

Climate Action Tourism Award 2009

This category aims to recognise sustainable tourism with a primary focus on reducing your carbon footprint, lowering emission levels, providing education to visitors and raising the level of awareness and action in response to climate change. To be eligible for this award, your business must be certified under the Climate Action Program.

Question 1 – Overview and history (10 Points)

Maximum 500 words

Provide a general overview of the nature and history of your product and describe how your business is a leader in your field including any outstanding achievements in the past year. You must demonstrate your eligibility for entry in this category as outlined in the description above.

Question 2 – Best Practice Initiatives (60 Points)

Maximum 1000 words

List the innovative, best practice initiatives the business has put in place to minimise their impact on climate change.

- a) Demonstrate how your business had been developed and managed to reduce emission levels and lower your carbon footprint
- b) Describe the risk issues you have identified for your business in relation to climate change and summarise risk management strategies you have put in place
- c) How do you ensure compliance of risk management strategies/procedures among full-time, part-time, casual and volunteer staff
- d) Demonstrate how you support climate change initiatives outside of your own business
- e) What initiatives have you introduced to minimise the negative environmental impacts of your ongoing business practices and activities?
- f) How do you ensure continual improvement in climate action?
- g) Forward planning – what climate change technologies and adaptations do you foresee your business undertaking in the near future?

Tips: Environmental sustainability initiatives could include energy and water conservation, building design and location, waste management, recycling, tree planting, engaging environmentally sensitive procedures and complying with the ECO Certification Program.

Risk management relates to all parts of your business including Occupational Health and Safety, risk to visiting public and specific business related risk. Consider using a practical example or detail an incident and outcome to prove how your risk management strategy works. Detailed documentation about your risk management strategy and emergency procedures can be provided in an appendix.

The Details...

Please also include in your application:

- Images Ecotourism Australia can use to profile your business
- Any written references that would support your application

The winning entrants will receive:

- Return economy airfares to Alice Springs
- Attendance to the plenary sessions held in Alice Springs on the 11th of November 2009, including all Keynote and Concurrent addresses, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea
- Attendance to the awards ceremony at the **Gala Dinner including the National Ecotourism Australia Awards and Gala Auction** where you will be presented with your award

Next Step:

Applications are to be received by Friday 16th October 2009. The winner will be announced at the Global Eco Conference at the Gala Ecotourism Awards Dinner on Wednesday the 11th November 2009 in Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

The successful applicant will be contacted soon after the closing date to organise travel arrangements.

Applications may be submitted by email to Kristie@ecotourism.org.au or by mail to:

Ecotourism Australia
PO Box 881
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006

Any questions regarding your application may be directed to Kristie@ecotourism.org.au