

MEDIA RELEASE

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Record Number of Nominations for 2025 Hostplus Hospitality Awards

Nominations for the 2025 Hostplus Awards for Excellence have officially closed — and the results are in.

This year marks a record number of entries, showcasing the strength, pride, and ongoing resilience of Australia's hospitality industry.

The Restaurant & Catering Association (R&CA) credits this outstanding response to both growing industry momentum and the success of this year's consumer tagging campaign. For the first time, diners were encouraged to tag their favourite venues online, generating more than 20,000 organic interactions and lifting the profile of hundreds of local hospitality businesses.

"The public response has been overwhelming, and it's a clear sign that hospitality businesses remain central to how Australians connect," said John Hart OAM, National President of R&CA.

"We're proud to celebrate the thousands of operators who have put their name forward, and the communities that got behind them."

This year's awards program received nominations across more than 45 categories, representing every state and territory in the country. There has been particularly strong growth in regional participation, with increased interest in categories such as New Venue, Event Catering, and Service Excellence.

Judging is now underway, with state and territory awards nights scheduled to begin rolling out in the coming weeks. Finalists are announced six weeks prior to each state's gala dinner.

About the Restaurant & Catering Association

The Restaurant & Catering Association (R&CA) is the national voice of Australia's hospitality industry, representing restaurants, cafés, caterers, and suppliers. With over a century of industry advocacy, R&CA works to support businesses through expert advice, practical resources, and national awards programs such as the Hostplus Awards for Excellence

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