



Media Release

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# The Best Of The Best In WA: *The West Australian* Good Food Guide Awards 2018

**Crown Towers, Perth. Western Australia's premier hospitality awards and dining guide – *The West Australian* Good Food Guide – saw Margaret River region restaurants make an almost clean sweep at the top end of the coveted Top 50 list.**

"It's a remarkable outcome," Good Food Guide Editor, Rob Broadfield said.

"For the first time, the major Good Food Guide award, Restaurant Of The Year, has gone to a venue outside the metropolitan area," Mr Broadfield said. "Wills Domain is the big winner this year."

The Top 10 restaurants in WA are:

1. Wills Domain
2. Wildflower
3. Voyager Estate
4. Lulu La Delizia
5. Millbrook Estate
6. Leeuwin Estate
7. Vasse Felix
8. Clarke's of North Beach
9. Rockpool Bar & Grill
10. Santini Bar & Grill

*The Western Australian* Good Food Guide Top 50 is WA's most contested rankings of restaurants in WA. Its annual ranking of restaurants, bars and casual dining venues culminates in the Good Food Guide Awards ceremony held at Crown Towers, Perth.

"The ranked restaurants and awards winners are the elite of the elite," Mr Broadfield said.

"There are 5300 restaurants and cafes in Perth so those that have made it into the Top 50 - that's less than one per cent of all venues - are the cream of the culinary crop. The Top 50 is in the rarest territory – and a celebration of the best dining in Western Australia. Any restaurant ranked in the Top 50 is a winner," he said.

In 2018, the board of *The West Australian* Good Food Guide agreed to expand the secondary lists, Best Casual Dining and Best Bar to 25 listings each, for a total in 2018 of 100 ranked restaurants, bars and casual eateries.

"We judged many more than 200 venues to ensure we covered all our bases and then whittled the numbers down to the final venues, which we celebrated tonight," the Good Food Guide Editor said.

"The Margaret River success story in 2018 is a coming-of-age story for the celebrated wine region and also a consequence of a changing of the guard at some of the most storied restaurants in the South West," Mr Broadfield said.

"Several of Margaret River's well known and long serving chefs, moved on in 2018, opening up restaurants like Vasse Felix and Leeuwin Estate to new, younger head chefs and new directions for their cuisine." *The West Australian* Good Food Guide board member Gail Williams said Perth has come of age.

"It's so exciting at the moment. We have so much choice. Some restaurants haven't done so well this year – that's well documented - but there are so many more who are kicking goals. There are so many passionate and brilliant restaurant operators out there now," Ms Williams said.

"And it is we diners and lovers of food who are the big winners."

"I am so enthusiastic about what I see around us in Perth at the moment. We have never eaten so well. In many regards 2018 has been an unprecedented year for the rapidly maturing WA restaurant scene."

"Perth punters want to know where to eat and where to spend their well-earned money and they want reviewers who are credible and who they trust. With the Good Food Guide, diners will now have a go-to site where they can make an informed decision on where to go, as opposed to a whole lot of random sites written by armchair critics," Ms Williams said.

Mr Broadfield has also flagged the creation of a new award this year, *The West Australian* Good Food Guide Producer of the Year Award.

“Local producers play such a critical and pivotal role in what our chefs cook and what we diners eat. It’s long overdue that we honour them and celebrate their contribution to the WA dining scene,” Mr Broadfield said.

“The producer award is also different in that it has been voted on by WA’s top chefs. We sent survey forms to all the top chefs and asked them to nominate and rank their favourite producers of meats, fish, seafood and fruit and vegetables.”

Mr Broadfield said he was gladdened by the amount of support offered to the restaurant sector by corporate sponsorship of *The West Australian* Good Food Guide Awards.

“The enthusiasm and advice of our sponsor family has made these awards and the Good Food Guide a roaring success. We simply could not have created this exceptional guide or our awards program without them,” he said.

“Our partners and sponsors have opened their arms to the WA hospitality sector like never before.”

