

VisitEngland announces winners of tourism Awards for Excellence 2020

The 19 winners were announced during a virtual awards event in August hosted by Julia Bradbury from 'The Outdoor Guide'.

The VisitEngland Awards for Excellence, now in its thirty-first year, celebrate and champion innovation, quality and best practice across the industry recognising businesses and individuals who raise the bar of England's tourism offer.

The winners were selected from hundreds of tourism businesses across England including hotels, self-catering accommodation, B&Bs, glamping operators, attractions, restaurants, pubs, museums and conference centres.

Tourism Minister, Nigel Huddleston said:

"Not only does our tourism industry offer incredible experiences to those who holiday here, it supports millions of jobs up and down the country. I'm delighted to see so many great establishments, from major Lincolnshire attractions to boutique Yorkshire hotels, being celebrated.

"This important sector has been hit hard by the coronavirus and we have helped with an unprecedented package of measures including the job retention scheme, a years' business rates holiday, and most recently, a £4 billion reduction in VAT benefitting the sector.

"I would like to congratulate all the winners and businesses around England who are doing an outstanding job in showcasing the best in tourism. I encourage everyone to get out... and experience everything England has to offer."

VisitEngland Chief Executive, Sally Balcombe said:

"These prestigious awards celebrate the outstanding businesses and individuals in

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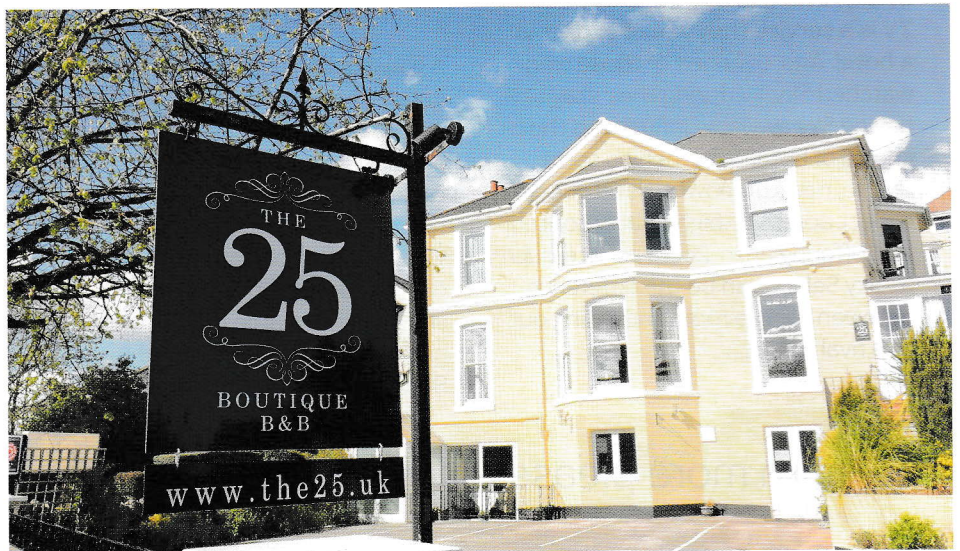
tourism across England who have delivered excellence. From a world-class boutique B&B in Devon to adventure-packed experiences in Somerset, from an accessible country park and national nature reserve in Dorset to a bespoke English

wine tour in Kent, our award winners provide stand-out experiences of the highest calibre.

"Millions of jobs and local economies depend on tourism, and this year's awards are also a timely reminder of the determination, innovation and commitment of businesses across the country who have been working extremely hard to reopen, to welcome visitors back safely and to continue to provide a first-class experience."

In addition to the winners across the 15 'core' categories, there were four special awards this year. The Outstanding Contribution to Tourism was awarded to the business events industry in recognition of its work to support England's Nightingale Hospitals.

See opposite for the full list of winners.



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