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Media release

Recognising Aotearoa New Zealand's top tourism experiences – finalists named for 2024 Tourism Awards

Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) has announced the finalists for the New Zealand Tourism Awards 2024.

The awards showcase and celebrate the very best of New Zealand tourism's individual and business successes.

The 47 finalists were drawn from over 120 entrants and include Kiwi businesses operating at global scale to a deeply personal offering by a single guide, providing a unique experience of people, place and environment.

TIA Chief Executive Rebecca Ingram says the breadth and quality of the entries are increasing year on year – indicating the industry's commitment to providing outstanding tourism.

"Aotearoa New Zealand is one of those places people from around the world dream about visiting. This is the industry's way of recognising the people who deliver, and keep improving on, these experiences.

"These finalists are setting incredibly high standards – and serve as both an inspiration and benchmark for the industry," Ingram said.

Many of the categories were closely contested, with careful consideration to select the finalists. Three of the categories acknowledge outstanding performers in the industry, and ten awards recognise business excellence, industry alignment and values that are in line with the Tourism Sustainability Commitment.

"Not only are all of the finalists great operators in terms of what they offer, they are also judged on their positive impact on local communities, how they restore and protect our natural environment, and how they build economic sustainability," Ingram says.

Winners will be announced in person at an Awards gala dinner on 6 November in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, following Tourism Summit Aotearoa. The Summit, a key event in the national tourism calendar, brings together more than 300 business and government leaders from all sectors of the industry. The theme this year is *Visitor Experience (VX) in a Changing World*.

For more information, please contact TIA Strategic Communications Advisor Hamish Stuart – hamish.stuart@tia.org.nz or (021) 073-8455.

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New Zealand Tourism Awards 2024: Categories and Finalists

Wayfinder Community Engagement Award 2024

- Christchurch Adventure Park
- iFLY Indoor Skydiving
- Tohu Experiences
- Tūhura Otago Museum

NZME Visitor Experience Award 2024

- Hobbiton Movie Set
- New Zealand Trails
- Tauhara North Tourism - Te Pā Tū
- The Landing

Tourism Talent Employer of Choice Award 2024

- GO Rentals
- Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools and Spa
- Kohutapu Lodge & Tribal Tours Ltd
- Millbrook Resort

Tourism Excellence Award (Micro Business) 2024

- Huka Falls River Cruise
- Kohutapu Lodge & Tribal Tours Ltd
- Terra and Tide
- The Seventh Generation

Tourism Excellence Award (Small-Medium Business) 2024

- Hell's Gate
- Ōpuke Thermal Pools & Spa
- Tauhara North Tourism - Te Pā Tū
- Ziptrek Ecotours

Johnston's Coachlines Tourism Excellence Award (Large Business) 2024

- Discover Waitomo
- GO Rentals
- Hobbiton Movie Set
- RealNZ

KiwiRail Tourism Environment Award 2024

- RealNZ
- The Headwaters Eco Lodge
- Wellington Airport
- Zealandia Te Māra a Tāne

Toroa ā-uta, Toroa ā-tai Māori Tourism Award 2024

- Kapiti Island Nature Tours
- Kohutapu Lodge & Tribal Tours Ltd
- Tohu Experiences
- Tio Ōhiwa Harbour Cruise & Oyster Experience

*Sponsored by New Zealand Māori Tourism

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Tourism Industry New Zealand Trust Industry Collaboration and Alignment Award 2024

- Kohutapu Lodge & Tribal Tours Ltd
- The Hotel Britomart
- Tāpoi Te Moananui ā Toi | Tourism Bay of Plenty – Flavours of Plenty
- Tāpoi Te Moananui ā Toi | Tourism Bay of Plenty - The Green Room | Te Rūma Kākāriki

Resilience and Innovation Award 2024

- GO Rentals
- Hobbiton Movie Set
- LyLo
- Ōpuke Thermal Pools and Spa

The Air New Zealand Supreme Tourism Award will be selected from these ten business award winners and will be presented at the Gala Dinner.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Auckland Airport Tourism Industry Champion Award 2024

- Gavin M. Faull, [Swiss-Belhotel International](#)
- David Kennedy, [International Antarctic Centre](#)
- Nadine ToeToe, [Kohutapu Lodge & Tribal Tours Ltd](#)

Emerging Tourism Leader Award 2024

- Charlotte Laurentin, [Millbrook Resort](#)
- Anne Newman, [Christchurch Adventure Park](#)
- James Stokes, [Glenorchy Air](#)
- Zac Watson, [Maverick Digital Tourism Marketing](#)

The Sir Jack Newman Award for Outstanding Industry Leader will also be presented at the Gala Dinner.

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TIA - KEY FACTS

- Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) is New Zealand tourism's peak industry body. We are the only independent association that represents all sectors of New Zealand's large and diverse tourism industry.
- TIA has about 1300 member businesses from across the industry, ranging from small owner/operators to large publicly listed tourism corporates and international hotel chains.
- TIA is deeply involved in discussions on recovery and what the future of tourism in New Zealand will look like and led the development of New Zealand's Tourism Strategy [Tourism 2050 – A Blueprint for Impact](#)
- TIA leads implementation of the industry's [Tourism Sustainability Commitment](#) which aims to see every New Zealand tourism business contributing positively to our people and cultures, our environment and our economy and has launched the [akiaki.nz](#) to advance the knowledge and business capability of tourism businesses.
- TIA delivers a comprehensive and diverse range of industry events including TRENZ, New Zealand Tourism Awards, Discussing Tourism regional events and the Tourism Summit Aotearoa.

Visit www.tia.org.nz for more information

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