



2018 Awards & Surveys

**Property of
Lou Hammond Group**

Contents

AWARDS

[AFAR Traveler's Choice Awards](#)

[American Automobile Association Diamond Awards \(Lodging\)](#)

[American Automobile Association Diamond Awards \(Restaurants\)](#)

[American Hotel & Lodging Association \(AH&LA\) Stars of the Industry Awards](#)

[American Spa Magazine Professional's Choice Awards](#)

[Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report Grand Awards](#)

[Association Conventions & Facilities Magazine Distinctive Achievement Award](#)

[BizBash National BizBash Event Style Awards](#)

[Boutique Design In Conjunction with HX: The Hotel Experience; BDNY; Hospitality Media Group Gold Key Awards for Excellence in Hospitality Design](#)

[Boutique Design The Boutique 18: Designers of the Next Generation](#)

[Budget Travel America's Coolest Small Towns](#)

[Condé Nast Traveler Gold List](#)

[Condé Nast Traveler Hot List](#)

[Convention South Readers' Choice Awards](#)

[Corporate & Incentive Travel Magazine Award of Excellence](#)

[Corporate & Incentive Travel Magazine Greens of Distinction](#)

[Food & Wine Magazine Best New Chefs](#)

[Forbes Travel Guide Five-Star, Four-Star, Recommended Ratings for Hotels, Restaurants and Spas](#)

[Garden & Gun Made in the South Awards](#)

[Golf Digest U.S. Awards](#)

[Golf Digest World's 100 Greatest Golf Courses](#)

[Golf Magazine Architects of the Year](#)

[Golf Magazine Premier Resorts](#)

[Golf Magazine Top 100 Courses You Can Play](#)

[Golf Magazine Best New International Course of the Year](#)

[Golf Magazine Best New Private Courses of the Year](#)

[Golf Magazine Best Renovation of the Year](#)

[Hospitality Design Magazine Hospitality Design Awards](#)

[HOTELS.com Top Guest-Rated U.S. Hotels of the Year](#)

[Hotels Magazine Great Hotel Restaurant Award](#)

[Hotels Magazine Hotelier of the World](#)

[Hotels Magazine Social Hotel Awards](#)

[HSMAI: Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International Adrian Awards for Advertising, Digital Marketing and Public Relations](#)

[HSMAI: Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International Greater New York Chapter Awards of Excellence](#)

[Insurance & Financial Meetings Management Magazine World Class Award](#)

[Interior Design Magazine Best of the Year Award – Product Design](#)

[Interior Design Magazine Best of the Year Award – Project Design](#)

[The James Beard Foundation Chef and Restaurant Awards](#)

[James Beard Foundation Book Awards](#)

[James Beard Foundation Journalism Awards](#)

[James Beard Foundation Restaurant Design and Graphics Awards](#)

[Luxury Travel Advisor Awards of Excellence](#)

[MeetingsNet Paragon Awards](#)

[Michelin Group Michelin Restaurant Guide](#)

[National Geographic World Legacy Awards](#)

[Pacific Asia Travel Association PATA Gold Awards](#)

[Reed Travel Exhibitions' World Travel Market Showcase World Tourism Award](#)

[Robb Report Best of the Best](#)

[Smart Meetings Magazine Platinum Choice Awards](#)

[Smart Meetings Magazine Smart Star Awards](#)

[Smart Meetings Magazine Smart Women in Meetings Awards](#)

[Southeast Tourism Society Shining Example Awards](#)

[Southern Living South's Best Awards](#)

[StarChefs.com Rising Stars Award](#)

[Successful Meetings + Meetings & Conventions Stella Awards](#)

[Travel + Leisure It List](#)

[Travel Weekly Magellan Awards – Honoring the Best in the Travel Industry](#)

[TravelMole UK TravelMole Web Awards](#)

[U.S. News & World Report Best Hotels, Best Cruises & Cruise Line Rankings](#)

[U.S. Travel Association and National Council of Destination Organization \(NCDO\) Destiny Awards](#)

[U.S. Travel Association and National Council of State Tourism Directors \(NCSTD\) Mercury Awards](#)

[U.S. Travel Association Rising Star Award](#)

[U.S. Travel Association State Tourism Director of the Year Award](#)

[VIRTUOSO LIFE Magazine Best of the Best Virtuoso Awards](#)

[VIBE Vista Awards](#)

[VISIT FLORIDA The Flagler Awards](#)

[Wine Enthusiast America's Best 100 Wine Restaurants](#)

[Wine Enthusiast Best of Year: Enthusiast 100, Top 50 Spirits & Top 25 Beers Top 100 Cellar Selections](#)

[Wine Enthusiast Top 100 Best Buys](#)

[Wine Spectator Restaurant Wine List Awards](#)

[Working Mother Magazine Working Mother 100 Best Companies](#)

[World Travel Awards](#)

[World Travel & Tourism Council Tourism for Tomorrow Awards](#)

[SURVEYS](#)

[Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report Readers' Survey](#)

[Bon Appétit Annual Restaurant Issue](#)

[Celebrated Living Magazine "Platinum List" Readers' Survey](#)

[Condé Nast Traveler The 100 Best Cruise Ships](#)

[Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards](#)

[Condé Nast Traveler Spa Awards](#)

[Gayot Top 40 Restaurants in the US](#)

[Meetings & Incentive Travel \(Canada\) Readers' Choice Awards](#)

[Ski Magazine Top 50 Resorts in North America](#)

[Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards](#)

[Travel Weekly Readers' Choice Awards](#)

AWARDS

AFAR Travelers' Choice Awards

CONTACT NAME: Kate Appleton
Tel: 646-525-4035
kappleton@afar.com

CATEGORIES:

- Hotels
- Outfitters
- Cruises
- Destinations

SELECTION PROCESS: AFAR editors select and vet the nominees for each category. Readers may then vote on the selected finalists during a 30-day voting period. Winners will be announced three months after voting ends and in the following month's print issue.

DEADLINES:

- Hotel: Voting is January 9-22, 2018; Winners announced May/June issue.
- Outfitters: Voting is February 6-28, 2018; Winners announced July/August issue.
- Cruises: Voting is June 1-22, 2018; Winners announced November/December issue.
- Destinations: Voting is August 1-22; Winners announced January/February issue.

American Automobile Association Diamond Awards (Lodging)

- CONTACT NAME:** For award information visit:
www.aaa.biz/approved.
For state-by-state account managers visit:
http://www.aaa.biz/approved/cu_acctmgrs.html.
- TYPE:** Rating system reflecting overall quality.
- RATINGS:** AAA Diamond Ratings for hotels represent a combination of the overall quality, range of facilities and level of services offered by the property. The descriptive ratings are assigned exclusively to properties that meet and uphold AAA's rigorous quality standards.
- ◆ Budget-oriented, offering basic comfort and hospitality.
 - ◆◆ Affordable, with modestly-enhanced facilities, decor and amenities.
 - ◆◆◆ Distinguished, multifaceted with enhanced physical attributes, amenities and guest comforts.
 - ◆◆◆◆ Refined, stylish with upscale physical attributes, extensive amenities and a high degree of hospitality, service and attention to detail.
 - ◆◆◆◆◆ Ultimate luxury, sophistication and comfort with extraordinary physical attributes, meticulous personalized service, extensive amenities and impeccable standards of excellence.
- RATING PROCESS:** Complete the AAA Application for Evaluation found on the website, www.AAA.biz/approved. Click on "Evaluation/Ratings." Include recent and accurate pictures of the exterior, public areas as well as examples of a standard guest unit and bathroom. Return to AAA. Once they have received a completed application, the property will be advised in writing of its status within the next five working days. If quality criteria are met, establishment is designated AAA Approved, listed in print and in AAA.com TourBook. A property that has received a letter from AAA stating that it has been accepted for further consideration can expect an unannounced evaluation within one year from the date of the letter. Once the property has been approved, it will be evaluated at least once per evaluation cycle by an AAA Tourism Editor.
- If the AAA tourism editor determines that a property meets the Five-Diamond criteria, he/she will recommend consideration. All Five-Diamond rating recommendations are forwarded to AAA's

Five-Diamond Committee for thorough review. Once the committee's assessment is concluded, the establishment will be advised in writing of the outcome.

REQUIREMENTS: Overall evaluation process includes review of six key areas: Cleanliness & Condition; Management & Style of Operations; Exterior and Public Areas; Guestrooms; Guest Bathrooms and Guest Services & Hospitality.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Ongoing; evaluation deadlines vary by state beginning February.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Awards are announced in January.

ELIGIBILITY: U.S./Canada/Mexico/Caribbean

American Automobile Association Diamond Awards (Restaurants)

CONTACT NAME: For award information visit:
www.aaa.biz/approved
For state-by-state account managers' visit:
http://www.aaa.biz/approved/cu_acctmgrs.html

TYPE: Rating system reflecting overall quality.

RATINGS: AAA Diamond ratings for restaurants represent a combination of the overall food, service, décor and ambiance offered by the establishment. The descriptive ratings are assigned exclusively to establishments that meet and uphold AAA's rigorous quality standards.

◆ Meet basic requirements pertaining to management, cleanliness and overall quality. Provide familiar food at an economical price. Generally, menu selection surrounds a specialty such as hamburgers, fried chicken, pizza or tacos. Service is limited, often self-service, and surroundings utilitarian.

◆◆ Noticeable enhancements to food presentation, such as the use of common garnishes and dishware. Typically a wide menu selection featuring familiar favorites or home-style foods, often cooked to order and reasonably priced. Service is limited and relaxed. Surroundings are limited in scope and typically reflect a clear theme. Often family oriented.

◆◆◆ Employ a professional chef and highly-trained cooks. Menu is skillfully prepared and often reflects interpretations of latest trends or mastering of traditional cuisine. Typically expanded beverage offerings that complement menu. Professional dining room manager leads efficient service staff. Service reflects some degree of refinement such as reservations, personal assistance or ability to adapt to guest's specific needs. Décor reflects well-coordinated design mediums that provide a distinct theme and good comfort. An entry into fine dining; often adult-oriented.

