



Destination
North Coast NSW

North Coast News & Views No. 92

Federal Budget 2020/21

Tuesday night's Federal budget is being held up as an employment-boosting, business-focused budget designed to move the economy from support to stimulus. Measures to assist a business-led recovery include tax cuts, asset write offs, research funding and [JobMaker](#) employment subsidies to support young people and to create jobs.

The budget is predicated on a number of assumptions including domestic borders being open before Christmas, including Victoria but excluding WA, low international travel in 2021, the discovery and wide and effective deployment of a COVID-19 vaccine, and these have dominated public discussions since the budget's release.

If you haven't seen/read enough about the 2020/21 Federal budget, consider;

Australian Government – [Budget Overview](#)

Deloitte – [Budget Analysis](#)

EY Australia – [Federal Budget Summary](#)

PWC – [Federal Budget Insights](#)

The [Tourism portfolio media release](#) includes support to drive the recovery of the tourism industry in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis. Tourism Australia have broken down the measures that will further aid recovery (many already announced) including:

- \$51 million Regional Tourism Recovery Initiative to support Australia's most hard hit tourism regions
- \$50 million Business Events grants program to get events, conferences and trade shows up and running again
- \$200 million for a new round of the Building Better Regions Fund, with \$100 million specifically for tourism infrastructure to make our tourism regions more attractive and drive visitation
- \$231.6 million for Tourism Australia in 2020-21 to ramp-up domestic marketing campaigns and be strongly positioned to commence international marketing campaigns when the time is right
- \$319 million for Australia's parks and heritage areas to enhance the visitor experience at these iconic sites, whilst also providing an economic boost through job creation.

North Coast Industry Update Webinar

Destination North Coast invite stakeholders to a 'whole of industry' update.

The team will update on current and upcoming regional developments and projects and will be joined by Mitch Gunn, North Coast Regional Tourism Development Manager, Destination NSW and Dominic Mehling, Industry Relations Manager – ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, Tourism Australia, to provide an update on state and national marketing and market development activities.

Registration is required and we look forward to you joining us via [Zoom, 10.00am – 11.30am, Thursday 22 October, 2020](#).

Travel Safe Zone With New Zealand Confirmed

New Zealanders from COVID-19 free areas will be allowed to travel to Australia under a one-way trans-Tasman 'bubble' starting Friday 16 October and be quarantine-free, provided they have not been in an area designated as a COVID-19 hotspot in New Zealand in the preceding 14 days.

This is the next step for a COVID-safe Australia that will reunite families and friends, offer opportunities for businesses looking for workers, and back the communities that depend on tourism.

New Zealanders will still be required to quarantine for two weeks when they return to New Zealand.

Read [Media Release](#).

NSW Event Management Scholarship Program Recipients Announced

Minister Ayres has announced the regional recipients of 12 MEA Scholarships.

This program, a partnership between Destination NSW and Meetings and Events Australia (MEA), is designed to upskill event managers and sees 12 recipients (two for each Destination Network) begin their diploma studies and continued career pathway in the events sector.

Destination North Coast congratulates Lena Mager and Jumana Schriefer, North Coast scholarship recipients, and wish them every success with their studies.

Read [Media Release](#).

Outdoor Dining Coming Soon

Summer is coming and outdoor spaces are being opened up for alfresco drinking and dining just in time for the warmer weather with the NSW Government slashing red tape to allow quicker

approval times for venues.

Whilst Sydney and The Rocks specifically will be the first beneficiary of this change, Councils across the state are being encouraged to examine how they can fast-track outdoor dining approvals to assist draw people out and about and to support local hospitality suppliers.

Read [Media Release](#).

FlyPelican To Launch Direct Flights Between Canberra And Port Macquarie

FlyPelican has announced that they will be operating direct services between Canberra and Port Macquarie from the 1st November 2020.

The new flights will be a major boost for the local regions connecting locals to and from the nation's capital for medical appointments, education, business opportunities and more importantly in the current environment to visit friends and family.

Read [Media Release](#).



NSW Government Finalises Koala Protection Policy

The NSW Government has agreed on the details of the Koala Protection policy, which is said to strike a balance between safeguarding the future of our national icon while ensuring certainty for farmers.

The final [Koala State Environmental Planning Policy](#) will be taken to the Executive Council for approval by the Governor as soon as possible and Guidelines will be published on Friday, 16 October.

Read [Media Release](#).

