Businesses that have been trading for at least three months and up to two years when applications open are strongly recommended to apply to the New Tourism Business of the Year category before considering applying to any other categories.

**Business type awards:**

**B&B and Guest House of the Year**

Recognises bed & breakfast and guest house businesses providing truly memorable guest experiences and demonstrating excellence across every aspect of the business.

Proprietor considers their business to be a bed & breakfast or guest house and promotes it as such. Breakfast must be available on site, adjacent or close to the premises, offering a maximum of 12 guest bedrooms.

**Camping, Glamping and Holiday Park of the Year**

Recognises holiday parks, sites and villages providing truly memorable guest experiences and demonstrating excellence across every aspect of the business.

Businesses whose main offer is holiday parks, sites, villages, camping and glamping such as holiday parks/sites with static vans, touring pitches, tent pitches, glamping and other accommodation such as shepherd’s huts, or any combination. Including sites ranging from small static caravan parks with no added services and facilities, up to larger sites with many on-site facilities, some of which might be open to the public. Also holiday villages offering room only or self catering accommodation e.g. lodges and chalets. A holiday village is typically a complex with a range of facilities and activities available

**Experience of the Year**

Recognises providers of truly memorable and immersive activities for visitors to participate in.

Any visitor experience that requires participation in an activity. The experience may involve a host/teacher/instructor/guide or may be undertaken independently, is likely to be immersive and interactive. Typically experiences will be learning, adventure or relaxation based and likely to fall under one of these themes: Wellness and well-being (e.g. spa), sporting and active (e.g. caving), environment (e.g. beach cleaning, dry stone walling), arts & culture (e.g. guided tours, pottery making), culinary (e.g. cookery courses).

An experience located at a visitor attraction may only apply to this category if it can be booked separately to the main attraction and can be accessed without the need to pay for or visit the main attraction

**Hotel of the Year**

Recognises hotels and serviced accommodation businesses providing truly memorable guest experiences and demonstrating excellence across every aspect of the business.

This is a broad category for all types and styles of serviced accommodation except bed & breakfast and guest house accommodation, which has its own category.

**Pub of the Year**

Recognises pubs that make a significant contribution to tourism in their area, with a food and drink offering that includes quality locally sourced produce, offers food and the option to drink and not dine

A pub may consider this category **or** the Taste of Peak District & Derbyshire Award – choosing the category that best suits their business and **only entering one**.

**Self-Catering Accommodation of the Year**

Recognises self catering accommodation businesses providing truly memorable guest experiences and demonstrating excellence across every aspect of the business

Businesses whose main offer is self catering accommodation including cottages, houses, historic properties (or part thereof), holiday boats, barn conversions, apartments, hostels and serviced apartments etc. A single self-catering property or a collection of self-catering properties in one location (on a single site) owned by the same proprietor and of a similar quality are also eligible to enter.

**Taste of Peak District & Derbyshire Award**

Recognises businesses within the tourism industry that offer food, beverage and service innovation and excellence.

Open to food service businesses including restaurants, hotel restaurants, cafés, tea rooms, coffee shops, bistros etc., ideally offers the option for table service, or at least a dining area with table and chairs. Counter service cafes, for example, would be eligible, as long as there are elements of ‘service’ provided, e.g. ordering at counter, payment at tills and clearing tables

**Visitor Attraction of the Year**

Recognises visitor attraction businesses providing truly memorable visitor experiences and demonstrating excellence across every aspect of the business.

Meets the visitor attraction definition:

“…a permanently established excursion destination, a primary purpose of which is to allow access for entertainment, interest, or education and can include places of worship; rather than being primarily a retail outlet or a venue for sporting, theatrical, or film performances. It must be open to the public, with or without prior booking, for published periods each year, and should be capable of attracting day visitors or tourists as well as local residents.”

**Sector-wide awards**

**Accessible and Inclusive Tourism Award**

Recognises tourism businesses providing truly memorable visitor experiences for everyone, particularly those with accessibility requirements, and demonstrating excellence across every aspect of the business.

Open to any business which is directly involved in tourism, making a contribution to the visitor economy with a significant proportion of business generated by people visiting from outside the local area.

**Ethical, Responsible & Sustainable Tourism Award**

Recognises tourism businesses committed to being sustainable, responsible and ethical in how they operate and interact with customers, the wider community and the environment.

Open to any business which is directly involved in tourism, making a contribution to the visitor economy with a significant proportion of business generated by people visiting from outside the local area.

**New Tourism Business of the Year Award**

Recognises high performing new tourism businesses, demonstrating excellent understanding of their market, exceeding the expectations of their customers with clear plans for future development.

For businesses which have been in operation between 3 months and 2 years which are directly involved in tourism, making a contribution to the visitor economy with a significant proportion of business generated by people visiting from outside the local area.

**Team of the Year (local award)**

Recognises and celebrates teams of any size in the tourism, leisure and hospitality industry, whose combined skills have notably made an outstanding contribution to a positive change of success of one organisation. Recognising the team who demonstrate that their collective attitudes have resulted in remarkable improvement or growth of the service, product or experience they provide, this will be their opportunity to stand up and shout about the difference teamwork makes.

**Tourism Young Achiever (local award)**

Recognises and celebrates young people aged 16-25 in the tourism, leisure and hospitality industry who demonstrate commitment to developing personal skills and knowledge in order to progress their career within the industry.

Open to young people aged between 16 and 25 on 31 December 2022 who work in a business which is directly involved in tourism, making a contribution to the visitor economy with a significant proportion of business generated by people visiting from outside the local area.

**Unsung Hero**

Recognises an individual working for a tourism business who excels in their role and deserves to be applauded for their work and commitment to the industry.

Open to individuals rather than a team and must be nominated by a colleague or by a local awards competition judge. Demonstrates commitment, passion and enthusiasm for their work and the tourism industry; exceeds expectations and is an inspiration to their colleagues. Can work in any area of the business; does not need to be in a customer-facing job role. Unlikely to be a business owner or a senior manager.

**For a full list of eligibility criteria download the relevant category application form.**

Events and festivals are not eligible to apply in any categories due to the likelihood of VisitEngland Awards for Excellence winners not being announced until one or two years after the event took place e.g. an event taking place in 2023 may not be recognised by VisitEngland until 2024; the event may have ceased or declined in quality since then

Winners of the local awards will not feed up the VisitEngland Awards for Excellence.