

Tourism Awards



> Sandy Park Exeter, April 2022 packed for the first in person South West Tourism Excellence Awards since 2020

Top honours for the cream of South West tourist businesses

TOURIST business leaders got together face to face for the first time since February 2020 on Thursday night, to celebrate success at the region's South West Tourism Excellence Awards. More than 90 awards were presented following a celebratory dinner with more than 300 attending the event at Sandy Park, Exeter. The awards saw 476 entries from the region including Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Bath, Bristol, Somerset, Dorset, Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

Organiser Robin Barker said that in what has been another difficult year for tourism the awards are recognised for their rigour and independence of judging. More than 70 judges spent months poring over entry submissions, websites, social media and review sites, as well as carrying out business visits, many of them mystery visits. Reports and recommendations were

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then submitted to an independent panel who made the final decisions. All forms of hospitality business were amongst the winners, with cafes, pubs, cookery schools and sailing schools all celebrating alongside attractions, camping and glamping sites, holiday parks, B&Bs, cottages and hotels. Many have also been nominated to represent the South West in the national VisitEngland awards later in the year.

Tourism is known as the happiness industry and this event showed why'

ROBIN BARKER

Jo Ecroyd, Customer Service Director of headline sponsor South West Water, said: "The South West is home to 860 miles of beautiful coastline and wonderful beaches which are major draws for the millions of visitors to our region each year. In 2021, for the first time ever, 100% of our classified coastal

bathing waters passed stringent standards, meaning our regions beaches can proudly take their place as amongst the best in Europe. We are delighted to support the South West Tourism Awards which shine a spotlight on the best tourism businesses right across our region. The resilience and adaptability of the tourism industry over the last couple of years is inspirational, it is wonderful to be back together in person for this year's Awards. Congratulations to all."

Robin Barker, who is Director of Services for Tourism Ltd, and manages the awards, added: "What a night! Tourism is known as 'the happiness industry' and Thursday night showed everyone why, with friends, colleagues and competitors all ready to join in the celebrations after two years of being kept apart. Congratulations to everyone who has continued to excel and innovate despite the countless hurdles."

Co-Director Nell Barrington added: "I am so thrilled that we are all able to come together at Sandy Park for our first South West awards ceremony in two years. After such a terrible time for tourism, hospitality and indeed everyone it is great to be able to share the successes."

2021/22 South West Tourism Awards WINNERS & COMMENDED

Sponsored by South West Water

- ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE TOURISM AWARD**
sponsored by Soundview
- Gold**
 - Mylor Sailing and Powerboat School, Cornwall, @mylorsailing
 - Silver**
 - WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre, Glos, @WWTslimbridge
 - Bronze**
 - Leafy Fields Glamping, Devon, @LeafyFields
 - Commended**
 - Stonehenge, Wilts, @EH_Stonehenge
 - Sara's Cottage, Cornwall, @SarasCottage
 - Seaton Tramway, Devon, @SeatonTramway

- B&B AND GUESTHOUSE OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by The Samphire Club
- Gold**
 - The 25 Boutique B&B, Devon, @The25Torquay
 - Silver**
 - Chelsea House, Cornwall
 - Bronze**
 - Brightham House Boutique Bed and Breakfast, Devon, @BrighthamHouse
 - St John's Guest House, Dorset, @Fishersdream

- BUSINESS EVENTS & WEDDING VENUE OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Clockwork Marketing
- Gold**
 - Treseren, Cornwall, @TreserenC
 - Silver**
 - Highcliffe Castle, Dorset, @HighcliffeC
 - Bronze**
 - Lucknam Park Hotel & Spa, Wilts, @LucknamPark
 - Marsham Court Hotel, Dorset, @MarshamCourt

- CAFÉ/TEAROOM OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Granny Gothards
- Gold**
 - Picnic Park Deli, Dorset @picnicparkdeli
 - Silver**
 - The Purplespoon Café, Somerset, @purplespoonage
 - Bronze**
 - The Nectary Restaurant, Devon, @quincehoneyfarm

- CAMPING AND CARAVANNING PARK OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Anytime Booking
- Gold**
 - Monkton Wyld Holiday Park, Dorset, @Monkton_Wyld
 - Silver**
 - Trevalgan Touring Park, Cornwall, @trevalgan
 - Bronze**
 - South Lytchett Manor Caravan and Camping Park, Dorset, @campsitefordorset
 - Commended**



