgie Woskett to provide some guidance.

### **Australian Regional Tourism Convention**

To be held in Devonport, Tasmania from 21 to 23 October, [ARTC19](#) has the theme of "'Exploiting the new found focus on regions' - is regional Australia finally a genuine part of our national tourism agenda, and are we ready?"

[ARTC19 Program](#) will feature:

- Launch of ART Local Government Engagement with the Visitor Economy Paper
- Visitor Servicing and staying relevant in an increasingly digital space
- Beyond 2020 - visionary business and people development
- Exploring top regional tourism challenges
- Tourism in protected areas, and more...

### **2019 Global Eco Asia-Pacific Tourism Conference**

[Ecotourism Australia's premier event](#) will be held in Cairns from 2 to 4 December 2019.

The conference will explore topics including green destinations, ecotourism in protected areas, indigenous business across the Asia-Pacific, responding to overtourism and ecotourism in World Heritage Areas.

### **ATE 2020 Applications Now Open**

Applications to attend Australia's largest annual travel and tourism business-to-business event, Australian Tourism Exchange (ATE), are open. ATE 2020 will be held from 10 to 14 May at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Registration for all delegates will take place on Sunday 10 May followed by appointments and networking functions from Monday 11 May to Thursday 14 May 2020. Approximately 1400 Australian seller delegates from 550 companies and 600 key buyer delegates from over 30 countries will be brought together in a forum to showcase their products directly to tourism wholesalers and retailers from around the world.

For further information on the event and to register, please visit the [Tourism Australia website](#).

### **NSW Tourism Industry Sentiment Survey**

Businesses in the NSW visitor economy are being encouraged to have their say by participating in a new industry sentiment survey.

The survey is part of the NSW Government's Visitor Economy Index (VEX) - an initiative of the Visitor Economy Industry Action Plan 2030 (VEIAP) which provides insights into the overall performance of the State's visitor economy.

Minister for Tourism Stuart Ayres said "The industry sentiment survey forms a key part of the Visitor Economy Index, which is crucial in not only seeing where our tourism industry has excelled, but also pinpointing areas we can bolster and focus our attention on."

The [survey is online](#) and will be open until 18 October 2019.

### **Business Conditions Survey – NSW Business Chamber**



The Business Conditions Survey aims to provide an honest and comprehensive analysis of economic trends, opportunities and challenges for NSW businesses.

Your responses help the Chamber to advocate for a better operating environment for businesses in NSW.

[Your participation](#) before 30 September will also give you the chance to win a \$500 EFTPOS gift card.

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## **Funding Opportunities**

### **Community Building Partnerships Program – New Round OPEN**

Funds community infrastructure projects that: promote community participation, inclusion and cohesion; deliver positive social, environmental, and recreational outcomes.

Incorporated not-for-profit community organisations and local councils are eligible to apply for grants between \$2500 and \$330,000. The average grant awarded is around \$20,000.

As total funding will be divided equally among the state electorates of NSW, applications will be assessed against other proposed projects within the same electorate.

Grants need to be for:

- Construction of new community infrastructure
- Refurbishment, repair and maintenance of existing community infrastructure
- Capital equipment with a minimum individual asset value of \$2500.

[View full funding guidelines](#) online. Applications close 27 September.

### **Australian Heritage Grants**

Provides organisations or individuals with grants to protect, manage and conserve places on Australia's Heritage List.

Australian Heritage Grants will support projects that strengthen recognition, management, conservation and public engagement on/of places on Australia's National Heritage List.

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and can include:

- Activities identified in a Conservation Management Plan of a listed place
- Developing a new, or revised Conservation Management Plan for a listed place, where this is not a statutory obligation under state legislation
- Activities that align with strategies and priorities for the listed place (where there is no Conservation Management Plan in place)
- Activities that enhance the Australian public's understanding of, engagement with, and physical access to a listed place.

[View full funding guidelines](#) online. Applications close 22 October.

#### **ANZ and Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Grants**

Funds a wide range of purposes including education and training, community development and creation, arts and culture – anything under the rainbow!

Grants of \$2,500, \$5,000, \$7,500 or \$10,000 are available to LGBTIQ+ not-for-profit community organisations, charities and individuals to help support Australian LGBTIQ+ communities.

ANZ and Sydney Mardi Gras grants will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Benefit that the project brings to the LGBTIQI community
- Creativeness and ingenuity of the project
- Demonstrated capacity for the applicant to deliver the project

Funding will be broadly given to projects in the following categories:

- Education and training
- Creation, arts and culture
- Community development (including sporting groups)
- Independent category submissions

[View full funding guidelines](#) online. Applications close 6 October.

