

PRESS RELEASE

Please embargo all information until 26 Sept 2019, 10pm Bangkok Time



30 Years On, TTG Travel Awards Continues to Honour The Achievements of Travel Trade Elites

Bangkok, 26 September 2019 – The annual TTG Travel Awards commemorated 86 exceptional travel and tourism players across the Asia-Pacific on its 30th anniversary.

This year's edition of the awards will debut seven new awards, with a bulk of the new titles in the Travel Services Awards category. The prestigious *Destination of the Year* award, previously an Outstanding Achievement Award in the non-voting category, is now classified as open voting. Other debuting awards include *Best Luxury Cruise Line*, *Best River Cruise Line*, and *Best Travel Technology Provider*.

For 20 recipients, it was a gratifying moment to take home the Hermès trophy, a signature hallmark of the awards, for the first time tonight. Especially so for TST Tourist (*Best Travel Agency – Vietnam*) who broke Vietravel's 3-year winning streak. Other new winners include Dorsett Hospitality International (*Best Mid-Range Hotel Brand*), W Kuala Lumpur (*Best City Hotel – Kuala Lumpur*) and Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection (*Best River Cruise Line*).

Amidst the fierce competition, 16 awardees have marked their resurgence into tonight's awards. Two winners in particular stood out from the rest. Having previously been awarded in 1999, both Bali, Indonesia and Hanjin Travel Service Co., Ltd made an incredible comeback in their respective titles *Destination of the Year* and *Best Travel Agency – South Korea*. In addition, seven returning organisations made their comeback in a different award title. They include Grand Hyatt Taipei (*Best City Hotel – Taipei*), Changi Airport Group (*Best Airport Operator*) and Dream Cruises (*Best Luxury Cruise Line*).

The most anticipated award category of the night, the Outstanding Achievement Awards, is the only non-voting category of the awards. Winners of this category are personally selected by TTG's award winning editorial team for their remarkable contributions to the industry. This year's winners include Mario Hardy, CEO of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), Jim Qian, Chairman & CEO of Fosun Tourism Group and Discova as *Travel Personality of the Year*, *Travel Entrepreneur of the Year* and *Most Sustainable Travel Company* respectively.

A majority of the night's recipients comprised of organisations that have managed to successfully defend their titles once again. With this year marking yet another successive win, Avis Budget Group (*Best Car Rental Company*), Emirates (*Best Airline Connectivity*) and The Travel Corporation (*Best Tour Operator*) defied all odds to reign champion in their respective fields. Veterans Singapore Tourism Board (*Best BT-MICE City*) and Frasers Hospitality (*Best Serviced Residence Operator*) are on track to being inducted into the TTG Travel Hall of Fame with consecutive wins of their titles.

The esteemed TTG Travel Hall of Fame welcomed two new inductees, Best Western Hotels & Resorts (*Best Mid-Range Hotel Brand*) and Travelport (*Best GDS*), this year. A feat not easily achieved as inductees must fulfil the criteria of staying best in their class for at least 10 consecutive years before being inducted. The new additions brings the total number of honoraries inducted to 19.

The 30th Annual TTG Travel Awards 2019 Ceremony and Gala Dinner was held at Centara Grand at CentralWorld, the official venue sponsor for the event. This annual event coincides with Incentive Travel & Conventions, Meetings Asia (IT&CMA) and Corporate Travel World (CTW) Asia-Pacific – Asia-Pacific’s Only Doublebill Event in MICE and Corporate Travel.

Voting for the 2020 awards will commence in mid-April 2020.

More information on the TTG Travel Awards can be found at: <http://awards.ttgasia.com/>

Please refer to Annex A for the full list of 2019 winners.

About TTG Travel Awards

The TTG Travel Awards has been recognising the best of Asia-Pacific’s travel industry since 1989. This prestigious annual event honours stellar organisations and individuals in 4 categories: Travel Supplier, Travel Agency, Outstanding Achievement and Travel Hall of Fame. This TTG Travel Trade Publishing event is proudly organised by TTG Asia, with the support of TTG India, TTG China, TTGmice, TTGassociations, TTG-BTmice China and TTG Asia Luxury.