◆◆◆◆ A distinctive fine-dining experience. Often an executive chef and accomplished staff. Menus reflect high degree of creativity and complexity using imaginative presentations to enhance market-fresh ingredients. Proficient service staff meets or exceeds guest expectations. Wine steward typically available. Ambiance is highly refined, comfortable and well-coordinated, incorporating quality materials and upscale design enhancements for a first-class impression. Typically expensive.

◆◆◆◆◆Renowned and consistently provides a world-class experience. “Haute cuisine” at its best. Menus are cutting edge, using only the finest ingredients. Food preparation is highly imaginative and unique. The combination of technique and ingredients is extraordinary, reflecting the impeccable artistry of highly-acclaimed chefs. Maître d’ leads an expert service staff that attends to every detail effortlessly and unobtrusively.

RATING PROCESS: Overall evaluation process includes review of Cleanliness & Condition; Management Style of Operation; Exterior and Food, Service, Décor and Ambiance. There are three parts to the rating process: Introduction/Interview; Meal and/or Restaurant Tour; and Practical Application of Approval.

REQUIREMENTS: The evaluation process is made up of three parts: AAA/CAA Diamond Rating Requirements (listed above), objective rating guidelines for both physical attributes and service levels (where applicable) and subjective elements based on professional experience and training.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Ongoing; evaluation deadlines vary by state beginning February.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Awards are announced in January.

ELIGIBILITY: U.S./Canada/Mexico/Caribbean

**American Hotel & Lodging Association (AH&LA)
Stars of the Industry Awards**

CONTACT NAME: Lauren Pravlik
Tel: 202-289-3171
lpravlik@ahla.com
www.ahla.com

CATEGORIES: AH&LA Employee Awards categories:

- Outstanding Lodging Employee of the Year
- Outstanding Manager of the Year
- Paving the Way award
- Stevan Porter Emerging Hospitality Leader of the Year (under age 30)
- Innovation Award

SELECTION PROCESS: Committee of industry professionals

REQUIREMENTS: Open to AH&LA member properties only. Property winning Outstanding Lodging Employee is responsible for producing a 3-minute video to be shown at awards presentation.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Submissions open in Jan and will be accepted through September, winners announced end of January the following year.

ELIGIBILITY: Some state associations sponsor their own awards:
www.ahla.com/stars. State winners automatically enter for the national award. Otherwise, send application to:

AH&LA Stars of the Industry Awards Program
1201 New York Avenue, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

American Spa Magazine Professional's Choice Awards

CONTACT NAME: Heather Mikesell
212-895-8442
hmikesell@questex.com

CATEGORIES:

- Spas
- Brands
- Equipment
- Professionals

SELECTION PROCESS: Industry decision makers from day spas, destination spas, medical spas and resort spas from around the country cast their votes in a write-in web survey for their favorite spas, brands, equipment and professionals in America and worldwide.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Polls are open until mid-September.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Winners are announced in the December issue.

Andrew Harper Hideaway Report Grand Awards

CONTACT NAME: Andrew Harper
aharper@andrewharper.com
www.andrewharper.com

CATEGORIES:

- Hideaway of the Year
- United States
- Caribbean
- South America
- Europe
- Africa, Middle East, and Asia
- Indelible Memories
- Restaurants of the Year
- People of Note
- Special Recognition: Hotels
- Special Recognition: Experiences
- Gastronomic Highlights
- Wine & Spirits
- Previous Hideaways of the Year

SELECTION PROCESS: Publication makes a secret, unannounced visit to property and at end of year announces awards for Grand Award.

ELIGIBILITY: Any property is eligible, but the criteria are extremely high, so only five-star level properties should be recommended. AHHR can be invited to take a scouting visit to property, but no feedback is offered (other than a notification that the invitation was received). Note stated criteria: “Properties must be relatively small in size, possess strong individual personalities, offer relaxing atmospheres and demonstrate a consistent devotion to personal service.”

SUBMISSION: Invitations to property can be made throughout the year, bearing in mind awards are announced at year’s end.

RESULTS: Announced at end-of-year of Andrew Harper’s Hideaway Report. The complete list can be found by visiting www.AndrewHarper.com.

**Association Conventions & Facilities Magazine
Distinctive Achievement Award**

CONTACT: Mr. Harvey Grotsky, Publisher
Tel: 561-989-0600, ext. 106
harvey.grotsky@meetingmagazines.com

TYPE: Plaque of recognition to advertisers in awards issue.

CATEGORIES: **Hotels, Resorts and Conference Centers**

- Superior Service Standards
- Excellent Accommodations and Meeting Facilities
- Reasonable Room Rates and Labor Costs
- Advanced Technological Capabilities and First-Rate Website
- Environmentally Friendly Policies
- Paramount Safety and Security

Convention & Visitors Bureaus and Convention Centers

- Superior Service and Support
- Top-Notch Assistance with Promotion, Accommodations and Site Inspections
- High Level of Assistance to Identify and Liaison with Suppliers, Vendors, Facilities, Venues and Local Government
- Outstanding Communication and First-Rate Website

SELECTION PROCESS: Ballots emailed to qualified meeting planner subscribers (industry subscriber ballots are not accepted).

REQUIREMENTS: The voter must be qualified meeting planner subscriber.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Awards announced in the August/September issue of Association Conventions & Facilities.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all U.S., International and offshore properties; Caribbean, Mexico and Canada.

BizBash
National BizBash Event Style Awards

CONTACT NAME: Alexis Fritchey
afritchey@bizbash.com
www.bizbash.com

CRITERIA: The National Biz Bash Event Style Awards honor the top names in events throughout the U.S. and Canada.

CATEGORIES:

- Best Association Event
- Best Conference
- Best Corporate Event Concept—Budget Over \$250,000
- Best Corporate Event Concept—Budget Under \$250,000
- Best Marketing Activation or Guerilla Marketing Campaign
- Best Nonprofit Event Concept—Budget Over \$250,000
- Best Nonprofit Event Concept—Budget Under \$250,000
- Best Product Launch
- Best Social Event
- Best Trade or Consumer Show
- Best Catering at an Event
- Best Event Decor—Budget Over \$250,000
- Best Event Decor—Budget Under \$250,000
- Best Event Lighting Design
- Best Floral Design for an Event or Meeting
- Best Print or Digital Invitation Design
- Best Staging and Set Design
- Best Sustainability/Corporate Social Responsibility Program for an Event/Meeting
- Best Trade Show Booth
- Best Use of Event Technology
- Best Use of Social Media for an Event or Meeting
- Best Use of Special Effects at Events
- Best Use of Video at an Event
- Best Video Capture of an Event
- Best Event Entertainment Act
- Best New Event Product/Service
- Best New Venue for Meetings and Events
- Best Hotel Space for Meetings and Events
- Best Rooftop Space
- Best Venue for Weddings and Events

SELECTION PROCESS: Winners are chosen by event industry experts and BizBash editors and announced at the Event Innovation Awards show.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Online submissions are open April 1 through July 15. Details of

the Event Style Awards will not be finalized until after the new year. The team is in the process of updating. Submission period will be very close to what is listed, but the list of categories may change.

Boutique Design
The Boutique 18: Designers of the Next Generation

- CONTACT NAME:** Matthew Hall
Editor
Boutique Design magazine
11262 Cornell Park Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45242
Phone: 513-263-9357
matthew.hall@stmediagroup.com
- CRITERIA:** Nomination form is available [here](#).
- SELECTION PROCESS:** They will select the 18 designers based on their nominations. Accepted nominees will be contacted by Boutique Design magazine and asked to answer a couple of questions about the future of design.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** Submissions due January 11.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners featured in March issue. Winners will be honored at the third annual BDWest Opening Reception in late March in Los Angeles. Specific date and time are to be determined.
- ELIGIBILITY:** See nomination form. They are looking for young leaders who are actively pushing the envelope in hospitality interiors, worldwide.

Budget Travel

America's Coolest Small Towns

CONTACT:

Robert Firpo-Cappiello
Robert.firpo-cappiello@budgettravel.com

CRITERIA:

Annual award. Population of a travel-inspiring American town must be under 20,000 and have something that no place else has: unique shops, great food, a fascinating history, beautiful location, thriving arts and music scene, and maybe something else the editors have not thought of yet.

SELECTION PROCESS:

Nominations no longer include audience voting in the selection process. In March, the publication begins reaching out on social media for suggestions. The editors curate a top 10 list that will be unveiled to the public in mid-May, shortly before Memorial Day. Once curated, they reach out to public relations agencies and tourism boards.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Winners are announced mid-June on BudgetTravel.com and in Fall issue of tablet magazine.

Condé Nast Traveler Gold List

- CONTACT NAME:** Gaia Filicori
Gaia_Filicori@condenast.com
- CRITERIA:** Condé Nast Traveler editors, writers and network of influencers select their favorite hotels in the world.
- CATEGORIES:** Hotels
- SELECTION PROCESS:** A prerequisite for a Gold List property is a high standard of service, luxury and beauty. What earns each winner a spot on the list is the unforgettable special touches that bring a hotel's ethos to life. "The housekeeper at a resort who delivers a message to the tooth fairy after hearing a young guest has lost her tooth, the scent of lavender in the air or the feeling of picking a mango from your balcony in Jamaica."
- The best way to make it on the list is to stay in constant communication with the editors and make sure each top luxury property is on their radar for Gold List consideration.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Results appear in the January issue and online in mid-December

Condé Nast Traveler Hot List

- CONTACT NAME:** Paul Brady
Paul_Brady@condenast.com
- CRITERIA:** The Hot List surveys the best NEW hotels. If a hotel has opened by the end of the calendar year, they can be considered for the following year's Hot List. Later openings can be considered for the year after that. For example, a hotel opening in March of the current year would be considered for Hot List for the current year, while one opening in October might be considered for the following year's Hot List.
- CATEGORIES:** Hotels
- SELECTION PROCESS:** New properties are reviewed by staff, and winners are selected based on these reviews. Hotels cannot enter to win the award nor offer the editors complimentary accommodations. The best way to make it on the list is to stay in constant communication with the editors and make sure each new property is on their radar for Hot List consideration.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** Results appear in the May issue

**MeetingsNet
Paragon Awards**

- CONTACT NAME:** Ms. Melissa Fromento
249 West 17th St.
3rd Floor
New York, NY10011
Tel: 212-772-9154
mfromento@penton.com
- CATEGORIES:** 40 Hotel/Resorts/Cruise Lines
15 Convention and Visitor Bureaus
15 Convention Centers
- SELECTION PROCESS:** MeetingsNet subscribers nominate the hospitality partners that excelled on meetings executed from January through December. Meeting professionals nominate the properties and destination they deem most deserving of an award for superior service for their meetings. Winners include 40 hotels, resort and cruise lines, 15 convention and visitor bureaus; and 15 convention centers
- REQUIREMENTS:** Ballots will be sent out via email to subscribers in late spring/early summer.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners are announced in the August issue of the interactive magazine app and on Meetings.Net.com.
- ELIGIBILITY:** Hotels/Resort/Cruise Line/Convention & Visitor Bureaus/Convention Center.

