

PRESS RELEASE



10 New Award Titles Make Their Debut At The 29th Annual TTG Travel Awards 2018

Bangkok, 20 September 2018 – 83 travel and tourism industry players from the Asia-Pacific were crowned for their exceptional achievements at the 29th annual TTG Travel Awards 2018.

This year's edition featured a revamp with the addition of 10 new titles in the Airline, Service Residences and Travel Services category to debut awards like *Best Inflight Service*, *Best Serviced Residence Operator (Property Level)* and *Best Luxury Cruise Operator*. Of which, two awards were returning titles – *Best Car Rental Company* and *Best Tour Operator*.

20 recipients across various categories took home the Hermes trophy, a signature hallmark of the awards, for the first time tonight. These new winners include Avis Budget Group (*Best Car Rental Company*), Conrad Manila (*Best City Hotel – Manila*), Dream Cruises (*Best Cruise Operator*), Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) (*Best Convention & Exhibition Bureau*), Oakwood Premier OUE Singapore (*Best Serviced Residence Operator (Property Level)*) and Wildlife Reserves Singapore (*Best Theme Attraction Operator*). Previously dominated by industry veterans, the *Best Business Hotel* and *Best Online Travel Agency* titles were by claimed Sofitel Singapore City Centre and Ctrip respectively.

Another 20 organisations are testimony to the travel industry's ongoing pursuit of raising benchmarks by making their comeback into this year's awards. W Taipei and Rajah Travel Corporation reclaimed their respective *Best City Hotel – Taipei* and *Best Travel Agency - The Philippines* titles after being beaten last year. The 2018 awards also welcomed past recipients Cox & Kings Ltd (*Best Travel Agency – India*), Emirates (*Best Airline Connectivity*), EXO Travel (*Most Sustainable Travel Company*), One Farrer Hotel (*Best Independent Hotel*) and Pan Pacific Hotels Group (*Best Regional Hotel Chain*).

Veteran organisations such as Resorts World Sentosa (*Best Integrated Resort*), Harbour Plaza Hotels & Resorts (*Best Local Hotel Chain*), Phoenix Tours International, Inc. (*Best Travel Agency - Chinese Taipei*) and Mandarin Orchard Singapore (*Best City Hotel – Singapore*) continue to lead in their field with consecutive wins of their titles, demonstrating that it's not impossible to consistently remain best in class.

As the only non-voting category of the awards, Outstanding Achievement Award recipients are selected by TTG's editorial team for their impressive contributions to the industry. This year's winners include Robin Yap, Chairman Emeritus of The Travel Corporation, Thailand, Klook, Switzerland Tourism and EXO Travel as *Travel Personality of the Year*, *Destination of the Year*, *Travel Entrepreneur of the Year*, *Best Travel Marketing Effort* and *Most Sustainable Travel Company* respectively.

The TTG Travel Hall of Fame, a prestige bestowed only upon exceptional organisations who have achieved the feat of staying the best in their class for 10 consecutive years, saw two new inductees at this year's awards. Royal Plaza on Scotts (*Best Independent Hotel*) and Royal Caribbean International (*Best Cruise*

Operator) joins the ranks of 15 other honoraries who have been inducted from 2002 to 2016.

The 29th Annual TTG Travel Awards 2018 Ceremony and Gala Dinner was held in 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 2019 awards will commence in mid-April 2019.

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 2018 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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Annex A

S/N	Award Title	Winner
AIRLINE AWARDS		
1	Best Full Service Carrier NEW	Singapore Airlines Limited NEW TO TITLE
2	Best Airline - Business Class	Cathay Pacific Airways
3	Best Inflight Service NEW	Qatar Airways NEW TO TITLE
4	Best Boutique Airline NEW	Bangkok Airways NEW TO TITLE
5	Best Airline Connectivity NEW	Emirates NEW TO TITLE
6	Best Low-Cost Carrier	AirAsia
HOTEL CHAIN AWARDS		
7	Best Global Hotel Chain	AccorHotels
8	Best Regional Hotel Chain	Pan Pacific Hotels Group NEW VS. 2017
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	Best Western International
13	Best Budget Hotel Brand	Holiday Inn Express NEW VS. 2017
HOTEL – INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY AWARDS		
14	Best Luxury Hotel	Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore NEW VS. 2017
15	Best Mid-Range Hotel	Ramada by Wyndham Singapore At Zhongshan Park
16	Best Independent Hotel	One Farrer Hotel NEW TO TITLE
17	Best Boutique Hotel	The Siam NEW TO TITLE
18	Best City Hotel - Bangkok	Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok NEW VS. 2017
19	Best City Hotel - Hanoi/Ho Chi Minh City	Park Hyatt Saigon
20	Best City Hotel - Hong Kong	Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong FIRST TIME
21	Best City Hotel - Jakarta	Four Seasons Hotel Jakarta FIRST TIME
22	Best City Hotel - Kuala Lumpur	Hilton Kuala Lumpur NEW VS. 2017
23	Best City Hotel - Macau	The St. Regis Macao, Cotai Central
24	Best City Hotel - Manila	Conrad Manila FIRST TIME
25	Best City Hotel - Seoul	Lotte Hotel Seoul NEW VS. 2017
26	Best City Hotel - Singapore	Mandarin Orchard Singapore
27	Best City Hotel - Taipei	W Taipei NEW VS. 2017
28	Best New City Hotel	New World Petaling Jaya Hotel FIRST TIME
29	Best Airport Hotel	Hong Kong SkyCity Marriott Hotel
RESORTS – INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY AND SERVICED RESIDENCES AWARDS		
30	Best Beach Resort	Anantara Mai Khao Phuket Villas FIRST TIME
31	Best Integrated Resort	Resorts World Sentosa
32	Best Serviced Residence Operator	Frasers Hospitality
33	Best Serviced Residence Operator (Property Level) NEW	Oakwood Premier OUE Singapore FIRST TIME

