



2008 AHA NATIONAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE & ACHIEVEMENT

Proudly sponsored by



FINALISTS

- ALH Group SA
- Coogee Bay Hotel NSW
- Courtyard by Marriott Parramatta NSW
- Crowne Plaza Canberra ACT
- Grand Hotel VIC
- Holiday Inn Brisbane QLD
- Macquarie Hotel NSW
- The Caxton Hotel QLD
- The Court Hotel WA
- The Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel TAS

JOINT WINNERS

- Grand Hotel, Mornington, VIC
- Macquarie Hotel, East Sydney, NSW

JUDGES COMMENTS

The Grand Hotel has a consistent and ongoing commitment to local community groups and charities all year round. The Grand Hotel should be complimented on new fund-raising initiatives. The Grand Hotel is highly regarded in the local community. The Macquarie Hotel has a fierce desire for constant engagement with its local community and in particular, its interest in supporting the homeless. A wide array of charities is supported all year round and special initiatives like the "walking for MS" campaign are projects to be proud of.

BEST TRAINING INITIATIVE

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FINALISTS

- Conrad Treasury Brisbane QLD
- Crowne Plaza Melbourne VIC
- Four Seasons Hotel Sydney NSW
- Holiday Inn Adelaide SA
- Hyatt Hotel Canberra ACT
- Northies - Cronulla Hotel NSW

WINNER

- Holiday Inn Adelaide
- Adelaide, SA

JUDGES COMMENTS

Holiday Inn Adelaide provides training and opportunities at all levels of personnel,

demonstrating an outstanding commitment to the future of the hospitality industry. Special emphasis is placed on staff incentives for achievers who exceed guest expectations.

BEST ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE



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FINALISTS

- Esplanade Hotel Fremantle WA
- Novotel Canberra ACT
- Shangri-La Hotel Sydney NSW

WINNER

- Esplanade Hotel Fremantle Fremantle, WA

JUDGES COMMENTS

The Esplanade Hotel Fremantle has implemented initiatives to protect the environment and has established an active environmental task force to monitor its progress. There are targets to reduce energy consumption, i.e. saving water, gas and electricity, marketing is focused towards utilising means of communication other than print, and guest amenities are biodegradable among many other initiatives. The hotel is continually upgrading its facilities to utilise the latest energy-efficient equipment to help to reduce carbon emissions.

BEST BISTRO BRASSERIE

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FINALISTS

- Aurora Bar & Lounge NSW
- Coast Hotel NSW
- Renmark Hotel SA
- Sheraton on the Park NSW
- Stirling Hotel SA
- Stanley Hotel TAS
- The Carrington Hotel NSW
- The Cove Hotel VIC
- The Greenwood Hotel WA
- Wisdom Bar & Café NT

WINNER

- Stanley Hotel, Stanley, TAS

JUDGES COMMENTS

The Stanley Hotel's bistro is part of an historic pub, which is popular with locals and tourists. The menu is tantalising, using local fresh produce with an emphasis on seafood. Attentive staff together with passionate involvement from the hotel's owner adds to the experience.

BEST CASUAL/FAMILY DINING

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FINALISTS

- Caphs Restaurant ACT
- Conrad Treasury Brisbane QLD
- The Bellum Hotel SA
- The Full Moon Hotel QLD

WINNER

- The Full Moon Hotel, Sandgate, QLD

JUDGES COMMENTS

The Full Moon Hotel is an excellent example of casual family dining in a superb setting overlooking the bay; offering an interesting menu, serving excellent food and beverages by friendly, well-groomed staff.

BEST RESTAURANT (GENERAL DIVISION)

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FINALISTS

- Lamaro's VIC
- Lonestar Tavern QLD
- Subiaco Hotel WA
- The First Floor Restaurant ACT
- The Lion Hotel SA
- The Mean Fiddler NSW

WINNER

- The First Floor Restaurant, Kingston, ACT

JUDGES COMMENTS

The First Floor Restaurant is a smart venue, slick and discreet. The food is of the highest standards using only the freshest and best produce, also catering for people with special dietary requirements. The staff are professional and attentive. A wonderful food and beverage experience.

