

**GOURMET TRAVELLER HOTEL AND TRAVEL AWARDS 2026**  
("Promotion")

**Terms and Conditions**

Information and instructions on 'How to Enter' and information included in the briefs relating to each category of this promotion form part of these Terms and Conditions of Entry.

*Entry:*

1. Participation in the Gourmet Traveller Hotel and Travel Awards ("Awards") is deemed acceptance of these Terms and Conditions. Instructions on how to enter and information included in the briefs relating to each category of the Awards form part of these Terms and Conditions. By submitting your entry, you are deemed to have accepted these Terms and Conditions.
  
2. To enter, entrants must: (a) be an Australian resident aged 18 years or over and not an immediate family member of the Promoter. For the purposes of these Terms and Conditions, an "Australian resident" is a person who has lived and worked in Australia for a minimum of 12 months and an "immediate family member" means any of the following: spouse, ex-spouse, de-facto spouse, child or step-child (whether biological or by adoption), parent, step-parent, grandparent, step-grandparent, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, brother, sister, step-brother, step-sister or first cousin; (b) prior to submitting the entry in accordance with paragraph c, obtain permission to enter the Awards; (c) submit the entry form hosted on [gourmettraveller.com.au](http://gourmettraveller.com.au) completed and signed entry form in one (1) or more categories of the following: Hotel of the Year, Boutique Hotel of The Year, Resort of The Year, Cruise Line of The Year, Best New Hotel, Best Hotel Dining, Luxury Lodge of the Year, Hotel Transformation of the Year, Best Hotel Bar, Regional Hotel of the Year. Each entry must answer all questions posed at the point of entry and supply a link to support material which may include photographs, and which must be high resolution images (maximum 5MB at 300dpi) suitable for publication. For Hotel of the Year entries, properties must provide a voucher for one night's accommodation, to the email in the entry form specified – valid until June 30, 2026 – that can be redeemed on check-in. Properties that have been visited by two or more members of the judging panel in the last 12 months will not be revisited and vouchers will not be activated. Your entry must be accompanied by a supporting statement, up to 500 words max., detailing the unique features of the property, its market positioning, as well as its design and service philosophy. All written and visual material should be submitted via [gourmettraveller.com.au](http://gourmettraveller.com.au); and pay the \$250 entry fee (per single entry) by credit card. Best New Hotel is open to properties that opened after July 1, 2025. All entries must be accompanied by a supporting statement, up to 500 words max., detailing the unique features of the property, its market positioning, as well as its design and service philosophy.
  
3. The Awards nomination stage commences at 9:00am (AEDST) on 16 February 2026 and final entries must be received by 11:59 pm (AEDST) on 24 April 2026. Payment of the entry fee must be finalised with Promoter by 11:59 pm (AEDST) on 24 April 2026. The judging will be

done by a panel of judges appointed by the Promoter. The judging to determine the winners in each category and the overall Hotel of the Year Award, will take place at 54 Park Street, Sydney commencing Monday 27 April 2026. The Best Tour Operator, Best Airline and Best Hotel Brand – Peoples' Choice Awards will be selected based on reader votes submitted online during the on-sale period of the May 2026 issue of Gourmet Traveller magazine. All winners will be announced in the July 2026 Issue of Gourmet Traveller magazine, or if not earlier at a potential industry event to be determined.

4. After judging, and if applicable, all entrants will be notified of exact details of a potential Event. Each entrant is responsible for making their way to and from the potential Event on the date stipulated by the Promoter. The Promoter is not responsible for any ancillary costs associated with entrants attending the Event. The Promoter is not responsible for any loss incurred if the Event is cancelled, postponed or rescheduled for any reason whatsoever.
5. Any entry which the judges deem inappropriate will be invalid. All original entries will not be returned.
6. The Promoter is neither responsible nor liable for any late, lost entries.
7. All entries submitted (excluding photography) become the property of the Promoter. The entrant grants to the Promoter and its Award partners an irrevocable, worldwide licence (including right to sub-license) to use all material submitted in the entry in any media in connection with the promotion of the Awards and warrant that its use by the Promoter and its Awards partners will not infringe the rights of any third party. Each entrant warrants that they have permission from all parties involved.
8. It is a condition of entering the Awards that entrants agree to be interviewed, photographed and filmed at any time by the Promoter or their agents, and for their entry to be used for a feature on the Awards to be published in Gourmet Traveller magazine, on the Gourmet Traveller website (<http://www.gourmettraveller.com.au>) or Gourmet Traveller magazine social media pages (or any other form of media it deems suitable) without further remuneration or reference to the entrant. The inclusion of any such feature (including but not limited to creative control of the feature) will remain at the discretion of the Promoter at all times.
9. Entrants are solely responsible for the consequences of submitting copyright material to the Awards and the consequences of publication by the Promoter or its partners. By ticking the box on the entry form each entrant warrants that the entry (including the entry form and supporting material) is an original and that the entrant has the necessary licences, rights, consents and permissions from the copyright owner(s) to submit the copyright material comprised in the entry and to grant the licences to the Promoter and its Award partners set out in these Terms and Conditions.
10. Each entrant indemnifies the Promoter (publisher of Gourmet Traveller magazine), Awards sponsors and their employees, agents and supporting partners ("Indemnified Parties") for

any loss suffered by any of the Indemnified Parties as a result of the entrant's breach of any warranty set out in these Terms and Conditions.