**For interviews with Mr Broadfield, any of this year’s awards winners or Good Food Guide Board members Gail Williams and Bradley Woods, please contact:**

**Georgia Moore**

**0478 624 416**

**[georgia@wagoodfoodguide.com](mailto:georgia@wagoodfoodguide.com)**

# 2018 Winners

## **Restaurant of the Year**

presented by *The West Australian*

– **Wills Domain**

## **Chef of the Year**

presented by Winning Appliances

– **Jed Gerrard (Wildflower)**

## **Bar Tender of the Year**

presented by West Weekend

– **Dean Buchanan (Long Chim)**

## **Best Casual Dining**

presented by AMP Capital

– **Canteen Pizza**

## **Sommelier of the Year**

presented by Margaret River Gourmet Escape

– **Foni Pollitt (Mayfair Lane)**

## **Wine List of the Year**

presented by McHenry Hohnen Vintners

– **Wildflower**

## **Breakthrough Talent of 2018**

presented by AHAWA

– **Emma Crisp (Tiny's)**

## **Young Chef of the Year**

presented by Linley Valley Pork

– **Cameron Jones (Red Cabbage)**

## **New Restaurant of the Year**

presented by Tourism Western Australia

– **Santini Bar & Grill**

## **Best Bar Dining**

presented by PIMMS

– **Tiny's**

## **Best Bar**

presented by The West Winds Gin

– **TWR Crown Towers**

## **Regional Chef of the Year**

presented by Genuinely Southern Forests & getFresh merchants

– **Santiago Fernandez  
(Voyager Estate)**

## **Regional Restaurant of the Year**

presented by BMW

– **Voyager Estate**

## **Industry Leadership Award**

presented by The West Australian  
Good Food Guide

– **Alain Fabrègues**

## **Hospitality Operator of the Year**

presented by Gage Roads

– **Paul Aron And Michael Forde  
(Mary St Bakery, Offshoot Coffee,  
Tiny's)**

## **Excellence in Front of House**

presented by San Pellegrino and European  
Foods

– **James Tuxworth  
(Il Lido Italian Canteen)**

## **Producer of the Year**

presented by Buy West East Best

– **Wagin Duck & Game**

# 2018 Finalists

## Best Bar & Best Bar Dining

*(in no particular order)*

The Standard  
Strange Company  
Bar Lafayette  
Long Chim Bar  
Wines of While  
Morries  
Ronnie Nights  
TWR Crown Towers  
Tiny's  
Liberté  
Henry Summer  
Mechanics Institute  
Santini Bar & Grill  
Rockpool Bar & Grill  
Caballitos  
Petition Beer Corner  
Sneaky Tony's  
Halford Bar  
Hadiqa  
Frisk Small Bar  
Swallow  
Rodney's Bait 'n' Tackle  
Varnish on King  
Back Bar at Hylin  
Alabama Song

## Best Casual Dining

*(in no particular order)*

Mary Street Bakery, Highgate  
May Street Larder  
Pinchos  
Yes Please Perth  
Ria Malay Kitchen  
Odyssey  
Pizzica  
Brother Of Mine  
Tsukaya  
No Mafia  
Kitsch Bar Asia  
Typika  
Sauma  
Sweetwater Rooftop Bar  
Island Market  
Lamont's, Cottesloe  
Canteen Pizza  
Vans Café  
Pappagallo Café Pizzeria  
Homestead Brewery at Mandoon Estate  
Cook & Mason  
Apple Daily Bar and Eating House  
Hampton and Maley  
Fishbone  
Monsterella Pizza

## Top Fifty Restaurants

1. Wills Domain
2. Wildflower
3. Voyager Estate
4. Lulu La Delizia
5. Millbrook Estate
6. Leeuwin Estate
7. Vasse Felix
8. Clarke's of North Beach
9. Rockpool Bar & Grill
10. Santini Bar & Grill
11. Red Cabbage
12. New Normal
13. Manuka Woodfire Kitchen
14. Nobu
15. Il Lido Italian Canteen
16. Must Winebar
17. Garum
18. St Michael 6003
19. Petition Kitchen
20. Bistro Guillaume
21. Balthazar
22. Lalla Rookh
23. Long Chim
24. Billie H.
25. Cullen Wines
26. Petite Mort
27. Habitué
28. Propeller
29. Bread in Common
30. Post
31. Yarri
32. Bib & Tucker
33. The Heritage Wine Bar
34. Co-Op Dining
35. Young George
36. Marumo
37. Nine Fine Food
38. Galileo Buona Cucina
39. The Shorehouse
40. Bivouac
41. Mayfair Lane Pub & Dining Room
42. Fraser's Restaurant
43. Wise Wine
44. Matilda Bay Food + Wine
45. Xanadu
46. Shadow Wine Bar
47. The Studio Bistro
48. Samson's Paddock
49. The Meat & Wine Co
50. The Reveley