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*Stafford Villa, Navigate Oceania Collection*

## **Auckland Historic Villa a Finalist at the 2008 Tourism Industry Awards**

**Birkenhead Point, Auckland (May 2008).**

**Character and Heritage-listed Stafford Villa has been named a Finalist in the New Zealand Tourism Industry Awards 2008. Announced last week at TRENZ, Stafford Villa's nomination is in the *Business Award, Boutique Accommodation* category.**

"We are thrilled to have Stafford Villa reach the finals. The dream has been to be the luxury gateway city retreat and destination of choice for the discerning traveller to New Zealand, and we thank the Tourism Industry Awards for recognizing our dream," said Stafford Villa owner Chris Windram.

Built in 1903, Stafford Villa is a Victorian colonial villa in the maritime village of Birkenhead Point at Auckland's North Shore. It was transformed in 2002 by 5th generation New Zealanders Christina and Mark Windram into one of country's leading private luxury urban retreats.

Stafford Villa's key business strategy presents itself as a destination, not just an accommodation provider. Guests experience the owners' passion in the local Maori and Colonial history of Te Waitematā, the beautiful harbour city of Auckland, and the sense of staying in a Heritage & Character-listed home. A complimentary cocktail cruise on their 34-foot Heritage Motor Boat *Lady Loleen* is extended to long staying guests.

This strategy has continuously brought accolades from international destination specialists, the most recent being a Top 10 listing in New Zealand by National Geographic (USA) and Air New Zealand's in-flight magazine.

The Tourism Industry Awards recognise business excellence in the New Zealand tourism industry, and represent the highest possible accolade for tourism operators. The Awards winners will be announced at the Tourism Industry Conference in August.

For information on the Tourism Industry Awards, please contact Ann-Marie Johnson on: 04 496 5001.

*Domestic and international marketing and promotions of Stafford Villa is managed by Navigate Oceania. For more information or for graphics, contact Karine Thomas on 64 9 307 3633, or email [karine@navigateoceania.com](mailto:karine@navigateoceania.com).*

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## Editors Notes:

**The Tourism Industry Awards** recognise and celebrate business excellence in the New Zealand tourism industry and are a key means of building the industry's capability and capacity. For more information, visit their website at [www.tourismawards.co.nz](http://www.tourismawards.co.nz), or the Tourism Industry Association at [www.tianz.org.nz](http://www.tianz.org.nz)

**Stafford Villa** is a heritage listed colonial villa that has been a family home for over 100 years, and is situated in the genteel, historic village of Birkenhead Point across the water from downtown Auckland. Stafford Villa is 5 star accredited Qualmark. For more information, email Stafford Villa at [rest@staffordvilla.co.nz](mailto:rest@staffordvilla.co.nz), or visit the website at [www.staffordvilla.co.nz](http://www.staffordvilla.co.nz).

**Stafford Villa is a member of Navigate Oceania**, a new collection of 28 inspired destinations and unique experiences from New Zealand and Fiji's best boutique hotels and luxury lodges, an exclusive private island, villas, spa destinations, a luxury expedition-style cruise, and a private motor yacht. Our members are: **New Zealand** Cavalli Island Retreat and Spa, Cavalli Islands; Paihia Beach Resort and Spa, Bay of Islands; Bay of Island Lodge, Bay of Islands; Oceanic Discoverer; Mission Hills, Bay of Islands; Waipoua Lodge, Waipoua Forest; The Boatshed, Waiheke Island; Stafford Villa, Auckland; Cotter House, Auckland; Seafields, Whitford; Maungatautari Lodge, Cambridge; Hamurana Country Estate, Rotorua; Kawaha Point Lodge, Rotorua; Treetops Lodge & Wilderness Estate, Rotorua; Chalet Eiger, Lake Taupo; Greenhill the Lodge, Hawkes Bay; Millar Road, Hawkes Bay; Wharekauhau Country Estate, Martinborough; The Bolton Hotel, Wellington; Ohtel, Wellington; Claremont Country Estate, Canterbury; Huntley House, Christchurch; Elm Tree House, Christchurch; Wapiti Park Homestead, West Coast; Matakauri, Queenstown; Takaro Spa Retreat, Te Anau; **Fiji** Navutu Stars Resort, Yasawa Island; Royal Davui Fiji, Beqa Lagoon. For more information on our experiences, visit [www.navigateoceania.com](http://www.navigateoceania.com).

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