



VisitEngland announces Awards for Excellence finalists for 2024

VisitEngland

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VisitEngland has today, 8 April, announced the finalists who will go forward to compete for the tourism industry's annual national [Awards for Excellence](#).

The VisitEngland Awards for Excellence champion the very best of England's tourism industry celebrating quality, innovation, best practice and exceptional customer service.

The 48 finalists, announced following a rigorous judging process by handpicked tourism industry experts, now go on to compete in 15 core categories at the national awards, with the Caravan and Motorhome Club announced as headline sponsor.

VisitEngland Director Andrew Stokes said:

"I am always impressed by the tourism businesses who make it onto our list of finalists with their innovative approaches to ensuring people have the most amazing experiences whilst delivering outstanding customer service across England. I congratulate all the finalists and wish them the very best of luck."

The awards' categories range from 'Large Visitor Attraction of the Year' and 'Small Hotel of the Year' to 'New Tourism Business of the Year' and 'Pub of the Year'.

Applications to the awards were put forward for judging from businesses including hotels, self-catering accommodation providers, B&Bs, glamping operators, visitor attractions, restaurants, pubs and museums.

In addition to the 15 core categories, four special awards are also being presented including an 'Outstanding Contribution to Tourism Award', a 'Travel Content Award', the 'Tourism Superstar Award' and a 'TXGB Trailblazer Award'.

All finalists are invited to attend the national awards ceremony, this year being held at Rum Warehouse at The Titanic Hotel Liverpool on 5 June, where Gold, Silver and Bronze winners will be announced at the black tie event. The Family Holiday Charity is the chosen charity for this year's event.

This year's Awards aligned with 15 local competitions from across England with winners automatically put forward for the national awards.

Tourism is one of England's largest and most valuable industries, supporting hundreds of thousands of small-to-medium sized businesses, employing 2.6 million people and, in 2022, generating £66 billion for the economy in domestic visitor spending.

VisitEngland Awards for Excellence 2024 – List of Finalists:

Accessible and Inclusive Tourism Award:

- Colchester Castle, Essex www.colchester.cimuseums.org.uk/visit/colchester-castle
 - Hoe Grange Holidays, Derbyshire www.hoegrangeholidays.co.uk
 - ROARR! Norfolk www.roarr.co.uk
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B&B and Guest House of the Year:

- Bossington Hall, Somerset www.bossingtonhall.co.uk
 - MonkBridge House, North Yorkshire www.monkbridgehouseyork.com
 - The Bosham Boathouse B&B, West Sussex www.theboshamboathouse.co.uk
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Business Events Venue of the Year:

- Telford International Centre, Shropshire www.tictelford.com
 - Warwick Conferences, West Midlands www.warwickconferences.com
 - Winter Gardens Blackpool, Lancashire www.wintergardensblackpool.co.uk
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Camping, Glamping and Holiday Park of the Year:

- Darwin Forest Lodges, Derbyshire www.darwinforest.co.uk
 - Kits Coty Glamping, Kent www.kitscotyglamping.co.uk
 - The Secret Garden Glamping, Lancashire www.thesecretgardenglamping.uk
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Ethical, Responsible and Sustainable Tourism Award:

- Kent Wildlife Trust, Kent www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk
- Mill Farm Eco Barns, Norfolk www.millfarm-ecobarns.co.uk
- The Yan at Broadrayne, Cumbria www.theyan.co.uk

Experience of the Year:

- Mountain Bike Taster Day, Pure Outdoor, Derbyshire www.pureoutdoor.co.uk
 - Grey Seals & Seabird Cruise, Serenity Farne Island Boat Tours, Northumberland www.farneislandstours.co.uk
 - York Ghost Walk, The Deathly Dark Tours, North Yorkshire www.deathlydarktours.com
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Large Hotel of the Year:

- Hope Street Hotel, Merseyside www.hopestreethotel.co.uk
 - Rockliffe Hall Hotel, County Durham www.rockliffehall.com
 - The Grand, York, North Yorkshire www.thegrandyork.co.uk
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Large Visitor Attraction of the Year:

- ROARR! Norfolk www.roarr.co.uk
 - Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter, Hertfordshire www.wbstudiotour.co.uk
 - WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre, Gloucestershire www.wwt.org.uk/slimbridge
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New Tourism Business of the Year:

- Boys Hall, Kent www.boys-hall.com
 - Sleepy Owl Devon, Devon www.sleepyowldevon.co.uk
 - The Wizard Walk of York, North Yorkshire www.wizardwalkofyork.com
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Pub of the Year:

- The Acorn Inn, Dorset www.acorn-inn.co.uk
 - The Peterville Inn, Cornwall www.thepetervilleinn.co.uk
 - The Red Fox, Merseyside www.brunningandprice.co.uk/redfox
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Self Catering Accommodation of the Year:

- Bethnal&Bec, Hertfordshire www.bethnalandbec.com
 - My Cottages in St Ives, Cornwall www.mycottagesinstives.co.uk
 - Sleepy Owl Devon, Devon www.sleepyowldevon.co.uk
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Small Hotel of the Year:

- The Gallivant, East Sussex www.thegallivant.co.uk
- THE PIG-at Harlyn Bay, Cornwall www.thepighotel.com/at-harlyn-bay
- Wildhive Callow Hall, Derbyshire www.wildhive.uk

Small Visitor Attraction of the Year:

- Cotswolds Distillery, Warwickshire www.cotswoldsdistillery.com
 - Nothe Fort (operated by Weymouth Civic Society), Dorset www.nothefort.org.uk
 - The Battle of Britain Memorial, Kent www.battleofbritainmemorial.org
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Travel Content Award finalists

- Ben Aitken, The Guardian – ‘O’er vales and hills in a wheelchair: a new accessible trail in the Lake District’
 - Liz Edwards, The Times – ‘I went for a cross-country swim in the Thames, here’s what happened’
 - Richard Franks, JRNY Travel Magazine – ‘Greener Heartlands’
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Taste of England Award:

- Allium at Askham Hall, Cumbria www.askhamhall.co.uk
 - Blackfriars Restaurant, Tyne & Wear www.blackfriarsrestaurant.co.uk
 - La Locanda, Lancashire www.lalocanda.co.uk
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Unsung Hero Award:

- Katie Calder, V-ATE Automotive Smokehouse and Bowl, Lincolnshire
- Brett Hawkes, Crowhurst Park, East Sussex
- Duncan Wise, Northumberland National Park Authority, Northumberland