A NIGHT IN THE TERRITORY IN HIGH DEMAND

The Northern Territory’s hotels, motels and serviced apartments had the highest growth in demand in the country according to figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Tourism Minister Paul Henderson said the Survey of Tourist Accommodation for hotels and motels with 15 rooms or more showed the increased in demand was benefiting operators in both the Top End and Central Australia.

“The ABS figures for the year to June 2007 show a 6.7% increase in demand for rooms in the Territory compared to the same period the year before,” Mr Henderson said.

“That translates to a total of 1.54 million rooms occupied in our hotels, motels and serviced apartments.

“Regionally, demand for a hotel or motel room in Kakadu recorded a 7.6% increase, and Darwin a 2.6% increase in demand.

“This increase in demand has translated into an increase in spending with accommodation operators.

“Alice Springs operators benefited from an extra $2 million in their sector compared to the year before, to $31.1 million, and Darwin was up $11.1 million to $101.2 million.

“The benefit of the Territory from this increase in demand for accommodation will have flowed through the economy, with visitors enjoying meals in our restaurants, booking tours and spending in retail shops.

“With this year’s NT on Sale campaign now underway offering great accommodation packages, and Tiger Airways Australia operating into Darwin and Alice from December, I am sure our accommodation sector will continue to be in hot demand.”

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