> The Minack Theatre in Porthcurno, near Land's End, was judged large attraction of the year
David Davies

- Harford Bridge Holiday Park, Devon, @HarfordBridge
- Petruth Paddocks Campsite, Somerset, @Petruthcamping

- CASUAL DINING AWARD**
sponsored by NFU Mutual
- Gold**
 - Bango Kitchen, Cornwall, @TheShellfishPig
 - Silver**
 - The Rockpool, Cornwall
 - Bronze**
 - The Coconut Tree, Bristol @CoconutTreeUK
 - The Scallop Shell, Bath, @thescallopshell

- DOG FRIENDLY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by VisitWest
- Gold**
 - Gwelmor, Cornwall, @gwelmor
 - Silver**
 - Homewood, Bath, @homewoodbath
 - Bronze**
 - Kilminorth Cottages, Cornwall, @kilminorth
 - Commended**
 - eat:Festivals, @EatFestivals

- ETHICAL, RESPONSIBLE & SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AWARD**
sponsored by South West Water
- Gold**
 - West Bay Discovery Centre, Dorset, @WestBayDC
 - Silver**
 - Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery, Devon, @RAMMuseum
 - Bronze**
 - Dorset Forest Garden Glamping, Dorset



> Stonehenge, Wiltshire, won a bronze for accessibility and inclusion
David Davies

- Whatley Manor Hotel and Spa, Wilts, @Whatley_Manor
- Holi Moli Beach Hut, Somerset, @DunsterBeachHut
- Little Gwendreath Holiday Cottages, Cornwall

- EXPERIENCE OF THE YEAR (ACTIVE OR LEARNING)**
sponsored by Beyonk
- Gold**
 - Mylor Sailing and Powerboat School, Cornwall, @mylorsailing
 - Silver**
 - All Hallows Farmhouse Cookery School, Dorset
 - Bronze**
 - Bath Insider Tours - Tour of Bath, Bath, @bathinsidertour
 - Jurassic Coast Guides, Dorset, @jurassicguides
 - Commended**
 - Crag 2 Mountain, Devon
 - Mad Max Tours, Bath, @madmaxtours
 - Shore Campers - Campervan Hire, Dorset, @ShoreCampers

- Cofton Holidays, Devon, @Cofton_Holidays
- Hoburne Devon Bay, Devon, @hoburneholidays
- Waterside Holiday Park & Spa, Dorset, @watersidedorset

- LARGE HOTEL OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Hotel Perfect
- Gold**
 - The Royal Crescent Hotel and Spa, Bath, @royalcrescent
 - Silver**
 - Carlyon Bay Hotel, Cornwall, @CarlyonBayHotel
 - Bronze**
 - Bowood Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort, Wilts, @BowoodUK
 - Marsham Court Hotel, Dorset, @MarshamCourt

- GLAMPING BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Anytime Booking
- Gold**
 - Longlands Devon, Devon
 - Silver**
 - Brackenhill Glamping, Devon, @Brackenhill_G
 - Bronze**
 - Pengelly Retreat, Cornwall, @ruthie_pengelly
 - Ekopod, Cornwall
 - The Hudnalls Hideout, Glos

- HOLIDAY PARK OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Stephens Scown solicitors
- Gold**
 - Highlands End Holiday Park, Dorset, @WDLH
 - Silver**
 - Golden Cap Holiday Park, Dorset, @WDLH
 - Warren Farm Holiday Centre, Somerset, @warren_farm

- Carey's Secret Garden, Dorset @CareysSecret
- Bear Town, Devon
- Higher Pendeen Camping, Cornwall
- Brackenhill Glamping, Devon, @Brackenhill_G

- OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SOUTH WEST TOURISM**
sponsored by The South West Tourism Alliance
- Kurt Janson, The Tourism Alliance, @tourismvoice

- PUB OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Sea Arch
- Gold**
 - The Cotleigh Inn, Somerset
 - Silver**
 - The Acorn Inn, Dorset, @Acorn_Inn
 - Bronze**
 - The Dartmoor Inn at Lydford, Devon
 - The Swan, Wedmore, Somerset, @TheSwanWedmore

- RESILIENCE AND INNOVATION AWARD**
sponsored by Quality in Tourism
- Gold**
 - Mother Ivey's Bay Holiday Park and Martha's Orchard, Cornwall, @MotherIveysBay & @MarthasOrchard
 - Silver**
 - Exmoor Character Cottages, Somerset, @CottagesExmoor
 - Bronze**
 - Breaking Bread, Bristol, @BreadBristol
 - Commended**
 - Ocean Adventurers, Somerset

- RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Plymouth Gin
- Gold**
 - The Idle Rocks Restaurant, Cornwall, @TheIdleRocks
 - Silver**
 - The Olive Tree Restaurant, Bath, @OliveTreeBath
 - Bronze**
 - Hotel Meudon, Cornwall, @MeudonHotel
 - The Angel - Taste of Devon, Devon, @theangeldevon

- SELF CATERING ACCOMMODATION OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Touch Stay
- Gold**
 - The Cottages at Blackadon Farm, Devon
 - Silver**
 - Pitt Farm Holiday Cottages, Devon
 - Bronze**
 - Eco Chic Cottages - Culls Cottage, Glos, @EcoChicCottages
 - Glynn Barton, Cornwall, @glynnbarton
 - Commended**
 - Bidwell Farm Cottages, Devon, @bidwellfarm
 - Middlewick Holiday Cottages, Somerset, @TheMiddlewick
 - Dorset Museum, Dorset, @DorsetMuseum

- LARGE VISITOR ATTRACTION OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Love to Visit
- Gold**
 - The Minack Theatre, Cornwall, @minacktheatre
 - Silver**
 - Moors Valley Country Park and Forest, Dorset, @moorsvalley
 - Noah's Ark Zoo Farm, Somerset, @Noahs_Ark_Zoo
 - Bronze**
 - Dorset Museum, Dorset, @DorsetMuseum

- SMALL HOTEL OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by pkf Francis Clark
- Gold**
 - The Idle Rocks, Cornwall, @TheIdleRocks
 - Silver**
 - No.15 by GuestHouse, Bath
 - Bronze**
 - Three Mile Beach, Cornwall, @ThreeMileBeach

- Cary Arms & Spa, Devon, @CaryArms
- Dunkery Beacon Country House Hotel, Somerset, @DunkeryBeaconCH

- SMALL VISITOR ATTRACTION OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Pear Marketing
- Gold**
 - Nothe Fort, Dorset, @NotheFort
 - Silver**
 - PK Porthcurno, Cornwall, @PKPorthcurno
 - Bronze**
 - Corinium Museum, Glos, @CoriniumMuseum
 - No.1 Royal Crescent, Bath, @No1Museum
 - Commended**
 - Bear Town, Devon
 - Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon Life, Devon, @TivertonMuseum

- SPA & WELLBEING EXPERIENCE OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by The Eco Laundry
- Gold**
 - St Michaels Resort, Cornwall, @stmichaelsresort
 - Silver**
 - Lucknam Park Hotel and Spa, Wilts, @LucknamPark
 - Bronze**
 - Lincombe Hall Hotel, Devon, @lincombe_hall
 - No.15 by GuestHouse, Bath
 - Commended**
 - Salcombe Harbour Hotel & Spa, Devon, @Harbour_Hotels

- TOURISM EVENT / FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR**
sponsored by Sunflower Social Media
- Gold**
 - Bristol International Balloon Fiesta, Bristol, @bristolballoon
 - Silver**
 - Great Britain Sail Grand Prix, Devon, @visitplymouth
 - Bronze**
 - FORM - The Sculpture Exhibition: Sculpture by the Lakes, Dorset, @SculptureLakes

- UNSGUNG HERO AWARD**
sponsored by Plymouth Britain's Ocean City
- Ali Marshall, Torre Abbey, Devon, @TorreAbbey
 - Christine Hughes, Moors Valley Country Park & Forest, Dorset, @moorsvalley
 - Emma Fashokun, Cornish Gems, Cornwall, @Cornish_Gems
 - Jake Tyler - Tropiquaria, Somerset @Tropiquaria_Zoo

- VISITOR INFORMATION SERVICE OF THE YEAR**
in partnership with South West Coast Path Association
- Gold**
 - Dartmoor National Park Visitor Centre - Princetown, Devon, @VisitDartmoor
 - Silver**
 - South Somerset Visitor Information Centre and Gift Shop, Somerset, @VisitSSomerset
 - Bronze**
 - Exmoor National Park Centre - Dunster, Somerset, @ExmoorNPCs
 - Plymouth Tourist Information Centre, Devon, @visitplymouth

- WATER CONSERVATION AWARD**
sponsored by South West Water
- Treloy Touring Park, Cornwall