

Major success for island businesses

Island businesses are cleaning up national and international awards this year and gearing up for the summer season with renovations, upgrades and fresh new menus.

EcoZip recently won the Tourism Export Council Small Business of the Year award, Tantalus Estate took out Best Destination Venue in the National Hospitality Awards for Excellence, and The Shed at Te Motu was named one of *Cuisine* magazine's Top 100 restaurants.

At an awards gala dinner last Saturday, YOU Travel Waiheke won the Qantas Most Growth First Travel Group award.

"This is such an honour for our team as this award was across the whole of the First Travel Group including brokers and corporate agencies," says Jeryl Bromley owner and manager of YOU



Travel in Ostend.

"I'm incredibly proud, and this award is a lovely recognition for us."

New Zealand's olive growers are producing some of the best extra virgin olive oils

in the world, and Waiheke producers stood out at the 2018 Royal Easter Show Olive Oil Awards.

Rangihoua Estate's Picual was named champion in the medium class, while number 29 won a champion award for their Frantoio, J5 and Verdale blends.

Grahame and Prue Taylor of number 29 are passionate about making the best extra virgin olive oil possible and were incredibly proud not only of their successes at the show but also of the talented community of olive oil producers on the island.

Gold awards in the Class 2 medium category were presented to Rangihoua Estate, Cable Bay Olives, Man O'War and number 29, which also cleaned up the Class 3 intense category with two gold awards. •