Industry Insights

[Tourism Businesses in Australia Report](#) provides information on the characteristics of Australia's 300,000 plus tourism businesses for the period June 2014 to June 2019. This includes

statistics on workforce size, turnover and industry and as the information pre-dates COVID-19, it sets a clear benchmark for the path to recovery.

[Destination NSW Westpac Tourism Expenditure Monitor Report July 2020](#) has been released with some positive top-line results.

From April there's been a significant increases in visitor volumes, transactions, and expenditure across the majority of Destination Networks with the North Coast experiencing the highest increases across all Networks in terms of visitor volumes, transactions, and expenditure between June and July (up over 40% on all measures), with the NSW/QLD border reopening early in July. It is promising to see the North Coast also saw the highest volume of visitor transitions amongst the DN's in July.

[New World Travel and Tourism Council report 'To Recovery and Beyond'](#), explores the impact and implications of COVID-19 on the travel & tourism sector through a data-driven examination of four interlinked trends, putting forward recommendations that will support the sector now and build its resilience into the future.

[Tourism Research Australia](#) (TRA) is working with Monash University to gather data from tourism operators to inform recovery forecasting for the tourism industry given traditional forecasting tools are not sufficient due to the massive disruptions caused by COVID-19. Tourism industry operator [information and input](#) is vital.

Industry Development And Other Opportunities

[REMINDER: Discuss And Develop Your Business: Creating A Get Connected Listing](#)

Destination NSW invites you to join their next Discuss and Develop your Business session on Creating a Get Connected listing which will see your tourism product/service listed on [VisitNSW.com](#).

Join this online Zoom session on 12 October 2020, 11am – 11.35am.

Tourism Australia Updates

Tourism Australia invites industry stakeholders to a special edition webinar where they'll share the latest evolution of their domestic marketing campaign, and will also be joined by the Tourism Minister Simon Birmingham, who will give an update on the Federal Budget.

[Registration required](#) for 11am, Tuesday, 13 October 2020.

Tourism Australia's corporate website has been updated to [include a page](#) dedicated to helping industry find information on how to deliver the best experience possible whilst staying safe and working within government guidelines. The latest [International Tourism Snapshot](#) has also been updated along with the [Travel Sentiment Tracker](#) which is updated fortnightly and tracks how Australians feel about travelling domestically.

[Australian Regional Tourism Convention](#) (ART) is a must-attend event for local councils, regional tourism organisations, tourism professionals, business and government personnel who wish to contribute to the future of regional tourism in Australia. This year's Convention theme is 'Building resilient and adaptive communities that thrive' with the Convention being delivered virtually, 27-29 October 2020.

[TAFE NSW Fee-Free Study](#) program for people aged 35 years and over who are actively looking for work and wanting to retrain or upgrade their skills, may be eligible to study a Smart and Skilled Certificate II, Certificate III or Certificate IV qualification. As well as fee-free training, TAFE NSW can provide career advice and a learning plan that takes into account individual skills, experience and support needs.

[Events Academy Master Class Webinar](#) in Strategic Business Planning for Future Success. 12.00pm – 1.00pm, 19 October 2020.

[Australian Event Awards Ceremony](#) will be held simultaneously across the country, with events being staged in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth. A multi-way live broadcast will link all the ceremonies together so we can all celebrate together around the country.

Funding And Other Opportunities

Bushfire Community Recovery And Resilience Fund – Stream 2

The [Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund \(BCRRF\)](#) is administered by Resilience NSW in consultation with the National Bushfire Recovery Agency and Emergency Management Australia.

Support for the vast community-led bushfire recovery continues with Phase 2 BCRRF ready to promote community well-being, social and broader recovery and future disaster resilience.

Stream 2 is for the broader community and is a grants program for organisations in bushfire-affected Local Government Areas, including community groups, councils, joint organisations, NGOs, and not-for-profits.

Read [Stream 2 Funding Guidelines](#). Closes 10 November 2020.

REMINDER: [Infrastructure Grants](#)

Funding categories include; Disaster Readiness, Community Infrastructure, Arts and Culture and Sport and Recreation. Closes 12 October 2020.

REMINDER: [Festivals Australia](#)

Supports community participation in, and access to, the arts and aims to support partnerships and collaboration across the sector. Closes 16 October 2020.

