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## **DRIVE TOURISM GETS POWERED UP**

Destinations across Regional NSW will get a power boost, with the NSW Government announcing the allocation of \$20 million to install up to 3500 electric vehicle (EV) chargers, creating Australia's largest charging network.

"The NSW Visitor Economy has borne the brunt of the pandemic for the past two years with lockdowns, border closures and travel restrictions, so this financial injection to boost the enabling infrastructure will encourage people to explore NSW in their electric vehicle with greater confidence, according to the State's peak tourism organisation, the **NSW Tourism Industry Council**.

"A driving holiday gives you the freedom to explore, experience and travel to less know towns and villages and with additional charging stations set to expand the current network, the opportunities are endless," said **NSW Tourism Industry Council** Executive Manager Greg Binskin.

"The Electric Vehicle (EV) charging grants are offered on a co-funded basis for the purchase and installation of electric vehicle chargers to a broad range of businesses including motels, wineries, cafes, restaurants, natural attractions, visitor information centres, museums and zoos. It will give EV drivers the incentive to choose a region, an attraction, an adventure, or town to visit and boost the Visitor Economy," Mr Binskin said.

"So, start planning your next drive holiday to regional NSW, for a short break, to visit family and friends, walk along a beach, sample some local produce, a boutique shopping experience, attend a festival and event, a cultural experience or just having the freedom to explore one of the many National Parks, the expanded electric vehicle charging network will allow you to move around NSW with confidence.

"And don't forget to reward yourself and redeem the '*Stay NSW* and '*Parent NSW*' vouchers or use the *Dine & Discover* vouchers, let's get out and support the Visitor Economy, you will be doing your part to help businesses navigate their pandemic recovery and continue NSW as the premier tourist destination," Mr Binskin said.

### **About NSW Tourism Industry Council**

Powered by **Business NSW**, the NSW Tourism Industry Council helps businesses operating in the Visitor Economy maximise their potential to ensure New South Wales remains Australia's number one tourism destination.

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