BEST RESTAURANT (ACCOMMODATION DIVISION)

Proudly sponsored by



FINALISTS

- Conrad Treasury Brisbane
 - The lab bar & restaurant QLD
- Country Club Tasmania
 - The Terrace Restaurant TAS
- Crowne Plaza Canberra
 - Redsalt ACT
- Hyatt Regency Adelaide



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- Shiki SA
- Lake House VIC
- Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa
- Darleys Restaurant NSW
- Radisson Plaza Hotel
- Bilson's Restaurant NSW
- Sofitel Reef Casino Cairns
- Tamarind Restaurant QLD
- Star City Hotel & Casino
- Astral Bar & Restaurant NSW
- The Bayswater Hotel
- The Bayswater Restaurant QLD

WINNER

Radisson Plaza Hotel, Bilson's Restaurant Sydney, NSW

JUDGES COMMENTS

Regarded as the Godfather of Australian cuisine, Tony Bilson has been educating and delighting palates for over three decades in the restaurant that carries his name. Cooking techniques at Bilson's are French-inspired, light and with clean but complex flavours. The wine list is superb; the staff are friendly and truly professional. Formal dining at its best – a grand dining journey.

BEST RETAIL OUTLET

Proudly sponsored by



FINALISTS

- Brackenridge Tavern QLD
- Brooklands Tavern WA
- Ceduna Foreshore Hotel Motel SA
- Edinburgh Hotel & Cellars SA
- Kings Meadows Hotel TAS
- Old England Hotel VIC
- Prince Alfred Hotel QLD
- The Mean Fiddler NSW
- The Oxford, Bathurst NSW

WINNER

Edinburgh Hotel & Cellars Mitcham, SA

JUDGES COMMENTS

This bottle-shop features a vast and superb selection of local, interstate and international wines, beers, spirits and accessories, and has a customer-friendly layout. The staff have in-depth product knowledge and the displays of special promotions are first class. A browsing treat!

BEST BAR PRESENTATION & SERVICE

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FINALISTS

- Belgian Beer Café West Ende WA
- Ceduna Foreshore Hotel Motel SA
- Gilhooleys Strathpine QLD
- Hilton Sydney NSW
- Largs Pier Hotel SA
- Queens Tavern WA
- Shenannigans NT
- Shore Club Hotel NSW
- The Prince Patrick Hotel VIC
- The Quiet Man Irish Pub VIC

JOINT WINNERS

Hilton Sydney, Zeta Bar , Sydney NSW

The Prince Patrick Hotel, Collingwood, VIC

JUDGES COMMENTS

Hilton Sydney's Zeta Bar is located atop a breathtaking CBD rooftop terrace and offers inspired interior features and spaces. The cocktail list is cutting edge in the latest global bar trends. The service is friendly and professional. The Prince Patrick Hotel is a quaint, but modern, very popular venue with a comfortable bar/lounge and bistro/brasserie. On offer is an excellent variety of beers, a diverse wine list and fabulous food supplemented by terrific service

BEST SPORTING ENTERTAINMENT VENUE

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FINALISTS

- Arkaba Hotel Motel SA
- JD's Sportsbar VIC
- Northies - Cronulla Hotel NSW
- Olims Canberra Hotel ACT
- Port Kennedy Tavern WA
- TRC Hotel TAS

WINNER

Arkaba Hotel Motel, Fullarton, SA

JUDGES COMMENTS

The Arkaba Hotel Motel presents a versatile, smart and clean entertainment venue. The cuisine presents good food and offers value for money. The venue also features original sports artefacts representing many sports which are tastefully displayed.

BEST ENTERTAINMENT VENUE

Proudly sponsored by



FINALISTS

- Academy Club ACT
- Alexandra Hills Hotel QLD
- Burswood Entertainment Complex WA
- Country Club Tasmania TAS
- Governor Hindmarsh Hotel SA
- Settlers Tavern WA
- SKYCITY Darwin NT
- The East Brunswick Club Hotel VIC
- The Oxford, Bathurst NSW

WINNER

Country Club Tasmania, Launceston, TAS

JUDGES COMMENTS

Country Club Tasmania located in Launceston, offers a huge choice of fun, action and entertainment including national and international acts. A comfortable environment that enhances Tasmania's tourism product.

BEST GAMING VENUE

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FINALISTS

- Brackenridge Tavern QLD
- Largs Pier Hotel SA
- Milanos VIC
- Monsoons NT
- Rising Sun Hotel VIC
- Royal Crest Hotel Sylvania NSW
- South Eastern Hotel SA
- The Black Stallion Hotel TAS

WINNER

Milanos, Brighton, VIC

JUDGES COMMENTS

Milanos is an outstanding gaming venue. It is clean and attractive and has friendly and professional staff. In keeping with community expectations, Milanos is committed to promoting responsible gambling.