Food & Wine Magazine Best New Chefs

- CONTACT NAME:** Jordana Rothman
4100 Old Montgomery Hwy
Birmingham Alabama, 10281-1012
202-445-6000
jordana.rothman@foodandwine.com
- CRITERIA:** Chefs must be “Head of the Kitchen” for less than five years.
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Year-long process. Nominators consist of a "trusted group of nominators" including writers for the magazine, past honorees, Food & Wine freelancers, restaurateurs, etc. They're looking for chefs who have been creating dishes and running a professional kitchen for five years or less. Editors also comb local magazines and newspapers to find out who is generating buzz regionally. Once the group of candidates is whittled down, Food & Wine visits the restaurants to taste the local fare anonymously.
- REQUIREMENTS:** No ballots to submit, done by referral. Editors take all recommendations and test each restaurant first hand.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** No official form to submit.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners are announced in April, but formally announced to readers in the July issue.

Forbes Travel Guide

Five-Star, Four-Star, Recommended Ratings for Hotels, Restaurants and Spas

CONTACT NAME: Peter M. Kressaty
SVP, Client Services
peter@forbestravelguide.com
917-476-6101

Amanda Fraser
Senior Vice President, Ratings
afrasier@forbestravelguide.com
404-906-6017

TYPE: Forbes Travel Guide announces its Five Star ratings and awards annually, recognizing the world's best hotels, restaurants and spas based on outstanding service and facilities. The results of the awards and expert reviews on the winning properties are published on Forbes Travel Guide's website, www.forbestravelguide.com.

RATING CRITERIA: Forbes Travel Guide, formerly Mobil and the originator of the Five-Star rating system in North America, has inspected and rated hotels, restaurants and spas since 1958. Anonymous inspections are conducted at each property during which a professional inspector evaluates hundreds of attributes related to service and facility standards (cleanliness, physical facilities, employee attitude, courtesy, etc.) to produce a mathematically-derived score. These quantifiable scores allow comparative analysis among properties and form the base that Forbes Travel Guide uses to assign its Five-Star, Four-Star and Recommended ratings.

**HOTEL
CATEGORIES:**

*****These exceptional hotels provide a memorable experience through virtually flawless service and the finest of amenities. Staff is intuitive, engaging and passionate, and eagerly goes beyond expectations. The hotel was designed with your comfort in mind, with particular attention paid to craftsmanship and quality of product. A Forbes Travel Guide Five Star property is a destination unto itself.

****These hotels provide a distinctive setting, and you will find many interesting and inviting elements to enjoy. Attention to detail is prominent throughout the property, from design concept to quality of products provided. Staff is accommodating and takes pride in catering to your specific needs throughout your stay.

Recommended: These well-appointed hotels have enhanced amenities and design that provide a strong sense of location, whether through style or function. They may have a distinguishing design and ambience, or they may be more focused on functionality, providing easy access to local hot spots.

**RESTAURANT
CATEGORIES:**

*****Five-Star restaurants deliver a truly unique and distinctive dining experience. Diners will find consistently exceptional food, superlative service and elegant decor. An emphasis is placed on originality and personalized, attentive and discreet service. A gracious, warm dining room team attends to every detail of the meal.

*****These are exciting restaurants with often well-known chefs that feature creative and complex foods and emphasize various culinary techniques and a focus on seasonality. A highly-trained dining room staff provides refined personal service.

Recommended: These restaurants serve fresh, appealing food in a unique setting that offers a strong sense of location either by style or menu. Attention to detail is evident through the restaurant, from the service to the menu.

**SPA
CATEGORIES:**

*****Stepping foot in a Five Star Spa will result in an exceptional experience with no detail overlooked. These properties wow you with extraordinary design and facilities, and uncompromising service. Expert staff cater to your every whim and pamper you with the most advanced treatments available. These spas often offer exclusive services and emphasize local elements.

*****Four Star spas offer a wonderful experience in an inviting and serene environment. A sense of personalized service is evident from the moment you check in and receive your robe and slippers. Your comfort is always of utmost concern to the well-trained staff.

SELECTION PROCESS: Participation in the Forbes Travel Guide Star Rating system and a placement on the annual inspection schedule is at the discretion of Forbes Travel Guide's Ratings division. However, eligible properties proactively seeking to partner with Forbes Travel Guide and receive transparency around the inspection process should contact Peter Kressaty, SVP Client Services at

Forbes Travel Guide
100 Park Avenue
Suite 1600
New York, NY 10017

Contact at peter@forbestravelguide.com or +1-917-476-6101 for details of the Global Partnership (GP).

REQUIREMENTS: Contact Forbes Travel Guide Ratings division for inspection eligibility requirements. Contact Forbes Travel Guide Client Services division for all Global Partnership (GP) inquiries.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Awards are announced every first quarter and inspections are conducted annually between January and December.

ELIGIBILITY:

Properties may submit media kits or other printed materials for review and consideration of a future inspection. These should be mailed directly to Amanda Frasier, SVP, Ratings at

Forbes Travel Guide
255 E Paces Ferry Road
Suite 700
Atlanta, GA 30305

Garden & Gun **Made in the South Awards**

CONTACT: editorial@gardenandgun.com
Elizabeth Hutchison
ehutchison@gardenandgun.com

All new information will be published on the dedicated Made in the South site, www.madeinthesouthawards.com, when the new call for entries is announced in late May/early June.

CRITERIA: Annual awards to celebrate Southern craftsmanship. Must be produced in one the following Southern states: AL, AR, NC, SC, TN, KY, GA, LA, MS, TX, FL, OK, WV, VA or MD. Products do not have to be new, though that helps. They cannot have been featured in the magazine before. It is fine if the company has been covered as long as the specific product being nominated has not been covered. Products must be available in sufficient quantity by December/January when readers receive their issues and begin ordering en masse. An e-commerce site helps greatly.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Nominations open May 15 and close July 15.

CATEGORIES:

- Food
- Drink
- Style & Design
- Home
- Outdoors
- Crafts

SELECTION PROCESS: Garden & Gun appoints a judge for each category to select the best the South has to offer.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Finalists are notified in mid-September. Winners are announced in the December/January issue. Select winners, decided by the Garden & Gun marketing department, will be invited to participate in Garden & Gun's annual signature event, Jubilee, held first week in December in Charleston.

Golf Digest U.S. Awards

CONTACT: Ron Whitten
785-271-2326
ron.whitten@golfdigest.com

(Ron deals with both architects and properties regarding the course awards. He solicits nominations from architects and contacts each nominated course to make sure they understand the process. Once in awhile he gets requests from a property for consideration for each of the awards.)

CATEGORIES:

- America's 100 Greatest Golf Courses
- Best Golf Courses in Each State
- Best Newly Remodeled Course
- 100 Greatest Public Courses
- Green Star Award (Courses demonstrating environmental excellence)
- Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards

SELECTION PROCESS: Candidates are chosen based on the evaluations by panelists who play the qualified courses. (Evaluation specifications are kept confidential.) Golf Digest partners with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America on the annual Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards, which go to outstanding course superintendents for their environmental stewardship.

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

Rankings are conducted annually and published in the December issue.

Golf Digest
World's 100 Greatest Golf Courses

CONTACT: John Barton
International Editor
44-207-724-3075
john.barton@golfdigest.com

SELECTION PROCESS: Candidates are chosen based on the evaluations by panelists who play the qualified courses. (Evaluation specifications are kept confidential.)

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Rankings are conducted biennially (every odd-numbered year). Winners for the rankings will be published in the February issue.

Golf Magazine Architects of the Year

CONTACT NAME: Joe Passov
Senior Editor Course Ranking Editor
480-515-1339
passovgolf@aol.com

SELECTION PROCESS: Candidates are chosen based on evaluations by panelists who play the qualified courses.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: January issue and online at www.golf.com.

Golf Magazine Premier Resorts

CONTACT NAME: Joe Passov
Senior Editor Course Ranking Editor
480-515-1339
passovgolf@aol.com

CATEGORIES: Platinum Award Resorts
Gold Award Resorts
Silver Award Resorts
Green Award Resorts

SELECTION PROCESS: With the help of golf.com readers, Golf Magazine selects the best resorts in the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean.

CRITERIA:

- Golf
- Lodging
- Food and Drinks
- Service

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Will run in March issue.

Golf Magazine
Top 100 Courses You Can Play

CONTACT NAME: Joe Passov
Senior Editor Course Ranking Editor
480-515-1339
passovgolf@aol.com

SELECTION PROCESS: Candidates are chosen based on evaluations by panelists made up of Golf magazine editorial staff, industry insiders, and the magazines network of “course spies” in the field, who play the qualified courses.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: September issue of every even numbered year and online at www.golf.com.

Golf Magazine
Best New International Course of the Year

CONTACT NAME: Joe Passov
Senior Editor Course Ranking Editor
480-515-1339
passovgolf@aol.com

SELECTION PROCESS: Candidates are chosen based on evaluations by panelists who play the qualified courses.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: January issue and online at www.golf.com.

Golf Magazine
Best New Private Courses of the Year

CONTACT NAME: Joe Passov
Senior Editor Course Ranking Editor
480-515-1339
passovgolf@aol.com

SELECTION PROCESS: Candidates are chosen based on evaluations by panelists who play the qualified courses.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: January issue and online at www.golf.com.

