



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Tourism operators set to benefit from Regional Tourism Business Accelerator Program

Tourism operators in the Riverina Murray, looking for business growth solutions will soon have access to one-on-one mentoring through a specialised, 12-week business accelerator program.

Small to medium operators looking to develop new markets and more innovative products and services are now being encouraged to register for the Riverina Murray Regional Tourism Business Accelerator Breakfast Clinic, which will discuss how business owners can invest in their future to grow and create new, sustainable jobs, with help from the Regional Growth Team.

The free, two-hour engagement clinic will be a chance for business owners and managers to gain valuable insight into the growth status of their business and learn about the upcoming Regional Tourism Business Accelerator Program.

Richie Robinson, General Manager of Destination Riverina Murray says, "the 12-week Program is an excellent resource based on the very successful Riverina Regional Business Accelerator, developed by Voyager Strategy's Director John Hemphill and delivered by RDA Riverina in 2017, which led to impressive sales and job growth for those businesses who took part."

Luke Piccolo, from Limone Dining in Griffith who participated in the Accelerator in 2017 said, "We found the Program hugely helpful and it kickstarted some great initiatives. We have expanded the café, we have opened the produce stall (The Pantry) within the café so we can sell our produce, we have extended the dining space at Limone and have since completed all branding and the new website for the farm."

Six stages will be completed over the 12-week Business Accelerator Program, which will also have two one-day workshops and one-on-one mentoring. Tim McMullen from Borambola Wines said the tailored support was invaluable.

"Many tourism operators are small businesses and don't get an opportunity to work on and grow their business. The big takeaway was having another set of eyes looking at your business. We had mentors who gave us good insight and ideas, as well as learning more about funding and staffing," Tim said.

Following the breakfast, clinic operators will have the opportunity to apply for the 12-week business accelerator program. "The unique aspect of this program is the balance of group workshops, individual online learning and one-on-one mentor assistance" says Rachel Whiting CEO and Director of Regional Development from RDA Riverina. "We are very pleased to be working with Voyager Strategies again to run this program for Destination Riverina Murray due to the great response from the businesses involved in the 2017 accelerator".

www.eventbrite.com.au Bookings essential. Each clinic will be limited to 20 people.





Griffith: Griffith Leagues Club | Cnr Bridge Rd & Jondaryan Ave | 7.30-10am November 7, 2018

Wagga: Mercure | 1 Morgan Street | 7.30-10am | November 8, 2018 Albury: Mantra | 524 Smollett Street | 7.30-10am | November 9, 2108

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