## **Media Release**

# Queenslanders called on to vote for their favourite holiday towns

10 May 2024

Queensland holidaymakers and weekend warriors are being called on to vote for their favourite holiday hotspots in the 2024 Queensland Top Tourism Town Awards.

Presented by the Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC), the annual awards celebrate outstanding regional destinations. Honouring communities that demonstrate a commitment to visitor excellence.

After an extensive judging process by a panel of tourism experts, QTIC CEO Brett Fraser said it is now up to the public to help decide the winners from a list of 16 worthy finalists.

"We are calling on the public to recognise their best-loved destinations by voting for who they think should be crowned a Queensland Top Tourism Town," said Fraser.

"This is a great opportunity for locals and Queenslanders alike to reward their favourite regional destinations for providing an amazing visitor experience.

"Each finalist is a local treasure. From outback discoveries in Croydon and Quilpie to coastal escapes in Airlie Beach and Agnes Water, each community showcases the very best that Queensland has to offer visitors.

"It is not just the homegrown attractions that drive guests to our regional holiday hotspots. It is the local communities that rally together to provide visitors with an unforgettable and welcoming experience that really put a destination on the map of travellers. The awards celebrate these communities.

"Congratulations to this year's finalists for working together in making holidaymakers feel welcome, and for demonstrating that you do not need to travel far in our Sunshine State to enjoy an incredible experience," Fraser said.

There are three Queensland Top Tourism Town Awards categories, with voters invited to nominate their top destinations:

- Top Tourism Town Award those with a population over 5,000
- Top Small Tourism Town Award those with a population between 1,500 5,000
- Top Tiny Tourism Town Award those with a population below 1,500

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In 2023, Caloundra, Airlie Beach and Winton took out the top gong for Top Tourism Town, Top Small Tourism Town, and Top Tiny Tourism Town award categories respectively.

With voting now open and closing 17 May, Queenslanders have one week to vote for their favourite holiday gems through the QTIC website at <a href="mailto:qtic.com.au/top-tourism-award/">qtic.com.au/top-tourism-award/</a>

State winners will go on to represent Queensland at the national awards held later in the year. Where they have the chance to be crowned one of Australia's Top Tourism Towns.

Queensland's three Top Tourism Towns will be announced on 7 June at an awards ceremony held in Brisbane.

The Queensland Top Tourism Town Awards are made possible through the generosity of sponsors, in particular Tourism and Events Queensland and the Seven Network.

#### QUEENSLAND TOP TOURISM TOWN AWARDS FINALISTS

#### Top Tourism Town Award (population over 5,000) finalists:

Bowen

Redcliffe

Rockhampton

Roma

#### Top Small Tourism Town Award (population between 1,500 – 5,000) finalists:

Agnes Water

Airlie Beach

Cloncurry

Kilcoy

Longreach

### Top Tiny Tourism Town Award (population below 1,500) finalists:

Collinsville

Croydon

Hughenden

Toogoolawah

Quilpie

Wandoan

Winton



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#### **MEDIA CONTACT**

Cat Riddle
Communications Manager
Cat.Riddle@qtic.com.au
0479 048 686



Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) is the peak industry body for tourism in Queensland representing more than 6,000 tourism businesses. QTIC is a private sector, membership-based organisation which, since 2001, has worked to influence and shape the state's tourism business environment that directly contributes \$32 billion to the Queensland's economy and employs more than 237,000 Queenslanders. <a href="https://www.qtic.com.au">www.qtic.com.au</a> | LinkedIn | YouTube | Instagram | Facebook