Golf Magazine
Best Renovation of the Year

CONTACT NAME: Joe Passov
Senior Editor Course Ranking Editor
480-515-1339
passovgolf@aol.com

SELECTION PROCESS: Candidates are chosen based on evaluations by panelists who play the qualified courses.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: January issue and online at www.golf.com.

Hospitality Design Magazine Hospitality Design Awards

CONTACT:

Alissa Ponchione
Managing Editor
646-668-3749
alissa.ponchione@emeraldexpo.com

CATEGORIES:

Projects:

- Hotel (upscale/luxury)
- Guestrooms or Suites (upscale/luxury)
- Public Spaces (upscale/luxury)
- Hotel (midscale)
- Guestrooms or Suites (midscale)
- Public Spaces (midscale)
- Hotel (budget/economy)
- Guestrooms or Suites (budget/economy)
- Public Spaces (budget/economy)
- Hotel (lifestyle)
- Guestrooms or Suites (lifestyle)
- Public Spaces (lifestyle)
- Restaurant (upscale/fine dining)
- Restaurant (casual/fast casual)
- Resort
- Spa (hotel/day)
- Nightclub, Bar, or Lounge
- Sustainable Project
- Student Project
- Open Category (for unique hospitality projects or spaces that don't fit in the above categories)

Products:

- Flooring
- Caseloads + Furniture
- Lighting
- Wallcoverings
- Surfaces
- Textiles + Fabrics
- Bath
- Seating (indoor, dining, and lounge)
- Outdoor Furnishings
- Accessories
- Other

DEADLINE:

First week of March, 2017. Forms will be uploaded at a later date at <http://www.hospitalitydesign.com/awards-events/HD-Awards-9186.shtml>.

**PRESENTATION
OF RESULTS:**

The awards ceremony will be held in New York City in June. In addition, winning projects will be published in the June 2018 issue of Hospitality Design magazine.

HOTELS.com
Top Guest Rated U.S. Hotels of the Year

CONTACT: Emily Zazado, Hotels.com, The Americas
emzazado@hotels.com

CRITERIA: Hotels.com experts review hotel properties across several categories and make selections.

SELECTION PROCESS: Gold-winning properties must have an average guest review rating of 4.7–5.0. The criteria are based on an overall guest rating and number of reviews on [Hotels.com](https://www.hotels.com). For a hotel to be featured, they need to take good care of their guests. Category “Best for” winners are within the top 100 guest review ratings for their category. [Hotels.com](https://www.hotels.com) will review guest ratings at various times throughout the year globally, by country and by city.

CATEGORIES: *(Subject to change)*

- Best Beach Hotels
- Best Spa Hotels
- Best New Hotels
- Best Luxury Hotels
- Best LGBT Hotels
- Best Family Hotels
- Best Business Hotels
- Best Boutique Hotels
- Best All Inclusive Hotels
- Best Ski Hotels

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Winners are announced in April.

Hotels Magazine
Great Hotel Restaurant Award

CONTACT NAME: Mr. Jeff Weinstein
HOTELS MAGAZINE
1415 N. Dayton St.
Chicago, IL 60642
312-274-2226
jweinstein@hotelsmag.com

SELECTION PROCESS: Chosen by Expert Committee

REQUIREMENTS: None

**Hotels Magazine
Hotelier of the World**

- CONTACT NAME:** Mr. Jeff Weinstein
HOTELS MAGAZINE
1415 N. Dayton St.
Chicago, IL 60642
312-274-2226
jweinstein@hotelsmag.com
- CRITERIA:** Leadership
Style
Hotelmanship
- CATEGORIES:** Corporate Hotelier
Independent Hotelier
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Nominees come from past winners, staff, and editorial advisors. Ballots/votes are filled out by readers (industry peers). NO SUBMISSIONS.
- REQUIREMENTS:** None
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** April issue contains ballots which are due in July.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Award presented in November during the International Motel & Restaurant Show. Ballot finalized in early February.
- ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all, United States or foreign.

Hotels Magazine Social Hotel Awards

CONTACT NAME: Mr. Jeff Weinstein
HOTELS MAGAZINE
1415 N. Dayton St.
Chicago, IL 60642
312-274-2226
jweinstein@hotelsmag.com

CATEGORIES:

- Best Facebook page
- Best Twitter account
- Best use of Foursquare
- Best use of digital video
- Best use of emerging social media platforms (Pinterest, Google+, etc.)
- Best Facebook sweepstakes, contest, promotion
- Best reputation management (including TripAdvisor)
- Best blog
- Best Facebook ad campaign
- Best integrated digital campaign (across social platforms, websites and/or apps)

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Submissions considered must have been completed by spring.

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

Winners will be named for both brands and individual hotels in each of the 10 categories, and will receive a custom trophy as well as a digital badge for online display.

HSMAI: Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International Adrian Awards for Advertising, Digital Marketing and Public Relations

CONTACT NAME: Ellen Wilson
HSMAI
7918 Jones Branch Road, Suite 300
McLean, VA 22102
Tel: 571-442-8489 Fax: 703-506-3266
ewilson@hsmail.org

TYPE: Best in Show
Platinum
Gold
Silver
Bronze

CRITERIA: Statement of Communications includes:
Situational Analysis
Marketing Objectives
Target Audiences
Research, Planning and Implementation
Message
Results
Budget

CATEGORIES:

- Categories are Advertising, Digital Marketing, Public Relations and Integrated Marketing.
- New categories in 2017: Geo-Targeted (Advertising, Public Relations, Digital Marketing) - Campaigns that deliver different content to a user based on his or her geographic location.
- Experiential (Advertising, Public Relations, Digital Marketing) - Campaigns that directly engage consumers and invites and encourages them to participate in the evolution of a brand or a brand experience.
- Each may apply for a Single Entry, Series and/or a Complete Campaign.

SELECTION PROCESS: Group of judges evaluates and scores, ranging from 0-50, each entry on its own merit, not against the competition. Entries evaluated in five equally-weighted categories:

- Marketing Objectives
- Creativity
- Quality
- Content
- Results

REQUIREMENTS: Communicating objectives, piece and support material. Submit a Statement of Communications and creative support material.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: There are no applications to submit. Entries are uploaded into the Adrian Awards competition site between July and September. Exact dates will be announced late June/early July. Please go to www.adrianawards.com for more details. Judging (by peers) takes place September to mid-October. Platinum judging takes place in November. Winners are announced mid-November (Gold, Silver & Bronze). Platinum winner are notified in December. Best of Show winners are announced at the Gala in New York. The Gala occurs in February.

ELIGIBILITY: All hospitality and travel related industries—both domestic and international. No limits on number of entries a firm may submit.

HSMAI: Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International Greater New York Chapter Awards of Excellence

CONTACT NAME: Ms. Kathie Stapleton
HSMAI
Tel: 914-762-1456
Fax: 914-944-9227
kstapleton@hsmainyc.org

TYPE: *(Subject to change)*
Revenue Management Executive of the Year
Hospitality Professional of the Year
Sales Executive of the Year
Marketing Executive of the Year
General Manager of the Year

CRITERIA:

- **Revenue Management Professional of the Year**

In order to qualify for Revenue Management Professional of the Year, the nominee must:

*Hold the title of Director of Revenue Management, VP Revenue Management or similar VP/Area title for a minimum of one year at their current company.

*Have responsibility for either multiple properties or have a direct report who is a revenue manager, revenue analyst or reservations manager.

- **Sales Professional of the Year**

In order to qualify as a nominee for Sales Professional of the year, the nominee must:

*Be actively employed as a Sales executive in the hospitality industry for a minimum of one year.

- **Marketing Professional of the Year**

In order to qualify as a nominee for Marketing Professional of the year the nominee must:

*Hold the title of Vice President or Director of Marketing for a minimum of one year.

*Have responsibility for one or more properties and have at least one direct report such as a Sales Manager or Sales Coordinator

- **General Manager of the Year**

In order to qualify as a nominee for General Manager of the Year, the nominee must:

*Have held their current title or have been with their current employer for a minimum of one year.

*Currently be working as a General Manager, Managing Director, Chief Operating Officer or similar position for a single or multi-property lodging business.

For any questions or further clarification please contact the Awards and Recognition Committee via email at info@hsmainyc.org.

SELECTION PROCESS: Group of judges evaluates and scores each entry on its own merit, not against the competition.

REQUIREMENTS: Communicating objectives, piece and support material.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Nominations are accepted in January 2018 and continue through early February. Top nominees for each award will be announced at a monthly luncheon date in late April or May. Winners are announced at the annual Frank W. Tourism Award Dinner in June.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to domestic and international.

Insurance & Financial Meetings Management Magazine World Class Award

- CONTACT NAME:** Mr. Harvey Grotsky
Publisher
Insurance & Financial Meetings Management
2700 North Military Trail, Suite 120
Boca Raton, FL 33431-6394
Tel: 561-989-0600
Fax: 561-989-9509
cccpublisher@att.net
- TYPE:** Plaque of recognition to advertisers in awards issue
- CRITERIA:** Superior Staff Service
Excellence in Accommodations & Meeting Facilities
Trouble-free Food & Beverage Functions
Smooth Setups and Arrangements for Social Functions
Exceptional Ambience
Convenient and Accessible Location
- CATEGORIES:**
- Resorts
 - Conference Centers
 - Hotels
 - Convention & Visitors Bureau
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Subscriber open-ballots sent to subscribers in May with three selections per category; publication editor and staff judge and review results and candidates.
- REQUIREMENTS:** The voter must be qualified subscriber.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Awards announced in September/October issue of Insurance and Financial Meetings Management.
- ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all U.S., International and offshore properties; Caribbean, Mexico and Canada.