BEST REDEVELOPED LICENSED PREMISE (GENERAL DIVISION)

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FINALISTS

- Ceduna Foreshore Hotel Motel SA
- Indian Ocean Brewhaus & Bar WA



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Maid & Maggie Hotel SA
 Monsoons NT
 Olims Canberra Hotel ACT
 Paddington Tavern QLD
 Port Lincoln Hotel SA
 The AB Hotel NSW
 The Oxford, Bathurst NSW
 Yamanto Tavern QLD

WINNER

Indian Ocean Brewhaus & Bar, Mindarie, WA

JUDGES COMMENTS

Indian Ocean Brewhaus & Bar is perfectly located on the water's edge at the Mindarie Marina overlooking the Indian Ocean. The design is state-of-the-art, and incorporates a microbrewery, restaurant and bar. The brewhouse makeover has attracted vast numbers of new customers and has become a hot spot for locals and day-trippers. A range of good quality food & beverages are available.

BEST REDEVELOPED ACCOMMODATION HOTEL

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FINALISTS

Rendezvous Hotel Melbourne VIC
 Sofitel Gold Coast QLD

WINNER

Sofitel Gold Coast, Broadbeach, QLD

JUDGES COMMENTS

Sofitel Gold Coast's multi-million dollar renovation has proven to be an unqualified success. The superior standard of fit-out has created a truly exceptional, uplifting ambience. Room 81 Restaurant is making a superb impression on the Gold Coast restaurant scene. Every facet of this property has been converted to the highest possible standards.

BEST MARKETED HOTEL

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FINALISTS

Foundry Hotel Complex VIC
 Hilton Adelaide SA
 Holiday Inn Brisbane QLD
 Paddington Ale House WA
 Rydges Hotels and Resorts Canberra ACT
 Seabreeze Beach Hotel NSW

SKYCITY Darwin NT
 Tall Timbers Tasmania TAS
 The Caxton Hotel QLD
 The Mean Fiddler NSW

JOINT WINNERS

Foundry Hotel Complex, Bendigo, VIC
 SKYCITY Darwin, Darwin, NT

JUDGES COMMENTS

The Foundry Hotel Complex ticks all the required boxes for this award. Its promotional material and signage are impressive. This hotel has a clear focus on enticing new customers through its innovative promotions. Extensive research was done to develop SKYCITY's marketing strategy. Great emphasis is placed on innovative marketing supported by the promotional literature and advertising.

BEST HOTEL OR PUB OPERATION

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FINALISTS

Exchange Hotel VIC
 Kondinin Hotel Motel WA
 Shenannigans NT
 Story Bridge Hotel QLD
 The Inglewood Hotel WA

WINNER

Story Bridge Hotel, Kangaroo Point, QLD

JUDGES COMMENTS

The iconic Story Bridge Hotel is well promoted, well maintained and it continues to be an industry focal point in Brisbane. The hotel boasts excellent cuisine, with its well-aged steaks particularly impressive. A worthy WINNER of this award.

BEST HOTEL OR PUB ACCOMMODATION

Proudly sponsored by



FINALISTS

Bermagui Beach Hotel NSW
 Claremont Hotel TAS
 Coogee Bay Hotel NSW
 Halifax Hotel QLD
 Park Hotel SA

WINNER

Coogee Bay Hotel, Coogee, NSW

JUDGES COMMENTS

This ideally located hotel opposite Coogee Beach offers everything under one roof - several bars including a beer garden, bistro/brasserie, entertainment venue, gaming and retail liquor

outlets. It also offers up-market boutique and heritage budgetstyle accommodation. This is a very impressive, exciting hotel.

HOTEL INDUSTRY RISING STAR

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FINALISTS

Andrew Cain - Mawson Lakes Hotel SA
 Brad Quilty - Railway Hotel Cowra NSW
 Croyd Zeier - Hilton on the Park Melbourne VIC

WINNER

Andrew Cain - Mawson Lakes Hotel SA

BEST MID-RANGE ACCOMMODATION

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FINALISTS

Carriers Arms Hotel Motel QLD
 Customs House Hotel TAS
 Goodearth Hotel WA
 La Trobe at Beechworth VIC
 Oscars Hotel & Café Bar VIC
 Port Lincoln Hotel SA
 The Carrington Hotel NSW

WINNER

Port Lincoln Hotel, Port Lincoln, SA

JUDGES COMMENTS

With sensational views of Boston Bay, the new Port Lincoln Hotel is superbly located. The guest rooms are stylish and contemporary, while similar high standards prevail throughout the rest of the hotel. The restaurant, bars, conference/function rooms, the gaming room and recreational facilities are first class.

