

#### INTRODUCTION

As your Regional Tourism Board and in partnership with our four Local Government Areas (LGAs), Ararat Rural City, Horsham Rural City, Northern Grampians Shire and the Southern Grampians Shire, our key goal is to increase the value of the visitor economy in the Grampians via destination marketing, industry and product development, partnerships and investment attraction.

Over the past 12 months, Grampians Tourism (GT) has been able to achieve a great deal including:

- Continuing to deliver the Piece Together Your Ultimate Road Trip "jigsaw" campaign to grow awareness, consideration and intent to travel to the Grampians as the ultimate road trip destination, as well as disperse visitors across the region.
- Partnering with Visit Victoria on a Co-operative Marketing Program across various content initiatives with a focus on our hero visitation pillars including big nature and road trips.
- Delivering targeted Industry Strengthening training and activity to upskill our operators, build business capabilities, and help support high-quality and engaging visitor experiences.
- · Working together with our LGA partners on:
  - Launching an Investment Prospectus to showcase the tourism potential of our region.
  - Creating a new Destination Management Plan and 4 x Local Area Action Plans.
  - Growing the number of businesses represented on the Visit Grampians website to more than 350 throughout our region.

- Signing a new agreement with GT based on a 4-year commitment and additional funding.
- Continuing to represent the region to the Victorian Government, Australian Government and industry bodies to highlight areas of concern, or to further support our region's tourism industry.
- Continuing to work with the Victorian Government to ensure the transition to Visitor Economy Partnerships (VEP), per the Regional Tourism Review, provides uninterrupted service and support for the industry.
- Ongoing delivery of the annual Grampians Tourism Industry Partner Program which is critical in enabling our organisation to encourage continuous industry improvements.

#### The benefits we deliver:

- Destination marketing activity to enhance marketing efforts, build reach and drive visitation.
- Strong digital presence through our consumer site: www.visitgrampians.com.au
- Large following on our social media channels:
   <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>
- · Access to media and trade famils.
- Ongoing Industry Forums across our four regions plus new workshops facilitated by littleBIG Marketing, our digital agency.
- Access to industry training and resources via a GT Partner Portal on our new corporate website, available later this year.
- Advocacy and representation to peak industry bodies including Tourism Australia, Visit Victoria and the Victoria Tourism Industry Council (VTIC).
- Regular industry communication to keep well informed.
- Data and insights to drive robust decision-making.



### **PARTNER TESTIMONIALS**

#### **HALLS GAP ZOO**

Being a GT partner has delivered many benefits to our business. From inclusion in marketing campaigns that benefit the entire region to an invitation to tell our story in Melbourne to the Visit Victoria team, plus sharing our social media content with a wider audience. Also as new managers of the Zoo and to the Grampians, the Industry Forums have been very informative and it's been great to meet other locals and build those industry relationships.



#### **MOUNTAINSIDE WINES**

Partnering with Grampians Tourism offers us opportunities to promote our business, network with other operators in the region, and obtain marketing advice and support from the team at GT. The training workshops have increased our knowledge of both tourism and tourism-related opportunities and added real value to our business, allowing us to expand our offering and reach even more



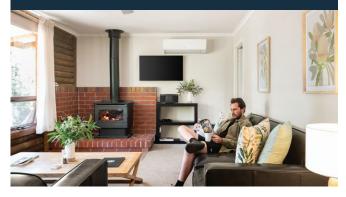
#### MERINGA SPRINGS

Joining forces with Grampians Tourism has taken our luxury accommodation to new heights. The exposure we've gained through their strong digital presence has been phenomenal. Our bookings have soared, and we're attracting discerning travellers from all over the world. We've also had the opportunity to participate in their industry development programs enhancing our skills, fine-tuning our services, and staying ahead of the game in this ever-evolving industry. Their regular industry communication keeps us up to date. It's like having a direct line to the pulse of the Grampians' tourism scene.



## SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS COTTAGES

Our partnership with GT has been valuable and far-reaching. The welcoming team is supportive, informative and has helped us to develop and grow our business through the training programs they have facilitated. Perhaps the greatest benefit as new owners has been the networking opportunities across the whole region and to see our accommodation being promoted as part of the bigger Grampians brand. We look forward to continuing to work with Grampians Tourism to help expand our coverage in reaching national and international channels to increase and diversify our occupancy numbers.









