

Media Release

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SeaLink K'gari Celebrates Double Win at the 2024 Fraser Coast Business and Tourism Awards

The Fraser Coast's business community gathered at a sold-out gala event at Maryborough's Brolga Theatre on Friday night, celebrating the 2024 Fraser Coast Business and Tourism Awards. SeaLink K'gari claimed two prestigious awards in recognition of its outstanding contributions to tourism and hospitality:

- Accommodation, Premium: K'gari Beach Resort
- Tourism, Attractions & Experiences: K'gari Explore Tours

The K'gari Beach Resort was recognised for its Premium Accommodation offerings, following substantial upgrades to hotel rooms, apartments, and dining facilities that enhance the guest experience in the remote beauty of the island's east coast. Meanwhile, K'gari Explorer Tours earned accolades in the Tourism, Attractions & Experiences category for its extensive itineraries and expert touring team, which guide visitors through World Heritage-listed locations on K'gari.

David Hay, Executive General Manager, SeaLink K'gari, expressed his pride in the team's achievements, saying, "Receiving these awards is a testament to the hard work and passion of our team. They have shown a strong commitment to creating authentic experiences that celebrate the island's heritage and natural wonders. We're thrilled to be recognised within the industry and look forward to an exciting future."

As the operator of K'gari's renowned eco-resorts, immersive tours, and daily ferry services, SeaLink K'gari continues to elevate the island's appeal. The group oversees Kingfisher Bay Resort, K'gari Beach Resort, and K'gari Explorer Tours, providing unique experiences to over 580,000 travellers each year. These awards affirm SeaLink's dedication to showcasing the beauty and cultural significance of K'gari, while delivering unforgettable experiences for every visitor.

Hay added that recent investments, including the launch of Illumina, a multi-million-dollar light show at Kingfisher Bay Resort, underscore SeaLink's commitment to K'gari. Opening last month, Illumina is one of the largest permanent light installations in the Southern Hemisphere, illuminating the island's natural beauty while educating visitors on K'gari's rich ecology and cultural heritage.

"In the Fraser Coast Region, we are proud to connect visitors to the natural beauty and cultural significance of K'gari," Mr. Hay continued. "Our efforts focus on not only providing memorable experiences but also on educating visitors about K'gari's unique ecosystem and advocating for its preservation."

The awards evening gathered local tourism leaders, providing an opportunity to celebrate exceptional contributions to the region's tourism landscape. As one of Australia's prominent tourism brands, SeaLink connects travellers to iconic destinations across the country, including Kangaroo Island, Rottnest Island, Sydney Harbour, and Magnetic Island.

To explore the suite of SeaLink's operations on K'gari, visit:

- <u>kingfisherbay.com</u> for eco-accommodation, marine tours, the new Illumina light show, and ranger-guided experiences.
- kgaribeachresort.com for remote 4WD only accommodation on the east coast of the island.
- <u>kgariexplorertours.com</u> for single and multi-day 4WD tours visiting iconic locations.

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SeaLink Marine & Tourism is part of Kelsian Group (Kelsian), Australia's largest integrated multimodal transport provider and tourism operator, with established bus operations in Australia, Singapore, USA, UK, and the Channel Islands. Kelsian provides essential journeys for our customers by delivering safe and intelligent transport solutions designed to improve the sustainability and liveability of the communities we serve.

Kelsian has over 30 years' experience delivering tourism and passenger transport services. The Group is a leader in sustainable public transport as the operator of Australia's largest zero emission bus fleet and Australia's largest electrified bus depot.

As at 30 June 2024, Kelsian directly employs over 12,500 people and operates over 5,500 buses, 115 vessels and 24 light rail vehicles that delivered more than 367 million customer journeys over the last year. (<u>www.kelsian.com</u>).

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