#### **Visions of Australia**

Supports audience access to Australian arts and cultural material, with a particular focus on tours to regional and remote Australia. Australian arts and cultural heritage organisations can apply for funding to develop and tour exhibitions to venues across Australia.

The objectives of the Visions of Australia Program are to:

- Increase access for Australian audiences to exhibitions of quality Australian arts and cultural material, with a particular focus on regional and remote Australia
- Encourage partnerships between organisations such as museums and galleries, particularly collaboration across the collections sector, to form curatorial partnerships and where appropriate, access to mentoring and skills transfer opportunities

[View full funding guidelines](#) online. Applications close 4 October.

#### **[Economic and Community Participation \(ECP\) Grant Round 2019-2020](#)**

Aims to build the capacity of the community to create opportunities for people with disability to contribute to community prosperity and participate in community life. Closes 21 October.

#### **[Mainstream Capacity Building \(MCB\) Grant Round 2019-2020](#)**

Supports improvements in the delivery of accessible and inclusive mainstream health services so as to meet the needs of people with disability, families and carers. Closes 21 October.

## **New North Coast Product**

Cabarita Beach welcomes new 'glamping by the sea' experience.

Bringing a new beachfront glamping village to Australia's East Coast, [Hideaway Cabarita Beach](#) is set to open on 20 September. The new luxury outdoor bell tents will offer a unique, authentic and sustainable overnight experience amongst the natural surrounds.

Guests are invited to fall asleep under the stars and awaken in comfort to the sounds of crashing waves, chirping birds and the fresh ocean breeze. Hideaway Cabarita Beach is a 30 minute drive from Byron Bay or 15 minutes from Gold Coast. Bookings are available now.



**Macadamia Castle (Knockrow) – [Spring School Holiday Program](#)**

The Macca Castle is a great option for school holiday activities.

This spring, there are options for kids to spend a day outdoors with the Keepers and Educators in the Animal Park, to get behind the scenes to find out what it is really like working in a Wildlife Park and learn fascinating information about animals, native wildlife and conservation. There's also a program for children with disabilities.



**Upcoming North Coast Events**

To aid in your planning, please note upcoming events across the region.

**[CanDo Cancer Trust Dinner - Coffs Harbour](#)**

Experience a seven course culinary journey of the Coffs Coast with celebrated chef Colin Fassnidge... and join in supporting the CanDo Cancer Trust!

WHEN: Tuesday, September 24, 2019 - 6pm to 11pm

WHERE: Osprey Restaurant, Coffs Harbour Education Campus

TICKETS: From \$200 per person (group of 4 or more) - includes all food and beverages.

Act quickly...bookings close tonight, 12mn.

THE INAUGURAL CANDO! CANCER TRUST'S  
**DEGUSTATION**  
 = with Colin Fassnidge =



### **Australian Festival Industry Conference - Coffs Harbour - 24-25 October, 2019**

The inaugural Australian Festival Industry Conference (AFIC) is the only conference in Australia dedicated exclusively to servicing the thousands of festival industry professionals that produce quality music, arts and culture, food and drink, "intellectual and ideas" and sporting festivals.

Due to overwhelming industry demand, the conference will run over two days and includes:

- A range of talks from some of Australia's leading industry experts
- Industry expert panel on the topic of 'Pre-Hospital Health & Medical Safety at Festivals'
- Comprehensive workshop program that are designed to enhance your skill level and build your knowledge
- Famil tour with some of the Coffs Coast's most experienced event professionals

View the [full program and to purchase tickets](#) online.



[Super Cheap Auto Show & Shine](#) – Casino – 29 September

[2019 Aussie Endurance MTB Championships](#) – Jollynose MTB Park, Bonny Hills – 12-13 October

[Evans Head Malibu Classic](#) – Evans Head – 4-6 October

[Junior Australian Oztag Championships](#) – Coffs harbour – 18-20 October

[Byron Bay International Film Festival](#) – Byron Bay – 18-27 October

[Clarence Valley Country Muster](#) – Ulmarra – 21-27 October

[Dorrigo Folk & Bluegrass Festival](#) – Dorrigo – 25-27 October

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#### **Photo Credits**

Hideaway Cabarita Beach - Supplied

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Destination North Coast  
PO Box 146  
LISMORE NSW 2480  
P: 02 6622 7429  
E: [admin@dncnsw.com](mailto:admin@dncnsw.com)  
W: [www.dncnsw.com](http://www.dncnsw.com)

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