



# National Tourism Alliance

The United Voice of the Australian Tourism Industry

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## Member Newsletter

August 2006

### NEW PORTAL FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY

Qualitytourism.com.au is a new portal for the Australian tourism industry. It provides a "one stop shop" for business improvement and accreditation. Funded by the Australian Government, and designed specifically for Australian tourism operators, the portal is an online gateway to all the business improvement information, and tools that you need to improve profitability, credibility and sustainability.

Whether a tourist attraction, accommodation provider or run events and conferences, the portal includes information about getting started, getting assistance, getting informed and getting known, and growing your business. It is available in one central place and with personalised searches; you can set parameters to only receive information that is relevant to you and your business.

Qualitytourism.com.au is the first industry portal that allows online accreditation. It simplifies the traditional paperwork component of accreditation and lets you search programs and undertake these at your own pace and in your own time. It helps you find the right program and then, in many cases, lets you register, pay and complete the program paperwork online.

A range of industry organisations, from the Australian Tourism Export Council to Restaurant and Catering Australia, have partnered to bring the portal to life.

According to John Hart, CEO Restaurant & Catering Australia, "This is the greatest advance in consolidating business improvement and accreditation offerings to tourism businesses in recent times. Restaurant & Catering Australia sees the portal as a vital resource for our businesses, especially in facilitating the uptake of business improvement and accreditation systems."

To visit the portal, click here [www.qualitytourism.com.au](http://www.qualitytourism.com.au)

### TOURISM AUSTRALIA

The Minister for Small Business and Tourism, the Hon Fran Bailey, has announced that Tourism Australia would remain a separate statutory authority reporting to a Board.

The Uhrig Review was an important exercise to allow both government and the industry to better understand the importance of Tourism Australia's role in assisting the development and growth of a sustainable tourism industry in Australia.

Remaining as a separate authority will give Tourism Australia the flexibility to respond quickly to the needs of the industry, particularly when faced with international crises. The Board model ensures industry involvement in the decision making of Tourism Australia.

The NTA made submissions to the government on behalf of the industry to request that Tourism Australia should remain a statutory authority under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

The NTA has expressed its support for the outcome and said that the industry was particularly grateful to Minister Bailey for seeking the views of the industry.

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### NTA Board Meeting

– 19 October 2006

#### NTA Members Meeting/AGM

– 7 December 2006

### AUSTRALIAN TOURISM AWARDS

The Australian Tourism Awards 2006 will be held on **Friday, 23 February 2007** at Star City Hotel and Casino in Sydney.

Under the leadership of the NTA, the State and National awards are undergoing a review involving all tourism industry stakeholders.

The purpose of the review is to maximize the number and quality of entries at a state level, to simplify the process and to shorten the entry time required to prepare a submission without compromising the judging process.

### Sponsors



### NTA Board Members

Col Hughes - Chairman  
Mike Hatton - AFTA (Deputy Chair)  
Owen Johnstone-Donnet - TTF  
Matthew Hingerty - ATEC  
Steven Clarke - ADFA  
Bill Healey - AHA  
Mike Cannon - AACB  
Daniel Gschwind - QTIC

### NTA Members

ACT Tourism Industry Council  
Assoc of Australian Convention Bureaux  
Australian Casino Association  
Australian Duty Free Association  
Australian Federation of Travel Agents  
Australian Hotels Association  
Australian Tourism Export Council

Board of Airline Representatives of Australia  
Caravan, RV & Accommodation Industry of Australia  
Hotel, Motel and Accommodation Assoc  
Meetings Events Australia  
Queensland Tourism Industry Council  
Restaurant and Catering Australia  
South Australia Tourism Alliance

Tourism Alliance Victoria  
Tourism Council Tasmania  
Tourism Council Western Australia  
Tourism Industry Council NSW  
Tourism & Transport Forum Australia  
Victorian Tourism Industry Council  
Winemakers Federation of Australia

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