Interior Design Magazine

Best of the Year Award – Product Design

CONTACT NAME: Laura Steele
lstele@interiordesign.net

CATEGORIES: Updated information: <http://boyawards.interiordesign.net/faq>

- Accessories
- Accessories: Office
- Accessories: Outdoor
- Architectural Products (doors, windows, paint, etc.)
- Bath: Accessories and Hardware
- Bath: Cabinetry
- Bath: Fittings (faucets, etc.)
- Bath: Fixtures (sinks, tubs, etc.)
- Flooring: Carpet/Broadloom
- Flooring: Carpet/Modular
- Flooring: Carpet/Rugs
- Flooring: Hard
- Flooring: Healthcare
- Flooring: Hospitality
- Flooring: Tile and Stone
- Furniture: Beds
- Furniture: Contract/Case Goods
- Furniture: Contract/Desking
- Furniture: Contract/Systems
- Furniture: Contract/Tables
- Furniture: Education
- Furniture: Healthcare
- Furniture: Outdoor/Lounge
- Furniture: Outdoor/Seating & Tables
- Furniture: Partitions and Wall Systems
- Furniture: Residential/Dining Tables
- Furniture: Residential/Occasional Tables
- Furniture: Residential/Storage
- Green Innovation
- Hardware
- Kitchen: Appliances
- Kitchen: Cabinetry
- Kitchen: Fittings (faucets, taps etc.)
- Kitchen: Fixture (tubs, sinks etc.)
- Lighting: Architectural
- Lighting: Chandelier (multiple bulb)
- Lighting: Floor
- Lighting: Pendant (single bulb)
- Lighting: Sconce
- Lighting: Table Materials and Surfaces (including paneling)

- Seating: Contract/Conference
- Seating: Contract/Guest
- Seating: Contract/Lounge
- Seating: Contract/Task
- Seating: Residential/Accent
- Seating: Residential/Lounge
- Seating: Residential/Sofa
- Technology
- Textiles: Contract
- Textiles: Healthcare
- Textiles: Hospitality
- Textiles: Outdoor
- Textiles: Residential

SELECTION PROCESS: Information regarding awards posted online in May.

REQUIREMENTS: Information regarding awards will be posted in May, but submission deadlines are typically in mid-September every year. Submission fee is \$300 per entry.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Products must have been manufactured and introduced to the market between September of one year and August of the following year.
- Due to the comprehensive nature of this competition, we do accept products that have been awarded and/or are part of another competition.
- There is no limit to the number of products that may be entered to the competition.
- Please note: product categories may be renamed, consolidated or eliminated, and products may be re-assigned at the editor's' discretion.
- Fees: \$300 per entry/category.
- Best of Year Product Design finalists will be selected by interior designers and architects via an online vote taking place October 5-16.
- Finalists will be posted on this site in November.
- Winners will be chosen by Editor-in-Chief Cindy Allen and a jury of design leaders and announced live in December during a celebration in New York City. Winners will be featured in the December issue of Interior Design.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Finalists will be posted at InteriorDesign.net/boyawards in November, live Best of Year awards event will be held December.

Interior Design Magazine
Best of the Year Award – Project Design

CONTACT NAME: Laura Stelle
lstele@interiordesign.net
646-805-0276

CATEGORIES:

- Bar/Lounge
- Beach House
- Beauty
- Budget
- Casual Dining
- Coffee/Tea
- Counter Service
- Country House
- Designers Own Office
- Education
- Exhibit
- Fashion Retail
- Fine Dining
- Fitness
- Green Hotel
- Hotel Dining
- Hotel Restoration
- Installation
- Institutional
- Institutional: Entertainment
- Kitchen & Bath
- Large Apartment
- Large Healthcare
- Large House
- Large Office
- Large Office: Media/Tech
- Mid-Size Office
- Mid-Size Office: Tech
- Outdoors
- Public Space: Lobby
- Residential Lobby/Amenity Space
- Resort Hotel
- Retail: Other
- Shining Moment
- Showroom
- Showroom: Sales Center
- Small Apartment
- Small Healthcare
- Small House
- Small Office

- Small Office: Tech
- Spa
- Urban Hotel

SELECTION PROCESS: Project Design winners will be chosen by Editor-in-Chief Cindy Allen and a jury of design leaders.

REQUIREMENTS: Project entries must include a completed submission form, including digital images, press release or other accompanying documentation, a list of project team members, and a list of primary sources, submitted no later than 11:59pm EST on September 9. Each image should be a minimum of 350 dpi high resolution, .jpg or .tif file, size 9" x 11."

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Information regarding awards will be posted in May, but submission deadlines are typically in mid-September. Submission fee is \$300 per entry.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Work must have been completed between September 2016 and August 2017.
- Due to the comprehensive nature of this competition, we will accept work that has been published previously and/or was part of another competition.
- There is no limit to the number of projects that may be entered to the competition.
- Please note: submissions may be reassigned to a different project category at the editor's discretion.
- Best of Year: Project Design winners will be chosen by Editor-in-Chief Cindy Allen and a jury of design leaders and featured in the December issue of Interior Design.
- Finalists will be posted on this site in November.
- Winners will be announced live in December during a ceremony and celebration in New York City.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Finalists will be posted at InteriorDesign.net/boyawards in November, live Best of Year awards event will be held December.

Boutique Design
In Conjunction with HX: The Hotel Experience;
BDNY; Hospitality Media Group
Gold Key Awards for Excellence in Hospitality Design

PLEASE NOTE 2018 CATEGORIES AND TIMELINE WILL BE RELEASED FEBRUARY 2018

CONTACT NAME: Keisha Byrd
Conference and Events Manager
513-263-9333
keisha.byrd@hmgllc.com

CATEGORIES:

- Best Hotel Luxury
- Best Hotel Upscale
- Best Hotel Midscale
- Best Hotel Budget/Focused Service
- Best Resort
- Best Guest Room Luxury
- Best Guest Room Upscale
- Best Guest Room Midscale/Budget/Focused Service
- Best Lobby Luxury
- Best Lobby Upscale
- Best Lobby Midscale/Budget/Focused Service
- Best Restaurant Fine Dining
- Best Restaurant Casual Dining
- Best Nightclub/Lounge
- Best Suite
- Best New Hotel Brand or Soft Brand Concept
- Best Eco Conscious or Socially Conscious Hotel
- Judges' So Cool (Interior or a single design element in a hotel, restaurant, spa, club or cruise ship that makes a never-seen-before "wow" statement)

SELECTION PROCESS: Hospitality designers from around the world are invited to submit their best work in the Gold Key Award for Excellence in Hospitality Design competition. The Gold Key Awards recognize the most influential and innovative design work in every sector of the hospitality industry.

CRITERIA: The award is exclusively for interior designers. To be eligible for the industry's most prestigious design award, new construction, conversion or renovation work must have been completed from April 1 to April 1 of the following year. A renowned judging panel will select winners and finalists in each of the 18 award categories.

SUBMISSIONS:

All entries must provide a complete supplier list and photo release form if selected as a finalist in September. Please make sure the photography is relevant specifically to the category. As an example, when submitting for a guest room category, do not include public spaces, suites, function spaces, etc. Only the “best of” hotel categories should include the entire hotel, both interiors and exteriors. Please make sure the entry fits the category. The awards’ [FAQs](#) outline the definitions for each hotel sector, from budget/focused service to luxury. When submitting in multiple categories, please ensure that all submissions are within the same category, as in all are midscale or all are upscale.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

The awards ceremony will take place Monday, November 13, in New York in conjunction with HX: The Hotel Experience (formerly IHMRS) and Boutique Design New York, at which time winners, finalists and honorable mentions in each category will be recognized.

The James Beard Foundation Chef and Restaurant Awards

CONTACT: awards@jamesbeard.org

CRITERIA: Anyone can submit a chef or restaurant for consideration during the online open call for entries in the fall. There is no entry fee.

Outstanding Restaurateur

A working restaurateur who sets high national standards in restaurant operations and entrepreneurship. Candidates must have been in the restaurant business for at least 10 years. Candidates must not have been nominated for a James Beard Foundation chef award in the past five years.

Outstanding Chef (Presented by All-Clad Metalcrafters)

A working chef in America whose career has set national industry standards and who has served as an inspiration to other food professionals. Eligible candidates must have been working as a chef for the past five years.

Outstanding Restaurant (Presented by Acqua Panna Natural Spring Water)

A restaurant in the United States that serves as a national standard bearer of consistent quality and excellence in food, atmosphere and service. Eligible restaurants must have been in operation ten or more consecutive years.

Rising Star Chef of the Year (Presented by S.Pellegrino Sparkling Natural Water)

A chef age 30 or younger who displays an impressive talent and who is likely to make a significant impact on the industry in years to come.

Best New Restaurant

A restaurant opened in the calendar year that already displays excellence in food, beverage and service and is likely to have a significant impact on the industry in years to come.

Outstanding Pastry Chef

A chef or baker who prepares desserts, pastries or breads in a restaurant, and who serves as a national standard bearer of excellence. Must have been a pastry chef or baker for the past five years.

Outstanding Baker

A chef or baker who prepares breads, pastries or desserts in a retail bakery, and who serves as a national standard-bearer of excellence. Must have been a baker or pastry chef for at least five years.

Outstanding Service (Presented by Goose Island Beer Company)

A restaurant that demonstrates high standards of hospitality and service. Candidates must have been in operation for at least the past five years.

Outstanding Wines, Beer or Spirits Professional

A beer, wine or spirits professional who has made a significant national impact on the restaurant industry.

Outstanding Wine Program

A restaurant that displays and encourages excellence in wine service through a well-presented wine list, a knowledgeable staff, and efforts to educate customers about wine.

Outstanding Bar Program

An establishment that displays and encourages excellence in cocktail, spirits and/or beer service.

Best Chefs (10 Regions)

Chefs who have set new or consistent standards of excellence in their respective regions. Eligible candidates may be from any kind of dining establishment and must have been working as a chef for at least five years with the three most recent years spent in the region.