#### MARKETING THE GRAMPIANS

Our organisation is responsible for keeping the Grampians top of mind in consideration for travel. We have built a strong brand and work to influence visitor behaviour to promote longer stays, dispersal and encourage visitors to explore all parts of the region. Partnerships are essential to our success. Together we can show travellers why our spectacular Grampians region is a 'must visit' destination.

By highlighting our region's strengths and diversity, working in partnership with industry and stakeholders and through targeted communications, campaigns and other marketing initiatives, we drive conversion through to visitation and dispersal by connecting visitors with the places, products and experiences they seek.

'The Grampians Way' destination campaign continues to evolve with regularly refreshed creative and messaging such as the *Piece Together Your Ultimate Road Trip* "jigsaw" designs which not only encourages dispersal throughout the region but also ensures that we own the road trip space in the minds of Victorians and our neighbours interstate.

We utilise PR, media partnerships, digital advertising and social media and collaborate with Visit Victoria, the Great Southern Touring Route and Tourism Australia to build our brand awareness.

#### INTERNATIONAL MARKETING

The Great Southern Touring Route (GSTR) is regarded as Australia's Great Road Trip. The central loop from Melbourne through western Victoria brings together four diverse regions: Geelong and The Bellarine, Great Ocean Road, Grampians and Ballarat Goldfields, plus the spa region of Daylesford. Each with its own brand of stunning natural assets and must-do experiences.

As an incorporated association, GSTR was established to cooperatively market its member regions and participating tourism products to over 1,500 members of the international travel trade, who continue to remain the primary provider of high-yield international bookings for Victoria.

Growth in international visitation is a key priority for GT and with longer lead times, international tourism helps balance out domestic holiday patterns and, on average, international travellers spend three times more than domestic travellers.

If looking to *increase your international exposure*, GSTR provides the following:

- Targeted marketing to key international markets.
- In-market representation plus attendance at major trade events including the Australian Tourism Exchange (ATE), Tourism Australia and Visit Victoria's Trade Missions

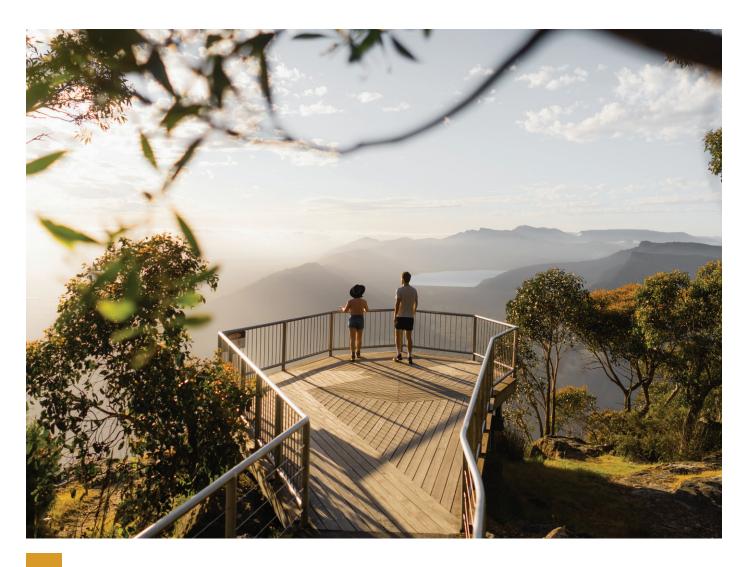
- and New Product Workshops, and Australian Tourism Export Council's (ATEC) Workshops and Inbound Tour Operator (ITO) training.
- Opportunity for inclusion in media and trade famils.

Click below to find out more about the various participation options available:

GSTR Marketing Prospectus for 2023/2024



**Great Southern Touring Route** 



### **FEATURE LISTINGS**

#### **Visit Grampians Website\***

The <a href="www.visitgrampians.com.au">www.visitgrampians.com.au</a> website is our primary call to action and generates a high volume of traffic for the region. This is supported by search engine optimisation and a marketing program ensuring we increase our visibility on relevant search engine results pages. This ongoing program helps us build awareness, inspiration and capture more users.

