

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **21 New Winners Lauded At TTG Travel Awards 2011**

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*Bangkok, October 6 2011* –21 of tonight’s 79 winning organisations and individuals at The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual TTG Travel Awards 2011 are taking home the signature Hermes trophy for the first time at this yearly regional event organised by TTG Asia Media’s Publishing Group.

A total of 49,000 votes of confidence were cast for these winners by readers of the five TTG Publishing publications: TTG Asia, TTG China, TTG India, TTGmice and TTG-BTmice China. Readers of the relevant industry sectors named their organisation of choice for each title in both online and print voting forms inserted into publications.

Among new winners were Shangri-la Singapore and Mandarin Oriental Bangkok, best hotels in Singapore and Bangkok respectively. Resorts World at Sentosa Pte Ltd took the title of Best Integrated Resort for the first time, as Seoul beat long-standing competitors Singapore and Shanghai for the first time to become Best BT-MICE City. Notably, The Peninsula Tokyo took the Best City Hotel – Tokyo title only three years after winning the Best New City Hotel in 2008.

This year, Lotte Tour became the first travel agency to be inducted into the Travel Hall of Fame after winning the Best Travel Agency – Korea for ten years running. The TTG Travel Awards pays tribute yearly to the Hall of Fame honourees, who are inducted after 10 consecutive wins in the same award.

14 out of last year’s 24 new winners kept hold of their titles, including Centara Grand at CentralWorld as Best Meetings & Conventions Hotel and InterContinental Manila, the Best City Hotel in Manila. Besides Air India, which was replaced by Kingfisher Airlines as Best South Asian Airline, previous year’s winners in the airline segment continue their reign this year.

“The travel awards have been designed to mirror industry trends,” shared Mr. Darren Ng, TTG Asia Media’s Managing Director. “It is important for industry players to note the shifts in tastes of their clientele, as well as the direction their competitors are taking to distinguish themselves as outstanding.”

Thailand’s presence in the Asia-Pacific MICE scene was clear in this year’s awards. Grand Hyatt Erawan was voted Best Business Hotel this year after winning the Best Bangkok Hotel for the past 3 years. It was just one of the four companies from Thailand that had won prizes in the BT-MICE segment: these included Thai Airways for the Best Airline – Business Class, Centara Grand at Centralworld for Best Meetings & Conventions Hotel, and the Thailand Convention & Exhibition Bureau for Best Convention & Exhibition Bureau.

Thai Airways showed it had more strengths than just MICE, and was one of the two companies that won more than one award with its Best South-East Asian Airline win. Best Western International was the other double winner, winning both the Best Mid-Range Hotel Brand and Best Marketing & Development Effort titles.

In addition to the Best Marketing & Development Effort title, TTG Publishing's editorial team handpicked three other outstanding achievers in the category. Mr Shao Qiwei, the chairman of the Chinese National Tourism Administration, was Travel Personality of the Year for being proactive and innovative in developing the industry. Singapore was crowned Destination of the Year for the second year running, and Cox & Kings became the Most Entrepreneurial Travel Company.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual TTG Travel Awards 2011 Ceremony and Gala Dinner is held yearly in Bangkok, in conjunction with Incentive Travel & Conventions, Meetings Asia and Corporate Travel World (IT&CMA and CTW). The event, Asia's Only Doublebill in MICE and Corporate Travel, is a one-stop platform for industry professionals to do business, learn and network in a single location – Centara Grand at CentralWorld.

Voting for the TTG Travel Awards 2012 opens in June 2012. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual TTG Travel Awards 2012 Ceremony and Gala Dinner will be held on 4 October 2012.

More information on the TTG Travel Awards can be found at: [www.ttgasia.com/ttg-awards](http://www.ttgasia.com/ttg-awards)

*Please refer to Annexe A for the full list of 2011 winners.*

#### **About TTG Asia Media**

TTG Asia Media Pte Ltd is the leading publisher and organiser of events in travel and tourism in the Asia Pacific region. Its publications and trade shows provide the best access and solutions to marketing travel and tourism in Asia-Pacific.