The Regions

Great Lakes (IL, IN, MI, OH)

Mid-Atlantic (D.C., DE, MD, NJ, PA, VA)

Midwest (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI)

New York City (Five Boroughs)

Northeast (CT, MA, ME, NH, NY State, RI, VT)

Northwest (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY)

West (CA, HI, NV)

South (AL, AR, FL, LA, MS)

Southeast (GA, KY, NC, SC, TN, WV)

Southwest (AZ, CO, NM, NV, OK, TX, UT)

SELECTION PROCESS: The Restaurant and Chef Awards Committee produces a ballot with approximately 20 semifinalists in each category. This ballot is distributed online to a voting body of 300 previous James Beard Restaurant & Chef Award winners; 200 to 250 panelists divided evenly among 10 regions (see below); and 17 members of the Restaurant and Chef Award subcommittee. All votes count equally and are tabulated by the independent accounting firm Lutz & Carr. The five semifinalists with the highest number of votes become the nominees.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Deadline: December 1, 2017; the 20 semifinalists in each category are announced in mid-February. A ballot goes out electronically to the

judges, and the 5 nominees in each category are announced in March. A second ballot is then distributed to the same voting body. Winners are announced at the Awards ceremony on May 7.

James Beard Foundation Book Awards

CONTACT: awards@jamesbeard.org

CRITERIA: Any book published in English in the United States or Canada during the previous calendar year is eligible for an award. Publishers, editors and authors submit their books for consideration in one of 12 categories: American / Baking and Dessert / Beverage / General / Health and Special Diets / International / Reference, History and Scholarship / Single Subject / Restaurant and Professional / Vegetable-Focused Cooking / Writing / Photography. There is a \$100 entry fee for JBF members, \$150 for non-members. New Rules: You cannot enter your book only in the photography category. You must enter your book into one of the listed categories and also enter your book in the photography category. Fee to submit to the photography category is an additional \$25.

SELECTION PROCESS: Four judges are assigned to each category. The judges (48 in total) are not committee members; rather, they're editors, authors, journalists, and culinary educators who have not published a culinary book during the current awards year. Judges are looking for books that contribute to the growing canon of information and knowledge about food and beverage. Content, accuracy, design and writing style are among the elements considered. The same book cannot be entered into multiple categories and six copies (seven if also entering the book for photography judging) must be mailed with Entry Form to:
The James Beard Foundation
Slot A: 6 West 18th Street (10th floor)
New York, NY 10011

The Book Awards Committee selects the Cookbook of the Year from among the nominated books in each category. From among the books submitted for nomination, an award is given for Outstanding Photography. Each year the committee also inducts a classic cookbook or an author's body of work into the Cookbook Hall of Fame.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Deadline: December 8; book shipments must arrive by December 15.

RESULTS: The nominees are announced at a Nominees Breakfast in March. The winners are announced during the Book, Journalism and Broadcast Media Awards Dinner in April. The author(s) of the book receive(s) the award. The awards will take place in New York on April 27, 2018.

CATEGORIES:

- Cookbook of the Year
- Cookbook Hall of Fame

- American
- Baking and Dessert
- Beverage
- General
- Health and Special Diets
- International
- Reference, History and Scholarship
- Restaurant and Professional
- Single Subject
- Vegetable-Focused and Vegetarian
- Writing
- Photography

James Beard Foundation Journalism Awards

CONTACT: awards@jamesbeard.org

CRITERIA: Any article published in English in the U.S. or Canada during the previous calendar year is eligible. Writers, journalists and editors submit their articles for consideration. There is a \$100 entry fee for JBF members, \$150 for non-members.

CATEGORIES:

- MFK Fisher Distinguished Writing Awards
- Craig Claiborne Distinguished Restaurant Review Award
- Food Section
- Personal Essay
- Humor
- Home Cooking
- Profile
- Innovative Storytelling
- Foodways
- Dining and Travel
- Feature Reporting
- Food and Health
- Columns
- Wine, Spirits and Other Beverages
- Investigative Reporting
- Local Impact
- Publication of the Year

SUBMISSIONS: Journalists may submit only one entry in each Awards category. However, journalists may enter more than one Awards category. Entries must be submitted by the author, an agent, an editor or a publisher. For each entry it is important to include both the author's address, phone number and email address as well as an address and phone number at the publication.

SELECTION PROCESS: The judges are editors and journalists, retired food and beverage editors and writers and journalism deans and professors. Judges may not enter in the category they are judging.

Judges look for accurate, insightful reporting, exceptional writing, unusual perspectives, and other attributes of fine journalism as they pertain to food and beverage topics.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Deadline: January 3, 2018

RESULTS: The winners are announced at the Book, Journalism and Broadcast Media Awards Dinner on April 27. Journalist(s) receive(s) the award.

James Beard Foundation Broadcast and New Media

CONTACT: awards@jamesbeard.org

CRITERIA: Any English-language TV, radio, or webcast show or segment on food, cooking or gastronomy, copyrighted and broadcast in the United States or Canada during the previous calendar year is eligible. Producers, writers, hosts and other people involved in the production submit their work for consideration. There is a \$100 entry fee for JBF members, \$150 for non-members.

CATEGORIES:

- Outstanding Personality/Host
- Television Program, In-Studio or Fixed Location
- Television Program, on Location
- Television Segment
- Special (on TV or Web)
- Documentary
- Video Webcast, Fixed Location and/or Instructional
- Radio Show/Audio Webcast
- Podcast
- Visual and Technical Excellence

SUBMISSIONS: A show's host, producer, photographer or editor may submit entries. The only categories where it is permissible to enter material that is also entered in another category are: Outstanding Personality/Host and Visual and Technical Excellence. Entries deemed too commercial may be disqualified at the discretion of the Broadcast media committee. The Broadcast Media Committee reserves the right to reassign any submitted entry to a more appropriate category. It is highly recommended that entry links be uploaded to Vimeo. Links must be for one entry and not loop into unrelated content.

SELECTION PROCESS: The Broadcast Media Awards Committee divides the entries into categories making sure that they are entered in the correct categories, then five to six judges are assigned to each category. The judges (more than 30 in total) are chosen by the committee. They include producers, educators, editors, and print journalists. Judges may not enter the category they are judging during current year. They are looking for creativity, accuracy, high production values and a fresh perspective on food- and beverage-related topics.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: January 3, 2018

RESULTS: The nominees are announced at a Nominees Breakfast in March. Winners are announced during the Book, Journalism and Broadcast Media Awards Dinner in April 27. The host(s) or producer(s) receive(s) the award.

**James Beard Foundation
Restaurant Design and Graphics Awards**

CONTACT: awards@jamesbeard.org

CRITERIA: Any restaurant or design project that was completed or redone in North America within three years prior to the year the award is being given is eligible. Architects, interior designers and graphic designers submit their projects for consideration. Any restaurant or design project that was completed or redone in North America after January 2015 is eligible. There is a \$100 entry fee for JBF members, \$150 for non-members.

CATEGORIES: 75 Seats and Under
76 Seats and Over

SELECTION PROCESS: The Restaurant Design and Graphics Awards Committee is made up of architects, interior designers and graphic designers. The committee both chooses the jurors who will judge the winners and oversees the process. They are looking for beautiful functional design that seamlessly melds the setting and theme of the restaurant environment.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: January 26, 2018

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: The nominees are announced at a Nominees Breakfast in March. The winners are announced during the Awards Ceremony on April 27. The architect(s) or designer(s) receive(s) the award.

Luxury Travel Advisor Awards of Excellence

CONTACT NAME: NOTE: Requested; no contact information be provided

SELECTION PROCESS: Winners are voted on by an invitation-only advisory board, which is made up of influential travel advisors. The nominees for the Awards of Excellence include hotels, resorts, individuals, cruise lines and professional services. The award categories are subject to change from year to year. Luxury Travel Advisor has requested that LHG send editors notification of any notable luxury hotel openings.

CATEGORIES:

Change Annually:

<http://www.luxurytraveladvisor.com/awardsofexcellence>

- Best Cruise Line for Ocean Cruises
- Best Cruise Line for Small Ships
- Best Luxury River Cruise Company
- Airlines: Best Flat-Bed Business Class Service
- Best FIT Operator
- Best Local Destination Management Company
- Best Chauffeured Service Worldwide
- Top General Manager Worldwide
- Top Luxury Sales Executive Worldwide
- Best Luxury Hotel Paris
- Best Luxury Hotel London
- Best Luxury Hotel New York
- Best Luxury Hotel Rome
- Best Luxury Beach Hotel Worldwide
- Best Luxury Boutique Hotel Worldwide
- Best Luxury Hotel Worldwide
- Top Luxury Hotel Renovation/Restoration
- Most Anticipated New Hotel Opening
- Top African/Indian Ocean Opening
- Top Middle East Hotel Opening
- Top Asia Hotel Opening
- Top Caribbean Hotel Opening
- Top Mexico/Central America Hotel Opening
- Top European Hotel Opening
- Top South Pacific Hotel Opening
- Best New Suite Worldwide
- Best New Villa Worldwide

SLATE FINALIZED: Second week of December, 2017

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: May 22, 2018

Michelin Group

Michelin Restaurant Guide

CONTACT NAME: Not Available

CRITERIA:

Stars

The guide awards one to three stars to a small number of restaurants of outstanding quality. One star indicates a "very good cuisine in its category," a two-star ranking represents "excellent cuisine, worth a detour" and three stars are awarded to restaurants offering "exceptional cuisine, worth a special journey." A three-star Michelin ranking is rare. New venues and first-timers are almost always rated one star (there has been one notable exception to this general rule). Restaurant must be in a Michelin city (e.g., New York, London, Bay Area).

Rising Stars

The Michelin Guide also awards Rising Stars, an indication that a given restaurant has the potential to qualify for a star, or an additional star.

Bib Gourmand

Since 1955, the guide has also highlighted restaurants offering "good food at moderate prices," a feature now called "Bib Gourmand." They must offer menu items priced below a maximum determined by local economic standards. Bib (Bibendum) is the company's nickname for the Michelin Man, its corporate logo for over a century. The Bib Gourmand designation denotes good cuisine at a reasonable price in a variety of comfort categories. Defined as "Inspectors' Favorites for Good Value," Bib Gourmand restaurants offer two courses and a glass of wine or dessert for \$40 or less (tax and gratuity not included), and are often of most value to a city's residents, who regularly dine in neighborhood restaurants.

