"Now in its ninth year, the Tourism Central Australia Awards has become an important annual event in Central Australia. The awards evening is a celebration of the tourism industry in the Red Centre and recognizes excellence and personal achievement. Nominees are to be congratulated for their passion and dedication, which contributes to the resilience and ongoing success of our industry. The 2015 Awards nominees are all outstanding businesses, organisations and individuals. At this year’s celebrations we will have the best selection of hand-picked wines, a sumptuous feast, great local entertainment, an astronomy show and a dancefloor to dance the night away under a Central Australian night sky. Come see the Earth Sanctuary lit up in magical white to contrast beautifully against the Red Centre of Australia. We look forward to celebrating with you all."

Jaclyn Thorne
General Manager

**TOURISM CENTRAL AUSTRALIA AWARDS NOMINEES 2015**

**Australian Transit Group Downunder Young Achiever**
This award recognizes a young Centralian who is under 30 years of age and working within the tourism industry. The recipient of this award is an outstanding young leader who has displayed initiative, dedication, passion and proven professional success within the industry.

**Nominees**
Sarah Graham (Alice Springs Reptile Centre)
Nicole Richards (Lasseters Hotel)

**Centralian Advocate Festivals & Events**
This award acknowledges festivals and events that have made a positive impact on the Central Australian tourism industry. The winner of this category has provided evidence of visitor attraction to the region for this festival/event and also positively promoted the region.

**Nominees**
Alice Springs Beanie Festival
Henley-on-Todd Regatta
Uluru Camel Cup
Tjungu Festival

**Alice Springs Airport New Tourism Innovation**
This category recognizes excellence in operator innovations through the development of a new service or product to enhance the visitor experience to Central Australia.

**Nominees**
Curtin Springs Paper (Curtin Springs)
Disability Camping Tours (Outback Tour Services)

**Voyages Ayers Rock Resort Industry Achiever**
This award recognizes an outstanding individual with proven success working in the Central Australian tourism industry in the past 12 months. The Industry Achiever displays leadership attributes and commitment to the tourism industry.

**Nominees**
Dale McIver (Henley-on-Todd Regatta)
Jeff Huyben (Chifley Alice Springs Resort)
Chris Golding (Mulgas Adventures)

**Yubu Napa Large Tourism Operator**
This category recognizes the achievements of a tourism operator with 20 or more full time employees. The award winning large tourism operator has demonstrated success in positively promoting the Central Australian region through a successful business model.

**Nominees**
Australian Transit Group Downunder Tours
Chifley Alice Springs Resort
Voyages Ayers Rock Resort
Uluru Kata-Tjuta National Park

**Imparja Small Tourism Operator**
This category recognizes the achievements of a tourism operator with 20 or less full time employees. The award winning small tourism operator has demonstrated success in positively promoting the Central Australian region through a successful business model.

**Nominees**
Outback Ballooning | Curtin Springs
Kings Canyon Wilderness Lodge | Uluru Camel Tours
Mulgas Adventures | Yubu Napa Art Gallery
Glen Helen Homestead Lodge

**Indigenous Tourism**
This category recognizes operations that foster a greater understanding of Indigenous culture, history and traditions through tourism products and services.

**Nominees**
Standley Chasm
Voyages Ayers Rock Resort
Uluru Kata - Tjuta National Park

**Territory Taste Tourism Restaurants & Catering Services**
This category recognizes excellence in restaurants and catering services and their contribution to the tourism industry.

**Nominees**
Barra on Todd Restaurant & Bar (Chifley Alice Springs Resort)
Tali Wiru (Voyages Ayers Rock Resort)
Wayside Inn (Curtin Springs)
Namitjira Gallery Restaurant (Glen Helen Homestead Lodge)

**Barry Bucholtz Award for Excellence**
This award highlights an individual’s longstanding contribution to the tourism industry. The Barry Bucholtz Award for Excellence recognizes an extraordinary individual for their personal and professional achievements. This year, the TCA Executive Committee have the honour of awarding the 2015 recipient.

To purchase tickets please email Heather Whitaker at marketing@discoverca.com.au or call 8952 5199.