



THE HEART OF VICTORIA

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MEDIA RELEASE

HEART OF VICTORIA SHOWCASED AT VICTORIAN TOURISM AWARDS

Some of the Goulburn River Valley region's finest attractions and events were celebrated last week at the RACV Victorian Tourism Awards, confirming the Heart of Victoria as one of the state's best tourism regions.

Gold Winners included **The Churches** in Orrvale for Self Contained Accommodation, **Holmesglen at Eildon** for Business Event Venues, and **Greater Shepparton Visitor Centre** for Visitor Information Services with these operators being identified as best-in-class across the state.

The Heart of Victoria was well recognised in other categories with **Greater Shepparton City Council** a Silver Winner in Local Government Award for Tourism, **Yea Peppercorn Hotel** a Silver Winner in Tourism Restaurants and Catering Services, **Shepparton Festival** a Bronze Winner in Festivals and Events, and **Sedona Estate** in Murrindindi a Finalist in Tourism Wineries, Distilleries and Breweries.

Presented by Victoria Tourism Industry Council (VTIC) for the third year, the RACV Victorian Tourism Awards Gala Ceremony is the tourism, events and hospitality industry's night of nights, celebrating winners across 30 categories for their outstanding contributions to the tourism industry.

This year there were 126 entries from across Victoria, with 73 being recognised as Finalists with a score of 75 per cent or above. By bringing home three gold, two silver, one bronze and one finalist awards the Heart of Victoria celebrates being among the state's finest regions.

Goulburn River Valley Tourism Chair Annie Fletcher-Nicholls congratulated the winners and finalists across all categories in the awards and said "Each year the RACV Victorian Tourism Awards celebrates the outstanding calibre of visitor experiences and attractions across the state". She continued to say "Once again the Heart of Victoria has demonstrated that visitors to the region can discover best-in-class experiences and attractions in this magical part of the world".

For photos of the event and a list of all winners for the 2017 RACV Victorian Tourism Awards please visit: <https://www.goulburnrivervalley.com.au/2017-victorian-tourism-awards>

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