11. Each entrant acknowledges and agrees that any arrangement entered into in relation to the publication of their entry does not create a relationship between the entrant and the Promoter of employer and employee, principle and agent, partnership or joint venture.
12. This is a game of skill, chance plays no part in determining a winner. Each entry will be individually judged based on its originality, creativity, technique and suitability to the Awards. The judges' decision in relation to any aspect of the Awards will be final and binding on every person who enters. No correspondence will be entered into. The judging categories will include: Best New Hotel is open to properties that opened after July 1st, 2025 (Properties that have closed for refurbishment and reopened, within this time period are also eligible). For Best Hotel Dining, properties must provide links to their current menus, including pricing. Cruise Line of the Year is open to all luxury cruise lines that operate in Australian waters. Boutique Hotel of the Year is open to hotels with fewer than 50 rooms. Resort of the Year is open to coastal and rural properties, including lodges, situated in regional or remote locations (defined as anywhere outside of a main city centre).
13. Each award has specific criteria for entry and requirements with which entrants must comply. The Promoter reserves the right, at any time, to verify the validity of entries and entrants (including but not limited to an entrant's identity, age and place of residence) and to disqualify any entrant who submits an entry that is not in accordance with these Terms and Conditions or who tampers with the entry process. A winner may be required to sign a declaration confirming their eligibility to accept the award and/or prize. Failure by the Promoter to enforce any of its rights at any stage does not constitute a waiver of those rights.
14. If there is a dispute as to the identity of an entrant, the Promoter reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to determine the identity of the entrant.
15. Entrants must disclose any issues that may generate negative publicity and impact on the success of the Awards and/or the Gourmet Traveller or Are Media brand to the Promoter.
16. Incomplete or non-conforming entries will be deemed invalid and will not be included in the judging. Judges reserve the right at all times to determine whether an entry qualifies for the category for which it is submitted. Where an entry the judges deem is outside the scope of the nominated category, that entry will be deemed invalid. The judges' decision in relation to all aspects of the Awards are final and binding on all who enter – no correspondence will be entered into.
17. In the event that an entry is subsequently found to breach any of the Terms and Conditions it will be ruled invalid and withdrawn from consideration for the Awards.

18. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, war, terrorism, state of emergency or disaster (including but not limited to natural disaster) the Promoter reserves the right to subject to reference to all relevant state and territory rules and regulations, to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Awards.
19. Nothing in these Terms and Conditions limits, excludes or modifies or purports to limit, exclude or modify the statutory consumer guarantees as provided under the Competition and Consumer Act, as well as any other implied warranties under the ASIC Act or similar consumer protection laws in the State and Territories of Australia ("Non-Excludable Guarantees"). Except for any liability that cannot by law be excluded, including the Non-Excludable Guarantees, the Promoter (including its respective officers, employees and agents) excludes all liability (including negligence), for any personal injury; or any loss or damage (including loss of opportunity); whether direct, indirect, special or consequential, arising in any way out of the Awards.
20. Except for any liability that cannot by law be excluded, including the Non-Excludable Guarantees, the Promoter (including its respective officers, employees and agents) is not responsible for and excludes all liability (including negligence), for any personal injury; or any loss or damage (including loss of opportunity); whether direct, indirect, special or consequential, arising in any way out of: (a) any technical difficulties or equipment malfunction (whether or not under the Promoter's control); (b) any theft, unauthorised access or third party interference; (c) any entry or prize claim that is late, lost, altered, damaged or misdirected (whether or not after their receipt by the Promoter) due to any reason beyond the reasonable control of the Promoter; (d) any variation in prize value to that stated in these Terms and Conditions; (e) any tax liability incurred by a winner or entrant; or (f) use of the prize.
21. If the Awards are interfered with in any way or is not capable of being conducted as reasonably anticipated due to any reason beyond the reasonable control of the Promoter, the Promoter reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to the fullest extent permitted by law: (a) to disqualify any entrant; or (b) subject to any written directions from a regulatory authority, to modify, suspend, terminate or cancel the Awards, as appropriate.

*Privacy:*

22. The Promoter collects personal information ("PI") in order to conduct the Awards and may, for this purpose, disclose such PI to third parties, including but not limited to agents, contractors, service providers, prize suppliers and, as required, to Australian regulatory authorities. Entry is conditional on providing this PI. The Promoter will also use and handle PI as set out in its privacy policy, which can be accessed by visiting <https://www.aremmedia.com.au/privacy/>. In addition to any use that may be outlined in the Promoter's Privacy Policy, the Promoter may also, for an indefinite period, unless otherwise advised, use the PI for promotional, marketing, publicity, research and profiling purposes, including sending electronic messages or telephoning the entrant. Entrants should direct any request to opt out, access, update or correct PI to the Promoter and direct any complaints regarding treatment of their PI according to the Privacy Policy. All entries become the property of the

Promoter

23. The Promoter is Are Media Pty Limited (ACN 053 273 546) of 54 Park Street, Sydney, NSW 2000.

Conditions apply, see [aremedia.com.au/competitions](https://aremedia.com.au/competitions). The award nomination stage commences 16 February 2026 Nominations close 11.59pm AEDST on 24 April 2026. Each award has specific criteria for entry and requirements with which entrants must comply. Each entry will be individually judged. The Promoter is Are Media Pty Limited (ABN 18 053 273 546) of 54 Park Street, Sydney, NSW 2000.