

Media Release – 28 November 2011

Two Awards in two weeks for Ecotourism Operator

Denmark based tour operator, Out of Sight Tours, is riding high after receiving two prestigious Ecotourism Awards in the past two weeks.

At the Ecotourism Australia Annual GECKO Awards held at the Global ECO Asia Pacific Conference in Sydney on 10 November, Out of Sight Tours was announced runner-up in the Ecotourism Award category. Out of Sight Tours was the only business to receive a highly commended award behind category winners Paronella Park from Queensland. Ross Dowling, Chair of the Judging Panel and Deputy Chair of Ecotourism Australia, said: "Ecotourism Australia is proud to have these businesses recognised as winners in the GECKO Awards this year," said "They are outstanding examples of excellence in sustainable tourism."

Out of Sight Tours was also awarded the Bronze Medal for Ecotourism at the WA Tourism Awards announced at a gala dinner at Burswood on the 26 November. This award recognises ecologically sustainable tourism with a primary focus on fostering environmental and cultural understanding, appreciation and conservation. The gold medal was awarded to Eco Beach Resort in Broome, with silver going to Jewel Cave in Margaret River.

Out of Sight Tours owner operator, Lenore Lyons, said "This is the first year that we have entered the WA Tourism Awards, and as a small business, winning a bronze medal in competition with big industry players is an amazing achievement. Combined with our Gecko Award, this is fabulous news for the development of nature-based tourism in Denmark".

Dr Dave, aka The Adventure Doctor, the principal guide and co-owner of Out of Sight Tours was also a finalist in this year's FACET Golden Guide Award, which recognises the significant contribution quality tour guides make in providing memorable experiences to visitors. Justine Nagorski, CEO of Denmark Tourism Incorporated, said that the Great Southern was developing a growing recognition for the quality of the region's tourism experiences. "Out of Sight Tours' success at the state and national Ecotourism awards is a wonderful achievement and testament to the amazing range of visitor experiences on offer in Denmark".

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