[Habitat Action Grants Deadline Extended](#)

Fishers, cast your ideas to see local native fish habitats flourish – you now have just over one week to submit your Habitat Action Grants applications, after the closing date was extended. Closes 16 October 2020.

[Australian Cultural Diplomacy Grants Program \(ACDGP\) 2020: Round 2](#)

Supports the delivery of high-quality public diplomacy initiatives which promote our economic, artistic, and cultural assets to an international audience. Closes 16 October 2020.

North Coast Product And Experience Development

Byron Events Farm

The [Byron Events Farm](#) is now available and COVID Safe approved for weddings and corporate events of up to 150 people. The property has the potential to offer an experience that is only limited by one's imagination.

With over 30 years event operation experience and knowledge, the professional team at Byron Events Farm support customers with every aspect of their event. Byron Events Farm are also pleased to be working in collaboration with some of Australia's best suppliers of tents, production and catering and are well-connected to assist with artist and entertainment bookings, traffic management, security, waste disposal and everything else in between.

Located on a 300-acre purpose-built events site, the Byron Events Farm is also the official home of [Bluesfest Byron Bay](#), one of the world's premier music festivals.

North Coast Destinations Commit To Gain ECO Destination Certification

Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie-Hastings have recently committed to undertaking Ecotourism Australia's [ECO Destination Certification](#) program through a funding partnership between WWF-Australia and Ecotourism Australia.

Lord Howe Island is currently progressing through the Eco Destination Certification program and has been recognised in the [Sustainable Top 100 Destinations](#) during the first ever online [Global Green Destination Days Conference](#). Well done Lord Howe!

Davies Cottage – Seal Rocks

[Davies Cottage at Seal Rocks](#) has reopened and represents new NPWS hard-roofed accommodation in Myall Lakes NP

Richmond Valley Updates

The Richmond Valley team have been busy have released a [Richmond Valley Paddle Guide](#) featuring the many navigable waterways of the region.

The historic [Commercial Hotel in Rappville](#) has reopened. This building survived the bushfires last year, is now under new ownership and has benefitted from extensive renovations.

Twin Towns Conference And Function Centre

A newly produced [promotional video](#) is a great asset to help sell the facilities at [Twin Towns Conference & Function Centre](#).



North Coast In The News

[Nymboi–Binderay National Park](#) was featured as part of Caravanning Australia's National Parks series.

[All You Need to Know About Kayaking With Kids](#), an article in Family Travel, highlighted [Cape Byron Marine Park](#) and the teams at [Go Sea Kayak](#) and [Cape Byron Kayaks](#).

[Capella Lodge](#), Lord Howe Island has made the Conde Nast Traveler

Readers' Choice Awards for [Best Resorts in the World](#).

Being ranked 22nd in the world is an amazing achievement and places Capella Lodge in very fine company.

Congratulations! We salute you Capella.



Courtesy Capella Lodge

HOTEL

22. Capella Lodge — Lord Howe Island, Australia →

55 | READERS' CHOICE AWARDS 2020

Capella's biggest drawing card is the only one that matters on this World Heritage Site island 485 miles east of Sydney: location. Situated on Lord Howe's stunning southern end, the nine-room Capella is the island's only luxury lodge with beach, lagoon, and mountain views. What it lacks in opulence (bathrooms are merely functional), it more than makes up for in superb service, loads of beach-shack chic, and an air of absolute privacy. Visitors, who arrive on a Dash-8 twin-propeller plane, will find themselves catapulted back in time: no cell phone reception, no traffic lights, no cats (the scourge of Australasia's birds), a speed limit of 15 miles per hour, and a cap of 400 tourists at a time. This 50-square-mile crescent in the Pacific has the southernmost coral reef in the world and a wealth of wilderness walks that include everything from primeval banyan forests to endangered ground-dwelling birds.

North Coast Events

Wingham [Akoostik Festival](#) will be streaming live via Facebook and YouTube. This adaptation of one of the region's favourite music events allows safe presentation of the event in a controlled environment. The live stream event runs over two days; [16 October](#) and [17 October](#), 2020.

AKOOSTIK OCT 16-17
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DARREN JACK
GRACE & HUGH / DOGMA
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& YOUTUBE!

www.akoostik.com.au

Barrington Coast | MIDCOAST council | Hinterland DESIGN FOR WEB & PRINT

COVID-19 Resource Directory

To aid access to relevant information and to find links to appropriate Government and other resources, check the Destination North Coast [COVID-19 Directory](#) on our website.

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