About TTG Travel Trade Publishing

One Travel Trade Connection. Infinite Possibilities.

TTG Asia Media’s Travel Trade Publishing group has been connecting Asia-Pacific’s travel industry with its leading trade publications since 1974. The one-stop integrated portfolio of print and online titles spans the leisure trade, corporate travel, MICE and luxury travel domains, reaching key decision makers, influencers and professionals in each sector. The group’s titles are widely acclaimed as the industry’s preferred read and chosen by advertisers as an effective marketing platform. With its online titles, circulation now reaches readers worldwide. Core titles include TTG Asia, TTG China, TTG India, TTGmice, TTG-BTmice China, TTGassociations, TTG Asia Luxury and TTG Show Daily.

About TTG Asia Media

The Leading Travel and Tourism Publisher and Events Organiser In The Asia-Pacific

Established in 1974, TTG Asia Media is at the forefront of the Asia-Pacific travel and tourism industry. Its authority encompasses the leisure trade, luxury travel, corporate travel, MICE and association domains. Through its four business groups, the company publishes leading regional trade titles for the travel industry, Singapore maps and guides for inbound tourists, organises international trade events and creates solutions that foster global business collaborations among travel industry players worldwide.

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S/N	Award Title	Winner
AIRLINE AWARDS		
1	Best Full Service Carrier	Singapore Airlines Limited
2	Best Airline - Business Class	Qatar Airways NEW TO TITLE
3	Best Inflight Service	Cathay Pacific Airways NEW TO TITLE
4	Best Boutique Airline	Thai Smile Airways Co.,Ltd FIRST TIME
5	Best Airline Connectivity	Emirates
6	Best Low-Cost Carrier	Scoot FIRST TIME
HOTEL CHAIN AWARDS		
7	Best Global Hotel Chain	AccorHotels
8	Best Regional Hotel Chain	Pan Pacific Hotels Group
9	Best Local Hotel Chain	Harbour Plaza Hotels & Resorts
10	Best Hotel Rep Company	Preferred Hotels & Resorts
11	Best Luxury Hotel Brand	Shangri-La Hotels & Resorts
12	Best Mid-Range Hotel Brand	Dorsett Hospitality International FIRST TIME
13	Best Budget Hotel Brand	Ibis NEW VS. 2018
HOTEL – INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY AWARDS		
14	Best Luxury Hotel	The Peninsula Hong Kong NEW VS. 2018
15	Best Mid-Range Hotel	Ramada by Wyndham Singapore At Zhongshan Park
16	Best Budget Hotel	Holiday Inn Express Bangkok Sathorn
17	Best Independent Hotel	One Farrer Hotel
18	Best Boutique Hotel	Awarta Nusa Dua Resort & Villas FIRST TIME
19	Best City Hotel - Bangkok	Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok
20	Best City Hotel - Hanoi/Ho Chi Minh City	Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi NEW VS. 2018
21	Best City Hotel - Hong Kong	The Murray, Hong Kong A Niccolo Hotel FIRST TIME
22	Best City Hotel - Jakarta	Mandarin Oriental, Jakarta FIRST TIME
23	Best City Hotel - Kuala Lumpur	W Kuala Lumpur FIRST TIME
24	Best City Hotel - Macao	The Parisian Macao FIRST TIME
25	Best City Hotel - Manila	Shang-La at the Fort, Manila FIRST TIME
26	Best City Hotel - Seoul	JW Marriott Hotel Seoul FIRST TIME
27	Best City Hotel - Singapore	Mandarin Orchard Singapore
28	Best City Hotel - Taipei	Grand Hyatt Taipei NEW TO TITLE
29	Best New City Hotel	Rosewood Hong Kong FIRST TIME
30	Best Airport Hotel	Crowne Plaza® Changi Airport NEW VS. 2018
RESORTS – INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY AND SERVICED RESIDENCES AWARDS		
31	Best Beach Resort	Four Seasons Resorts, The Nam Hai, Hoi An NEW VS. 2018
32	Best Integrated Resort	Resorts World at Sentosa Pte Ltd
33	Best Serviced Residence Operator	Frasers Hospitality
34	Best Serviced Residence Operator (Property Level)	Oakwood Premier OUE Singapore

