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Torquay's 25 Boutique strikes gold at tourism awards

Torbay naturally inspiring

TORBAY WEEKLY

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THE newspaper by the community for the community

Torquay's 25 Boutique B&B has struck gold in the South West Tourism Excellence Awards.

The guest house was named 'Best Bed and Breakfast of the Year' and were among 90 other award winners.

Cary Arms and Spa in Babbacombe won bronze for Small Hotel of the Year and Lincombe Hall Hotel scooped bronze as well for Spa and Well Being Experience of the Year.

Ali Marshall, head gardener at Torre Abbey, was honoured with an Unsung Hero award.

For the first time since February 2020, the region's tourism awards were able to return to their face-to-face format, with a celebratory dinner enjoyed by more than 300 winners, supporters and tourism leaders.

The awards saw 476 entries from the region including Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Bath, Bristol, Somerset, Dorset, Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

Held at Sandy Park in Exeter, they were the culmination of 11

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months of evidence gathering by more than 70 judges pouring over entry submissions, websites, social media and review sites, as well as carrying out business visits.

Reports and recommendations were then submitted to an independent panel who made the final decisions.

All forms of hospitality business were among the winners, many of whom have also been nominated to represent the South West in the national Visit England awards later in the year.

Andy Banner-Price, co-owner of The 25 along with his husband, Julian, said: "This was the fourth time we'd entered in six years and each time we've managed to bring home the gold award.

"It gets tougher each time to stay at the top. We have to work all the harder to ensure we are always improving and developing



Ali Marshall, head gardener at Torre Abbey, won the Unsung Hero Award

our product and that our levels of cleanliness, quality and customer service are always second to none."

Julian said: "We'd also like to congratulate all our fellow winners, particularly those located across the English Riviera."



Andy Banner Price and husband Julian

Picture: NICK WILLIAMS PHOTOGRAPHY

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