

MEDIA RELEASE

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Southern Pie-lands baking a new recipe 'Pie Time 2019' -30 days and 100s of ways to enjoy pies

Off the back of their recent Gold win at the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards last month, the team at <u>Destination Southern Highlands</u> is bringing together a bounty of new ingredients and baking an even tastier pie recipe for <u>Pie Time 2019</u>.

"As our many top bakers and chefs will attest, we are now firmly in the prep stages – rallying our bakeries, cafes, restaurants and tour operators, taste testing some amazing pie fillings and heating up the tour operators and pie warmers to become the Southern Pie-lands for the entire month of June," said Steve Rosa, Group Manager Tourism and Economic Development, Destination Southern Highlands.

"Pie Time 2019 will offer visitors to the Highlands pies, pies and more pies. It really is 30 days, and 100s of ways to enjoy pies," Steve continued.

Pie Time is when the Southern Highlands region of NSW celebrates the great Australian pie with a series of mouth-watering pie themed events, festivals, tours and activities throughout the month of June. And this year, Pie Time will include some delectable new ingredients including the *Sweety Pie & Bubbles* Trail – the perfect match of local sparkling wines and pies.

"Pie Time 2019 has seen our local tourism operators become even more creative when it comes to their pie themed offerings. This year visitors can enjoy *Pies in the Sky* – star gazing, pinot, pies and fires at Cuttaway Hill Wines, and Pie Bonfires - held every Saturday during June at Farm Club Australia near Moss Vale," Steve continued.

Steve also revealed a first for Pie Time and the Southern Highlands with *Past Times & Pies,* a very special ticketed tour of <u>Fairground Follies</u> in Bowral. Not usually open to the public, owner Craig Robson will open up his enormous warehouse of antique mechanical and musical attractions including mechanical organs, instruments and fairground attractions such carousels,

swing boats and wagons. The experience will include a delightful morning tea including, you guessed it, pies.

Pie Time 2019 will of course include its two flagship events - <u>NSW and ACT Best Pie Competition</u> this year being held earlier on 30-31 May, and the two-day pie festival, <u>PieFest</u>, to be held at the Bong Bong Picnic Racecourse on 29-30 June 2019. PieFest will celebrate all things pies, with pies supported by local wine, beer, cider and spirits from the Southern Highlands and further afield.

"And of course the Highlands' local pie makers, bakers, chefs and producers will once again take part in the other pie related events which were highly successful in past years including <u>Dine with a Pie</u>, where visitors can sample the region's signature pies at hotels, cafes, cellar doors and restaurants available only for the month of June, and the <u>Pie Trail</u> where visitors can tour and sample locally made Hero pies from over 30 local pie outlets.

"We'll have pie themed cooking classes, Pie and Pinot tours, Pie-cycle tours and way more. Visitors to the Southern Highlands are encouraged to enjoy a pie at many of the Southern Highlands' key attractions and spectacular locations, such as Bradman Centre Café, Fitzroy Falls, The Illawarra Fly, Historic Berrima Village and the region's many cafes, pubs and restaurants.

"Pie Time is taking our humble pie and creating a real pie-themed movement in the Highlands, it's the great pie takeover! So, come and dine in the Southern Pie-lands this June" Steve concluded.

Pie Time runs from 1-30 June in the Southern Highlands of NSW. For more information on Pie Time visit www.pietime.com.au

For more information, interviews, images or to discuss a possible visit to the Southern Highlands for Pie Time, please contact:

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