

Business

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In Visit England's top 100 businesses



PRESENTATION: Owners of The 25 Boutique B&B in Torquay, Julian Banner-Price, centre, and Andy Banner-Price, right, receive their award from a representative of Visit England

GUEST houses and B&Bs in South Devon are among the 100 businesses chosen from 20,000 establishments, nationwide, to receive Visit England's ROSE Award 2016 in recognition of Service Excellence.

Kingston House and The 25 Boutique B&B, both in Avenue Road Torquay, received their awards at the Independent Hotel Show at London's Olympia.

Also receiving the accolade for 2016 are the contemporary and stylish Brookside Guest House in New Road, Brixham, the Cleve Court Hotel, Paignton, Oversteps House, Salcombe, The Beeches B&B, Dawlish, and The Minadab Cottage, Teignmouth.

Visit England says the award is 'Designed to showcase those establishments that provide the warmest of welcomes... where the owners, managers and staff really know how to delight their customers'.

Andy Banner-Price of The 25 Boutique B&B said: "Avenue

Road in Torquay is fast becoming known as the 5-star mile.

"About half of Torquay's top rated five-star properties are situated on Avenue Road with more nearby, making it a huge concentration of high caliber accommodation offering excellent service and attention to detail. To have two of its five star properties presented with the ROSE award from the official tourism body, Visit England, further cements the reputation of the road."

He added: "It seems Torquay is beginning to shake off its 'Fawlt Towers' reputation and is fast becoming a high-end resort. This can only be a good thing as it will have a knock-on effect of more spending in Torbay's many fantastic restaurants, shops and tourist attractions."

Kingston House is run by Jill Dunn and her husband Warren.

Jill said: "We were delighted to hear that we had been selected for the ROSE Award. It has meant a lot to us and is reassuring to know that we have

achieved what we set out to do in creating something special for our guests at Kingston House.

"It is always rewarding to receive positive online reviews from guests. To also receive this recognition from the tourism industry is not only great for ourselves, but will hopefully help raise the profile of Torquay and benefit all the excellent local tourism businesses and enhance its reputation as a first class destination."

The 25 Boutique B&B is owned by Andy & Julian Banner-Price who recently won two prestigious awards at the Herald Express English Riviera & South Devon Tourism Awards 2016 including Tourism and Hospitality Business of the Year.

Andy said: "Our whole job revolves around making guests happy and ensuring they have a great time in the area whilst they are here.

"It's great to be recognised for the hard work we put in to make that happen."