OTHER RATINGS

All listed restaurants, regardless of their star- or Bib Gourmand-status, also receive a "fork and spoon" designation, as a subjective reflection of the overall comfort and quality of the restaurant. Rankings range from one to five: One fork and spoon represents a "comfortable restaurant" and five signifies a "luxurious restaurant." Forks and spoons colored red designate a restaurant that is considered "pleasant" as well.

Restaurants, independently of their other ratings in the guide, can also receive a number of other symbols next to their listing.

- *Coins* indicate restaurants that serve a menu for a certain price or less, depending on the local monetary standard. In 2010 France, 2011 US and Japan Red Guides, the maximum permitted "coin" prices are €19, \$25, and ¥5000, respectively.

- *Interesting view* or *Magnificent view*, designated by a black or red symbol, are given to restaurants offering those features.
- *Grapes*, a *sake set*, or a *cocktail glass* indicate restaurants that offer, at minimum, a "somewhat interesting" selection of wines, sake, or cocktails, respectively.

SELECTION PROCESS: Guide provides a comprehensive selection and rating, in all categories of comfort and prices, more than 500 restaurants and 50 hotels, in a reader-friendly layout adapted to the American market. Michelin “inspectors” – both European and American – conduct anonymous visits to restaurants and hotels. In all cases, it involves test meals or overnight stays at each establishment by Michelin inspectors, in order to assess the level and the regularity of the establishment. It awards stars just for what is on the plate. It gives a separate ranking for restaurant’s ambience and service. Guide is distributed yearly in bookstores (2018 Guide was released Oct. 2017). They are updated annually and all restaurants are re-inspected.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Restaurants send info year-round for consideration by submitting to: Attention Michelin Guide Editorial Team Michelin Guides, PO Box 19001, Greenville, SC 19001. Guides published in October each year. Send queries to michelin.guides@michelin.com.

National Geographic World Legacy Awards

CONTACT NAME: NatGeoEvents@natgeo.com

SELECTION PROCESS: The World Legacy Awards honor the companies, organizations and destinations—ranging from airlines to hotels, from communities to countries—that are driving the positive transformation of the tourism industry, showcasing leaders and visionaries in sustainable tourism best practices and sharing their stories with millions of today's travelers. An initiative of the National Geographic Society, one of the world's largest and most prestigious nonprofit scientific, educational, and travel organizations reaching more than 450 million people worldwide, in partnership with ITB Berlin, the world's largest travel gathering, the World Legacy Awards offer unprecedented international visibility and promotion. Winners and finalists will receive coverage in *National Geographic Traveler* and other National Geographic print and digital media, reaching a global audience.

CATEGORIES: Based on the three key pillars of sustainable tourism, including environmentally friendly operations, protection of natural and cultural heritage, and support for the well-being of local communities, the five World Legacy Award categories are:

- Earth Changers
Recognizing cutting-edge leadership in environmentally friendly business practices and green technology, from renewable energy and water conservation to zero-waste systems and carbon emissions reduction.
- Sense of Place
Recognizing excellence in enhancing cultural authenticity, including using vernacular architecture and design, support for the protection of historic monuments, archaeological sites, indigenous heritage, and artistic traditions.
- Conserving the Natural World
Recognizing outstanding support for the preservation of nature, including restoring natural habitat, and protecting rare and endangered species, whether on land or in the oceans.
- Engaging communities
Recognizing direct and tangible economic and social benefits that improve local livelihoods, including training and capacity building, fair wages and benefits, community development, health care, and education.

- Destination Leadership

Recognizing destination stewardship, including cities, provinces, states, countries, and regions that are demonstrating environmental best practices, protection for cultural and natural heritage, benefits to local people, and educating travelers on the principles of sustainable tourism.

SLATE FINALIZED:

They are in the process of reshaping and redefining the World Legacy Awards and have put a hold on accepting entries for 2018.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

TBD; They are in the process of reshaping and redefining the World Legacy Awards and have put a hold on accepting entries for 2018.

**Pacific Asia Travel Association
PATA Gold Awards**

CONTACT NAME:

Ms. Parita Niemwongse
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Unit B1, 28/F Siam Tower
989 Rama 1Rd
Pratumwan, Bangkok 10330
Thailand
Tel: 66-2-658-2000 # 116; Fax: 66-2-658-2010
Email: goldawards@PATA.org

CATEGORIES:

- Marketing Campaign (six Gold Awards and one Grand Award)
 - PG – Primary Government/Destination (As defined by the PATA)
 - SG – Secondary Government/Destination (State or city tourism organization)
 - AP – Allied Partner (Destination, state or city tourism organization, outside the PATA region)
 - CA – Carrier (Airline, cruise, airport, train etc.)
 - HO – Hospitality (Individual hotel, resort hotel or management company)
 - IN – Industry (Any other travel and tourism organization)
- Environment (three Gold Awards and one Grand Award)
 - EC – Ecotourism Project
 - CO – Corporate Environmental Programme
 - ED – Environmental Education Programme
- Corporate Social Responsibility
 - Heritage & Culture (two Gold Awards and one Grand Award)
 - HE – Heritage (manmade or natural cultural inheritance)
 - CU – Culture (traditional performing and visual arts)
- Education & Training (one Gold Award and one Grand Award)
- Education & Training (programme, text or curriculum)
- Marketing Media (nine Gold Awards)
 - BR – Consumer Travel Brochure
 - AD-B – Travel Advertisement Broadcast Media
 - AD-P – Travel Advertisement Print Media
 - PO – Travel Poster
 - VI – Promotional Travel Video
 - PR – Public Relations Campaign

SM- Social Media
WS – Website
EN – Promotional E-Newsletter
TJ-D – Destination Article (Consumer audience)
TJ-I – Industry Business Article (Travel trade audience)
TJ-P – Travel Photograph
TJ-G – Travel Guidebook

REQUIREMENTS:

Full details of program are available at www.PATA.org/goldawards. Sponsored by the Macao Tourism Office. An entry fee of US \$20-200 for each entry must be included.

DATE OF SUBMISSION:

Details to be announced, but submissions usually open in March through April. Award recipients will be notified in July and honored during PATA Gold Awards Lunch.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

September 14, 2018 at the PATA Travel Mart, Langkawi, Malaysia

**Reed Travel Exhibitions' World Travel Market Showcase
World Tourism Award**

- CONTACT NAME:** Karen Hoffman or Bianca Pappas
Media Relations
The Bradford Group
347 Fifth Ave. Suite 610
New York, New York 10016
Tel: 212-447-0027
Fax: 212-725-8253
karenh@bradfordglobalmarketing.com
info@bradfordglobalmarketing.com
- CRITERIA:** Submit written nomination outlining success.
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Nominations are submitted to a panel of judges.
- REQUIREMENTS:** The Award serves to recognize the extraordinary initiatives by individuals, companies, organizations, destinations and attractions, for outstanding accomplishments in "giving back" to the travel industry/sustainable tourism and local communities around the world.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** April
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Nov. 5-7, 2018, at the WTM Showcase in London

Robb Report Best of the Best

- CONTACT:** Jackie Caradonio
jackiec@robbreport.com
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- CRITERIA:** Chosen by editors who have written and/or experienced the product. The issue covers products and services that are new or have undergone renovations or other significant changes in the past year. Must not have been included in Best of the Best 2017.
- CATEGORIES:**
- Wheels
 - Style
 - Journeys
 - Leisure
 - Home
 - Wings & Water
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Listed in the June issue of Robb Report.

Smart Meetings Magazine Platinum Choice Awards

- CONTACT NAME:** Jennifer Harrington
Director of Marketing
415-339-9355
jennifer@smartmeetings.com
- CATEGORIES:** Hotels & Venues
CVBs
- CRITERIA:** A prominent benchmark in the meetings industry, the premier recognition program honors hotels, venues and destinations that demonstrate exemplary standards of excellence in service and amenities including ambience, breadth of resources, facility quality, guest services, recreational activities, dining options, technical support and more.
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Readers nominate their favorite hotels, resorts and CVBs to reward those who helped make their events a success. Smart Meetings editorial team who selected the final honorees.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** Nominations for Platinum Choice awards usually open up around July or August of each year.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners announced in October and featured in the December issue.

Corporate & Incentive Travel Magazine Award of Excellence

- CONTACT:** Harvey Grotsky, Editor-in-Chief
harvey.grotsky@themeetingmagazines.com
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- ABOUT:** Corporate & Incentive Travel magazine's AWARD OF EXCELLENCE recognizes those hotels, resorts, conference centers and convention and visitors bureaus that have demonstrated their overall commitment to excellence.
- CRITERIA:**
- Outstanding accommodations, meeting facilities and updated technology.
 - High quality food and beverage functions.
 - Superior service.
 - Excellent setups and arrangements for social functions.
 - Exceptional ambience.
 - Convenient and accessible location.
- VOTING:** The 40,000+ subscribers of Corporate & Incentive Travel are offered the opportunity to vote for hotels, resorts, conference centers and CVBs that effectively hosted their meetings and incentive travel programs based on the criteria as noted below. The ballot is announced to subscribers via email. Eligible ballots are limited to those submitted by meeting planner subscribers; and only one ballot per subscriber is accepted. Ballots from industry suppliers such as hotel properties are not accepted.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** November issue

Corporate & Incentive Travel Magazine Greens of Distinction

- CONTACT:** Harvey Grotsky, Editor-in-Chief
harvey.grotsky@themeetingmagazines.com
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- ABOUT:** Corporate & Incentive Travel magazine's GREENS OF DISTINCTION awards recognize those golf hotels, resorts and conference centers that have demonstrated their overall commitment to hospitality excellence and offer outstanding golf facilities and programs.
- CRITERIA:**
- Outstanding meeting facilities as well as golf course design, conditions and equipment.
 - Exceptional golf function setups and tournament arrangements.
 - Excellent food and beverage quality and service.
 - Helpful, friendly and expert golf staff.
 - Convenient and accessible location.
- VOTING:** The 40,000+ subscribers of Corporate & Incentive Travel are offered the opportunity to vote for those golf hotels, resorts and conference centers that effectively hosted their meetings and incentive travel programs based on the criteria as noted below. The ballot is announced via email. Eligible ballots are limited to those submitted by meeting planner subscribers; and only one ballot per subscriber is accepted. Ballots from industry suppliers such as hotel properties are not accepted.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** August issue + online

Smart Meetings Magazine Smart Star Awards

CONTACT NAME: Josef Aukee
Marketing Communications Manager & Special Products Editor
415-339-9355
josef@smartmeetings.com

CATEGORIES:

- Best Airport Hotel
- Best Attraction/Theme Park
- Best Ballroom
- Best Beach Resort
- Best Boutique/Lifestyle Hotel
- Best City Hotel
- Best Coastal Hotel
- Best Conference Center
- Best Convention Center
- Best Convention Center Hotel
- Best Cruise Line
- Best Executive Retreat
- Best Family-Friendly Hotel/Resort
- Best Gaming/Casino Hotel
- Best Golf Hotel
- Best Hotel Pool
- Best Hotel Spa
- Best Incentive Hotel
- Best Island Resort
- Best Mountain/Ski Resort
- Best Outdoor Event Space
- Best Special Event Venue

CRITERIA: One category allowed per property, online profile required.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Nominations and voting are open through Feb. 1, and winners are announced in March. Participating hotels and venues receive ¼ page profile in special section.

