

MEDIA RELEASE

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BALGOWNIE ESTATE VINEYARD RESORT & SPA TAKES OUT TOP HONOURS AT VICTORIAN TOURISM ACCOMMOATION AWARDS!

Balgownie Estate Vineyard Resort & Spa – Yarra Valley this week took out top industry honours at the Victorian **Tourism Accommodation Australia (TAA) awards** – being named Best Resort Style Accommodation for the state.

TAA (Victoria) – the state-wide tourism hospitality industry association -- honoured Balgownie Estate with not only the ***Best Resort Style Accommodation of the Year 2019*** but also a triple crown – taking out both ***Chef of the Year 2019*** and ***Marketing Employee of the Year 2019*** awards.

The 4.5- star resort's Executive Chef – ***Grant Flack*** – took out top honours for Chef of the Year – beating a strong field of Victoria's finest chefs from resorts and four and five-star hotels. Welcomed to Balgownie Estate a mere nine months ago- Grant has certainly made his mark on the winery's restaurant – Rae's Restaurant - creating a menu that proudly incorporates high quality and locally sourced fresh ingredients reflecting the change of season in the Valley.

He has approached his position as Executive Chef with passion - always looking for new trends to introduce and integrate further into his – and his teams -own practices in the kitchen. Flack has carefully designed each dish to be paired with a wine recommendation from Balgownie Estate's in-house sommelier to take diners on a culinary journey for an unforgettable dining experience.

Honoured with the third award for Balgownie Estate of the night, ***Elissa Hayes*** has been named Marketing Employee of the Year 2019. Just 15 months into her role as Marketing Manager at Balgownie Estate - Hayes has lead Balgownie's Sales and Marketing team to new heights with her specialist knowledge in both traditional and online marketing platforms and brings with her decades of experience in both national and international marketing and communications.

Balgownie Estate Vineyard Resort & Spa - Yarra Valley, features 4.5 Star Boutique award-winning Luxury Resort accommodation, restaurant dining, a Day Spa with onsite activities and conference and wedding facilities. The resort offers both indoor and outdoor ceremony and reception spaces with a beautifully appointed Event space, a Marquee and Deck – all facing lush vineyards and showcasing stunning Yarra Valley views. Balgownie's Rae's Restaurant offers guests an unforgettable

dining experience overlooking the picturesque Pinot Noir vines while dining on award winning Chef Grant Flack's carefully curated dishes.

For more information: www.prestigeretreats.com.au

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