BT-MICE AWARDS		
34	Best Business Hotel	Sofitel Singapore City Centre FIRST TIME
35	Best Meetings & Conventions Hotel	Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Centre at CentralWorld
36	Best BT-MICE City	Singapore
37	Best Convention & Exhibition Centre	Sands Expo and Convention Centre at Marina Bay Sands
38	Best Convention & Exhibition Bureau	Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) FIRST TIME
TRAVEL SERVICES AWARDS		
39	Best Airport	Incheon International Airport Corporation
40	Best GDS	Travelport
41	Best Theme Attraction Operator	Wildlife Reserves Singapore FIRST TIME
42	Best NTO	Ministry of Tourism, Republic of Indonesia NEW TO TITLE
43	Best Cruise Operator	Dream Cruises FIRST TIME
44	Best Luxury Cruise Operator NEW	Regent Seven Seas Cruises® FIRST TIME
45	Best Tour Operator RETURNING	The Travel Corporation FIRST TIME
46	Best Car Rental Company RETURNING	Avis Budget Group FIRST TIME
47	Best Airport Lounge Operator NEW	Plaza Premium Group FIRST TIME
48	Best Travel Insurance Company NEW	AIG FIRST TIME
TRAVEL AGENCY AWARDS		
49	Best Travel Agency - Chinese Taipei	Phoenix Tours International, Inc.
50	Best Travel Agency - Hong Kong	Westminster Travel Limited
51	Best Travel Agency - India	Cox & Kings Ltd NEW TO TITLE
52	Best Travel Agency - Indonesia	Panorama Destination Indonesia
53	Best Travel Agency - Japan	JTB Corp.
54	Best Travel Agency - Malaysia	Mitra Tours & Travel NEW VS. 2017
55	Best Travel Agency - Singapore	Chan Brothers Travel
56	Best Travel Agency - South Korea	ModeTour FIRST TIME
57	Best Travel Agency - Thailand	Asian Trails Ltd NEW VS. 2017
58	Best Travel Agency - The Philippines	Rajah Travel Corporation NEW VS. 2017
59	Best Travel Agency - Vietnam	Vietravel
60	Best Corporate Travel Agency	Carlson Wagonlit Travel
61	Best Online Travel Agency	Ctrip FIRST TIME
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (NON-VOTING)		
62	Travel Personality of the Year	Robin Yap, Chairman Emeritus, The Travel Corporation FIRST TIME
63	Destination of the Year	Thailand NEW VS. 2017
64	Travel Entrepreneur of the Year	Klook FIRST TIME
65	Best Travel Marketing Effort	Switzerland Tourism FIRST TIME
66	Most Sustainable Travel Company	EXO Travel NEW TO TITLE

TRAVEL HALL OF FAME		
67	Hall of Fame	Singapore Airlines
68	Hall of Fame	Singapore Changi Airport
69	Hall of Fame	Hertz Asia Pacific
70	Hall of Fame	Royal Cliff Hotels Group – The State of Exclusivity & Fascination
71	Hall of Fame	Star Cruises
72	Hall of Fame	Sabre Travel Network Asia Pacific
73	Hall of Fame	SilkAir
74	Hall of Fame	Lotte Tour
75	Hall of Fame	Hong Kong International Airport
76	Hall of Fame	Raffles Hotel Singapore
77	Hall of Fame	Regal Airport Hotel
78	Hall of Fame	Banyan Tree Spa
79	Hall of Fame	Qatar Airways
80	Hall of Fame	Thai Airways International
81	Hall of Fame	Thailand Convention & Exhibition Bureau
82	Hall of Fame	Royal Plaza on Scotts NEW
83	Hall of Fame	Royal Caribbean International NEW