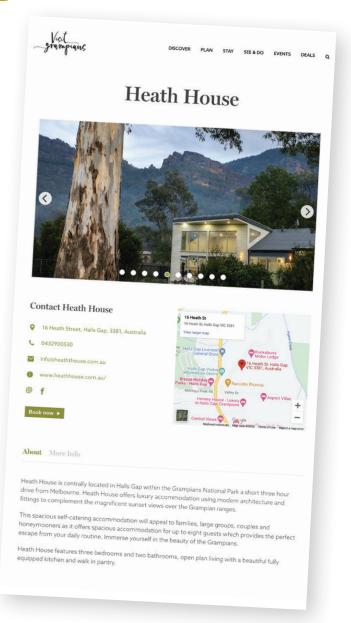
Enhance your profile under 'Stay' or 'See & Do' with a featured listing that puts your business at the top of the page in a premium position.

- ✓ Featured web profile under 'Stay' or 'See & Do'
- ✓ Large and prominent web profile
- Premium position on <u>www.visitgrampians.com.au</u>

Annual Audience Results
526,416
SESSIONS
1,414,004
PAGE VIEWS

\*Included in **Gold**, **Silver** and **Platinum**Preferred Partner Package.

(Source: Google Analytics 1 Jul 2022 - 13 June 2023)



## PAY BY THE MONTH CONVENIENCE



One of the key advantages of the Preferred Partner Program is that Gold and Platinum Partners can pay the partnership fee by direct debit monthly from your nominated bank account.

Save time and money with great value packages that include exciting tourism marketing initiatives. Payment upfront option is also available.

GOLD \$292 per month

PLATINUM \$542 per month

All prices include GST.



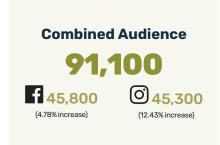




## **DIGITAL AUDIENCE**

## Is your business leveraging Grampians Tourism social following and digital footprint?

Our two social media platforms, Facebook <u>@visitgrampians</u> and Instagram <u>@thegrampians</u>, continue to grow with a highly engaged audience delivering significant consumer reach for our destination. We generate new content regularly in a variety of styles and formats, working with audience trends to grow and engage with potential visitors via our social media channels. We also run various paid ad campaigns to help grow our audience and engagement, targeting specific customer profiles according to content.



Combined Annual Reach
12,853,462

f 6,477,414
(18% increase)

Combined Annual Reach
6,376,048
(20% increase)



Source: Sprout Social

### **VALUE OF THE VISITOR ECONOMY**

#### More visitors more often

Grampians Tourism's Strategic Marketing Plan was designed to build our brand, raise awareness, drive visitation and maximise ROI. We deliver a fully integrated, year-round marketing approach to:

- · Cut through marketing 'noise' and achieve maximum impact
- · Help travellers through the travel planning cycle
- Remain front of mind with key audiences and markets.



Source: International Visitor Survey, YE Dec 19 (Pre-Covid), TRA



Source: National Visitor Survey YE Dec 22, TRA

#### **WHAT WE DO**

Our primary purpose is to deliver a coordinated approach to marketing, product development, infrastructure investment and industry development for the region.

We aim to create a cooperative and vibrant visitor economy that supports growth of tourism expenditure and length of stay and adds value to our partners through promotion and increased brand awareness.

#### **Our strategic priorities:**

# DESTINATION MARKETING

- Deliver effective activity to increase length of stay, dispersal, yield and regional brand equity.
- Support events aligned to our seasonal and dispersal objectives.
- Drive high yielding occupancy in shoulder and midweek periods.

# 2 INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

- Champion activities which increase operator capacity and grow the visitor experience.
- Deliver Industry Strengthening activity (digital marketing, business management, product development and customer experience).

## PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

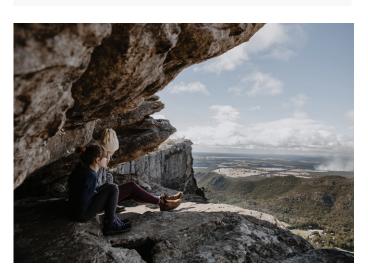
- Develop high quality collateral that supports destination marketing efforts.
- Curate products to create compelling, productive and sustainable visitor experiences.

# PARTNERSHIPS

- Facilitate collaboration across our industry and communities including including strategic planning, product development, marketing and industry development and investment.
- · Leverage and grow our partnerships.
- Introduce innovative ways to add value to industry partnerships.