Visit [www.ttgasiamedia.com](http://www.ttgasiamedia.com) for more information

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# ANNEX A

## TRAVEL SUPPLIER AWARDS

## Organisation

### Airline Awards

Best North American Airline	United Airlines
Best European Airline	Air France-KLM
Best Middle Eastern Airline	Qatar Airways
Best South Asian Airline	Kingfisher Airlines
Best South-East Asian Airline	Thai Airways International Public Company Limited
Best North Asian Airline	Cathay Pacific Airways
Best China Airline	Air China
Best Pacific Airline	Qantas Airways
Best Regional Airline	Dragonair
Best Asian Low-Cost Carrier	AirAsia

### Hotels • Resorts • Serviced Residences • Spa Awards

#### Hotel Chain Awards

Best Global Hotel Chain	InterContinental Hotels Group
Best Regional Hotel Chain	Pan Pacific Hotels Group
Best Local Hotel Chain	Harbour Plaza Hotels & Resorts
Best Hotel Rep Company	Worldhotels
Best Luxury Hotel Brand	Hyatt Hotels & Resorts
Best Mid-Range Hotel Brand	Best Western International
Best Budget Hotel Brand	Ibis Hotels

#### Hotel – Individual Property Awards

Best Luxury Hotel	Raffles Hotel Singapore
Best Mid-Range Hotel	Furama RiverFront, Singapore
Best Budget Hotel	Ibis Singapore on Bencoolen
Best Independent Hotel	Royal Plaza on Scotts
Best Boutique Hotel	The Luxe Manor
Best City Hotel - Bangkok	Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok
Best City Hotel - Delhi	Taj Palace Hotel
Best City Hotel - Hanoi/Ho Chi Minh City	Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi
Best City Hotel - Jakarta	The Ritz-Carlton Jakarta, Pacific Place
Best City Hotel - Kuala Lumpur	Hilton Kuala Lumpur
Best City Hotel - Manila	InterContinental Manila
Best City Hotel - Seoul	Lotte Hotel Seoul
Best City Hotel - Singapore	Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore
Best City Hotel - Taipei	W Taipei
Best City Hotel - Tokyo	The Peninsula Tokyo
Best New City Hotel	Grand Park Orchard
Best Airport Hotel	Regal Airport Hotel

#### Resorts, Serviced Residences and Spa Awards

Best Beach Resort	Amari Palm Reef Koh Samui
Best Resort Hotel (Non-Beach)	Amantaka, Luang Prabang
Best New Beach Resort Hotel	Banyan Tree Samui
Best Integrated Resort	Resorts World at Sentosa Pte Ltd
Best Serviced Residence Operator	The Ascott Limited
Best Spa Operator	Banyan Tree Spas

**BT-MICE Awards**

Best Airline - Business Class	Thai Airways International Public Company Limited
Best Business Hotel	Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok
Best Meetings & Conventions Hotel	Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Centre at CentralWorld
Best BT MICE City	Seoul
Best Convention & Exhibition Centre	Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre
Best Convention & Exhibition Bureau	Thailand Convention & Exhibition Bureau

**Travel Services Awards**

Best Airport	Hong Kong International Airport
Best GDS	Travelport
Best Cruise Operator	Royal Caribbean Cruises (Asia) Pte Ltd.
Best NTO	Tourism Authority of Thailand
Best Theme Attraction	Hong Kong Disneyland

**TRAVEL AGENT AWARDS****Organisation**

Best Travel Agency - Australia	Intrepid Travel
Best Travel Agency - China	China International Travel Service
Best Travel Agency - Chinese Taipei	Phoenix Tours International, Inc
Best Travel Agency - Hong Kong	EGL Tours Company Limited
Best Travel Agency - India	Creative Travel Pvt. Ltd.
Best Travel Agency - Indochina	Asian Trails
Best Travel Agency - Indonesia	Pacto Ltd Indonesia
Best Travel Agency - Japan	H.I.S.Co.,Ltd.
Best Travel Agency - Malaysia	Reliance Travel
Best Travel Agency - Singapore	Tour East Singapore (1996) Pte Ltd
Best Travel Agency - South Korea	HANATOUR Service Inc
Best Travel Agency - Thailand	World Travel Service Limited
Best Travel Agency - The Philippines	Rajah Travel Corporation
Best Travel Agency - Vietnam	Vietravel
Best Corporate Travel Agency	American Express Business Travel
Best On-line Travel Agent	Expedia

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS****Organisation**

Travel Personality of the Year	Mr Shao Qiwei, Chairman of the China National Tourism Administration (CNTA)
Destination of the Year	Singapore
Most Entrepreneurial Travel Company	Cox & Kings Ltd
Best Marketing & Development Effort	Best Western International

**TRAVEL HALL OF FAME****Organisation**

Travel Hall of Fame	Singapore Airlines
Travel Hall of Fame	Singapore Changi Airport
Travel Hall of Fame	Hertz Asia Pacific
Travel Hall of Fame	Royal Cliff Hotels Group
Travel Hall of Fame	Star Cruises
Travel Hall of Fame	Abacus International
Travel Hall of Fame	SilkAir
Travel Hall of Fame	Lotte Tour