BT-MICE AWARDS		
35	Best Business Hotel	Bangkok Marriott Marquis Queen's Park FIRST TIME
36	Best Meetings & Conventions Hotel	Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Centre at CentralWorld
37	Best BT-MICE City	Singapore Tourism Board
38	Best Convention & Exhibition Centre	Sands Expo and Convention Centre at Marina Bay Sands
39	Best Convention & Exhibition Bureau	MEET Taiwan FIRST TIME
40	Best Events Technology Provider NEW	Cvent FIRST TIME
TRAVEL SERVICES AWARDS		
41	Best Airport Operator NEW	Changi Airport Group NEW TO TITLE
42	Best Airport Lounge Operator	Plaza Premium Group
43	Best NTO	Tourism Authority of Thailand NEW VS. 2018
44	Best Tour Operator	The Travel Corporation
45	Destination of the Year NEW	Bali, Indonesia NEW TO TITLE
46	Best Theme Attraction Operator	Wildlife Reserves Singapore
47	Best Cruise Line NEW	Royal Caribbean International NEW TO TITLE
48	Best Luxury Cruise Line NEW	Dream Cruises NEW TO TITLE
49	Best River Cruise Line NEW	Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection FIRST TIME
50	Best Car Rental Company	Avis Budget Group
51	Best Travel Technology Provider NEW	Zumata FIRST TIME
TRAVEL AGENCY AWARDS		
52	Best Travel Agency - Chinese Taipei	Phoenix Tours International, Inc.
53	Best Travel Agency - Hong Kong	Westminster Travel Limited
54	Best Travel Agency - India	Thomas Cook (India) Ltd. NEW VS. 2018
55	Best Travel Agency - Indonesia	Panorama Destination Indonesia
56	Best Travel Agency - Japan	JTB Corp.
57	Best Travel Agency - Malaysia	Mitra Tours & Travel
58	Best Travel Agency - Singapore	Chan Brothers Travel
59	Best Travel Agency - South Korea	Hanjin Travel Service Co., Ltd NEW VS. 2018
60	Best Travel Agency - Thailand	Diethelm Travel Group NEW VS. 2018
61	Best Travel Agency - The Philippines	Rajah Travel Corporation
62	Best Travel Agency - Vietnam	TST Tourist FIRST TIME
63	Best Corporate Travel Agency	CWT
64	Best Online Travel Agency	Ctrip

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (NON-VOTING)		
65	Travel Personality of the Year	Dr Mario Hardy, CEO FIRST TIME Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA)
66	Travel Entrepreneur of the Year	Mr Jim Qian, Chairman & CEO FIRST TIME Fosun Tourism Group
67	Most Sustainable Travel Company	Discova FIRST TIME
TRAVEL HALL OF FAME		
68	Hall of Fame	Singapore Airlines Limited
69	Hall of Fame	Singapore Changi Airport
70	Hall of Fame	Hertz Asia Pacific
71	Hall of Fame	Royal Cliff Hotels Group – The State of Exclusivity & Fascination
72	Hall of Fame	Star Cruises
73	Hall of Fame	Sabre Asia Pacific Pte Ltd
74	Hall of Fame	SilkAir (Singapore) Private Limited
75	Hall of Fame	Lotte Tour
76	Hall of Fame	Hong Kong International Airport
77	Hall of Fame	Raffles Hotel Singapore
78	Hall of Fame	Regal Airport Hotel
79	Hall of Fame	Banyan Tree Spa
80	Hall of Fame	Qatar Airways
81	Hall of Fame	Thai Airways International Public Company Limited
82	Hall of Fame	Thailand Convention & Exhibition Bureau
83	Hall of Fame	Royal Plaza on Scotts
84	Hall of Fame	Royal Caribbean International
85	Hall of Fame	Best Western Hotels & Resorts NEW
86	Hall of Fame	Travelport NEW