# 5 INVESTMENT ATTRACTION

- Engage community and industry on tourism related projects to raise the visitor economy profile.
- Attract private investment into infrastructure and experiences.
- Work with Local Government partners to attract new investors and investment opportunities.



## **SUMMARY OF PARTNER BENEFITS**

Choose any of the Industry Partner Packages below and enjoy exclusive Grampians Tourism partnership benefits.

PARTNER BENEFIT DESCRIPTION	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum
Partnership fees	\$110 yearly	\$1800 yearly	\$292 monthly^	\$542 monthly^
Increase your Digital Presence Ensure your business reaches a greater digital audience through inclusion on key tourism websites and digital platforms.				
Profile your business on www.visitgrampians.com.au	<b>✓</b>	1	*	*
Priority positioning on www.visitgrampians.com.au		<b>√</b>	*	<b>Y</b>
Connect with the Tourism Industry & Community				
Support the Tourism Industry and local economy through your contribution	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	*	<b>Y</b>
Receive regular GT Industry Newsletters to stay updated	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	*	<b>Y</b>
Opportunity to attend workshops facilitated by our digital agency and to join our GT Industry Forums across the region	/	1	*	<b>Y</b>
Receive a certificate of partnership to display	/	<b>✓</b>	*	٧
Enhance your Marketing and Build Reach to Potential Visitors				
Priority Positioning in GT Marketing Activities including: <ul> <li>Feature in The Grampians Way Campaign and printed Touring Guide</li> <li>Additional tactical marketing opportunities throughout the year</li> </ul>		1	*	•
Rotating Front Page Slider and Owner of Category Section (eg. Outdoor/Wine) on <a href="https://www.visitgrampians.com.au">www.visitgrampians.com.au</a>			*	<b>Y</b>
1x Exclusive Visit Grampians Consumer EDM				<b>Y</b>
Inclusion in a monthly Visit Grampians Consumer EDM		1	*	<b>Y</b>
1x Exclusive Blog Article on <u>www.visitgrampians.com.au</u>				<b>Y</b>
Inclusion in Blog Articles		<b>✓</b>	*	<b>Y</b>
1 x Inclusion in a Visit Grampians Social Media Ad Carousel			*	<b>Y</b>
Opportunity for Social Media mentions (where appropriate)		<b>√</b>	*	<b>Y</b>
Opportunity to be included in PR Pitches*	<b>√</b>	/	*	<b>Y</b>
Inclusion in a Content Partnership Campaign			*	<b>Y</b>
Inclusion in an Influencer and Media Campaign*			*	<b>Y</b>
Subsidised Professional Photography Session to the value of \$500			*	<b>Y</b>
All prices include GST. ✓★♥ = included in package.  *Operators participating in media and industry familiarisations should be willing to supply, at a minimum, industry rates for services requested.  *Monthly direct debit payments available for Gold and Platinum partners.  YEARLY TOTAL	\$110	\$1800	\$3500	\$6500



## HOW TO JOIN OUR INDUSTRY PARTNER PROGRAM

## Join the team to increase exposure for your business.

Our new Industry Partner Program will provide you with more ways to integrate your business with Grampians Tourism and generate a fantastic return from our marketing activities.

If you have any questions or would like to make a time to discuss which GT Partnership will suit you, please contact Marc Sleeman by email at ceo@grampianstourism.com.au or call 0437 530 148.

Also to become a GT Partner, operators must be listed in ATDW: Australia's national tourism database and distribution platform and maintain their listing throughout the financial year. The annual listing fee is back from 1 July 2023. View the full details <a href="here">here</a> including how to contact Visit Victoria's dedicated ATDW Support Team if you require any assistance.

#### **Terms and Conditions**

If Gold and Platinum Partners wish to use the Direct Debit facility they need to download and complete the Direct Debit service documents from the Grampians Tourism website and return to admin@ grampianstourism.com.au. All Direct Debits for Gold and Platinum partners are debited on the 15th day of each month from your nominated credit card or bank account. All cancellations must be made in writing to admin@grampianstourism.com.au at least 14 days prior to the next direct debit date (by the 1st of each month). Any cancellations not received in writing by the stated date will not be recognised as cancelled until the following month. In the case of a scheduled direct debit payment being dishonoured by your bank or card provider, a fee of \$5.50 will be applicable. A further attempt to debit the funds will be made in 3 days









