



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Tasmania's eco-tourism shines at Australia Tourism Awards**

**24 February 2018**

**Will Hodgman, Premier and Minister for Tourism**

Tasmania's fast emerging reputation as the environmental tourism capital of the world was confirmed at last night's Qantas Australian Tourism Awards.

Tasmanian tourism operators claimed 12 medals from 26 categories, including three gold, at the gala award event held in Western Australia.

This success is a testament to the dedication, authenticity and sheer talent of our tourism industry that is attracting a record number of visitors to our state.

Congratulations to all nominees, medal winners and particularly the gold medal recipients:

- The Tasmanian Walking Company, Ecotourism;
- The Maria Island Walk, Tour and Transport Operators; and
- Saffire Freciynet, Luxury Accommodation.

A special congratulations must go to the Tasmanian Walking Company, which was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

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The acclaim for our nature based tourism shows that Tasmania has struck the right balance right between enjoying and preserving all that's special about our state.

As a Government, we have unashamedly backed our visitor economy, which contributes \$2.79 billion to our economy every year and supports more than 37,000 jobs.

We are committed to working with the industry to take tourism to the next level, with new targets that encourage visitors to stay longer, see more of our state and spend more.

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