BEST SUITE APARTMENT HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

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FINALISTS

Quality Suites Clifton on Northbourne ACT
 Quay Grand Suites Sydney NSW

WINNER

Quay Grand Suites, Sydney, NSW



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JUDGES COMMENTS

This all-suite hotel continually does its best to live up to its enviable location – on Sydney Harbour, within walking distance of the Opera House. A feature is its modern feel and courteous staff. Quadrant Restaurant completes a memorable experience for those visiting this fine property

BEST RESORT STYLE ACCOMMODATION

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FINALISTS

Loxley on Bellbird Hill NSW

Novotel Ningaloo Resort WA

WINNER

Novotel Ningaloo Resort, Exmouth, WA

JUDGES COMMENTS

This resort is located on Sunrise Beach in Exmouth Gulf. It provides a base for visitors to the world-renowned Ningaloo Marine Park and Cape Range National Park. It has been built to a contemporary beach house design, sympathetic to its surrounding environment using natural material. The rooms are state-of-the-art, have slick décor and a user-friendly layout, good recreational facilities and superb food and beverage.

BEST BOUTIQUE ACCOMMODATION/HOTEL

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FINALISTS

Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa NSW

Sofitel Mansion & Spa VIC

WINNER

Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa, Katoomba, NSW

JUDGES COMMENTS

Located in the picturesque Blue Mountains, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa continues to set new standards in accommodation for local and international guests alike. In short, its service and facilities are exquisite. Its signature restaurant, Darley's, is passionate, yet simple, focusing on texture and taste. Recreational facilities – including the garden – are superb. A jewel in the hotel industry's crown.

BEST SUPERIOR ACCOMMODATION

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FINALISTS

Crowne Plaza Canberra ACT

Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley NSW

Crowne Plaza Parramatta NSW
Hilton Melbourne Airport VIC
Holiday Inn Sydney Airport NSW
Radisson Resort Gold Coast QLD
SKYCITY Darwin NT
The Islington Hotel TAS

WINNER

Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley, Lovedale, NSW

JUDGES COMMENTS

The guest rooms at Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley are welcoming and well equipped, while the hotel's recreational facilities, which include a golf course, huge lap-pool and a gym, are simply sensational. With multiple choices, the food-and-beverage experience will satisfy every customer profile. The hotel's staff have a terrific service culture. Wonderful hospitality!

BEST DELUXE HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

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FINALISTS

Brisbane Marriott Hotel QLD

Cable Beach Club Resort WA

Hyatt Hotel Canberra ACT

Hyatt Regency Adelaide SA

Sofitel Sydney Wentworth NSW

The Westin Melbourne VIC

WINNER

Hyatt Hotel Canberra, Yarralumla, ACT

JUDGES COMMENTS

The Hyatt Hotel Canberra is found in a premium location in our national capital, within the parliamentary triangle. This traditional hotel offers luxurious accommodation, great dining, as well as a dedication to guest-service perfection. It is an integral part of not only the local community, but also the entire nation at large. The Hyatt Hotel Canberra is a true landmark of the Australian hotel industry.

JOHNNIE WALKER HALL OF FAME

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2008 JOHNNIE WALKER HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Michael Monaghan OAM

• Subiaco Hotel WA,

Tom Payne

• Premier Hotel Group VIC,

David Thomas

• The Oaks Hotel Group NSW,

OVERALL ACCOMMODATION HOTEL OF THE YEAR



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WINNER

Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa, Katoomba, NSW

JUDGES COMMENTS

This resort, in a magnificent location, is surrounded by beautifully established English gardens and has first-rate recreational facilities. Personalised service and attention to detail offers hospitality at its best! Darley's Restaurant offers a beautifully balanced menu, including vegetarian selection and a wine list to be proud of. The food is fresh, using the best of ingredients. The rooms have an elegant feel, are well appointed and maintained. The beautifully furnished bar/lounge with its fireplaces creates a unique ambience. The staff throughout the hotel are courteous and professional. Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa deserves the accolades of our industry.

OVERALL GENERAL HOTEL OF THE YEAR

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WINNER

The Full Moon Hotel, Sandgate, QLD

JUDGES COMMENTS

The Full Moon Hotel has been rewarded for its overall presentation in a superb location overlooking the stunning Bramble Bay. It is a landmark destination for good food and entertainment, in a superb indoor and outdoor setting. The design is contemporary and creates a comfortable ambience. The marketing is consistent and well targeted. The hotel boasts excellent, reasonably priced food and beverages, while another asset is its courteous and professional service. The Full Moon Tavern is a worthy WINNER of this prestigious award.