PRESENTATION: Winners appear in the June issue of Smart Meetings print and digital magazines. Winners are also broadcast on the Smart Meetings website for one year.

Smart Meetings Magazine
Smart Women in Meetings Awards

CONTACT NAME: Jennifer Harrington
Director of Marketing
415-339-9355
jennifer@smartmeetings.com

CRITERIA: Smart Meetings is celebrating influential women in the meetings industry, particularly talented, successful Smart Women who embody leadership, vision and progress to acknowledge their hard work and accomplishments. From leaders and innovators to entrepreneurs, doers and rising stars, the award seeks to recognize the top women in the meetings industry who not only break barriers, but shatter them.

SELECTION PROCESS: Nominees are vetted and selected internally.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Deadline: March 7.

**AWARD
PRESENTATION:** Winners notified and announced in April issue.

Southern Living South's Best Awards

CONTACT NAME: Valerie Luesse
Valerie.Luesse@timeinc.com

CRITERIA: Have a favorite unsung barbecue joint in Texas, love a charming small town in South Carolina, or want to share a classic restaurant in Louisiana? Is your city the most livable in the region? Do you have strong opinions on hotels? We're searching for the South's best – chosen by you.

No one knows the South better than our Southern Living family, so cast your vote on the places that represent the best of Southern culture and hospitality.

Vote now, and you will have the opportunity to enter a giveaway for a chance to win a Grand Prize of \$2,500 or one of three prizes of \$500.

CATEGORIES:

- Cities
- Small Towns
- BBQ Joints
- Restaurants
- Hotels
- Islands
- Breweries
- Inns
- Bars
- Resorts
- Shops
- Museums

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Voting opens in August and ends early October.

Southeast Tourism Society Shining Example Awards

CONTACT NAME:

Wendy Thomas
555 Sun Valley Drive
Suite E-5
Roswell, GA 30076
Tel: 770-542-1523
Fax: 770-542-1527
wendy@southeasttourism.org
<https://www.southeasttourism.org/meetings/shining-example>

TYPE:

Commemorative Award Lantern; publicity on behalf of selected individual or organization. Official description: "Recognizing Outstanding Contributions in Tourism in the Southeast United States."

CRITERIA:

Open to members and non-members of STS but the nominee/events must be within the 12 member states of STS. Each category has its own criteria. Submissions must be submitted online.

- Escape to the Southeast Travel Attraction of the Year
 - Category 1: Tourism Office of the Year < \$2 Million
 - Category 2: Tourism Office of the Year > \$2 Million
- State Tourism Office of the Year
- STS Top 20 Event or Festival of the Year
- Governmental Tourism Leadership Award
- Tourism for Tomorrow
- Beacon Award
- Rising Star Award
- Best Marketing Campaign
 - Category 1: Annual advertising/marketing budget < \$100,000
 - Category 2: Annual advertising/marketing budget of \$100,000 - \$499,999
 - Category 3: Annual advertising/marketing budget of \$500,000 or more
- Best Niche Marketing Campaign
- Partnership Award
- Tourism for Tomorrow Award
- Chairman of the Board Award (not open to nomination)
- Dorothy Hardman Spirit of STS Award (not open to nomination)

SELECTION PROCESS:

Final selection committee will be made up of top professionals in various sectors of the travel industry.

REQUIREMENTS:

See www.southeasttourism.org for nomination forms and requirements for each category which will be posted before the end of the year.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Nomination form and online submission will be available on the STS website. All Online Submissions are due December 31, 2017.

ELIGIBILITY: 11 Nomination Categories (14 awards) Available to STS Members & Non-Members.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Winners will be announced at the STS Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC on **April 24, 2018**.

StarChefs.com
Rising Stars Award

CONTACT NAME: editorial@starchefsinc.com
212-966-3775 ext. 119

LOCATIONS: Atlanta – February 2018
Portland – April 2018
Chicago – June 2018
Washington, D.C. – December 2018

CATEGORIES:

- Chef
- Pastry Chef
- Mixologist
- Artisan (baker, charcutiers, chocolate makers)
- Brewer
- Roaster
- Sommelier
- Rising Star Hotel Chef
- Rising Star Community Award
- Rising Star Sustainability Chef
- Rising Star Concept Award
- Rising Star Restaurateur
- Rising Star Mentor Award

SELECTION PROCESS: Rising Stars are nominated for selection by the StarChefs Advisory Board, previous Rising Stars Award winners, local food media and StarChefs editorial research and through the Website comprised of over 20 of the country's most influential chefs. Final choices are made by StarChefs editorial team. Rising Stars are up-and-coming chefs and culinary professionals who represent the vanguard of the contemporary American dining scene. They should have less than 10-years' experience as an Executive Chef and be less than 40 years old.

RESULTS: Nomination form can be found on StarChefs.com. Deadline for nomination is three months before the review. Exact review dates TBD.

Successful Meetings + Meetings & Conventions Stella Awards

- CONTACT:** Vincent Alonzo
Editor-in-Chief, Successful Meetings
valonzo@ntmlcc.com
646-380-6247
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- RESPONDENTS:** The 2018 Stella Awards are open to hotels, resorts, convention centers, conference centers, convention & visitor bureaus (CVBs), destination marketing organizations (DMOs), destination management companies (DMCs), airlines and cruise lines. Organizations may submit single or multiple entries. Honors are awarded in 18 categories celebrating overall excellence, superb food & beverage, professionalism of staff, technology innovations and other critical aspects of the meetings and event experience.
- CATEGORIES:** Regions
- Northeast: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington, D.C.
- Southeast: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee.
- Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin.
- Southwest: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah.
- Far West: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming.
- International and U.S. Territories: In addition to other overseas destinations, international includes Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.
- CRITERIA/VOTING:** Eligible organizations include hotels, convention centers, airlines, cruise lines, DMO/CVBs and DMCs. Organizations may submit single or multiple entries. Finalists in each category are determined by industry professionals during an open voting period, while winners will be selected by an expert panel of judges overseen by the editors

of [Northstar Meetings Group](#)'s leading brands, [Meetings & Conventions](#) and [Successful Meetings](#).

Public voting will be open from May 7, 2018 through June 15, 2018.
Judging will be finalized on August 10, 2018.

To vote, guests can visit www.stella-awards.com.

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

Winners will be announced November 5, 2018.

Travel + Leisure It List

- CONTACT NAME:** Sara Clemence, sara.clemence@timeinc.com
Edited by Sara Clemence, Jacqueline Gifford, and Nikki Ekstein
- CRITERIA:** Travel + Leisure recognizes the top 70 best new hotels that have opened across the world over the last year. The 70 IT List properties appear in the print issue, online at Travelandleisure.com and in the iPad edition.
- CATEGORIES:** Hotels
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Winners are selected by Travel + Leisure editorial staff and consist of brand new hotels (or major renovations/re-openings) from the year prior. The editors select from feedback of staff and freelancers who visit the property anonymously and pay for the visit.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Runs online in Feb. and in print in March.

Travel Weekly
Magellan Awards – Honoring the Best in the Travel Industry

CONTACTS: Tel: 212-675-3555
Email: customerservice@travelweeklyawards.com

FREQUENCY: Annual

RESPONDENTS: From design to marketing to services, The Travel Weekly Magellan Awards honors the best in travel and salutes the outstanding travel professionals behind it all.

CATEGORIES:

- Hospitality
- Travel Destinations
- Cruise Lines
- Online Travel Services
- Airlines and Airports
- Travel Agents and Agencies
- Tour Operators
- Ground transportation

For more information and to download an entry form, visit www.travelweeklyawards.com.

ELIGIBILITY: The Travel Weekly Magellan Awards is open to all organizations and individuals involved in marketing, design or operations in the Travel Industry. Entrants may provide materials (including pictures and images; video content; print materials; URLs; descriptive text) to demonstrate to the judges why they are the best in their industry.

Entries are submitted using the Travel Weekly online entry system, a simple and easy process.

SELECTION PROCESS: Our winners are only chosen by the best names and most qualified judges in the industry. In determining winners, entries do not compete with one another, instead they are judged against a standard of excellence based on the long experience of Travel Weekly and considering the category entered. To uphold a high standard of excellence, a category may have multiple winners, or may have no winners at all. Entries are evaluated on a 100 point performance scale. The highest scoring entries will be selected as winners of Gold Magellan Awards, our very top honor. Other outstanding entries will be awarded the Silver Magellan Award.

PRESENTATION OF

RESULTS:

Judging for the Travel Weekly Magellan Awards will be completed in August with winners announced in late September. Entrants will also be notified of their entry's status by email or post in early September.

Winners will also be featured in an issue of Travel Weekly in October that will include a special section dedicated to this year's winners.

TravelMole

UK TravelMole Web Awards

CONTACT NAME: Sales Department
sales_uk@travelmole.com

CATEGORIES:

- Best Accommodation Site (over 20 rooms)
- Best Airline Site
- Best Branded Site
- Best Car Hire Site
- Best Cruise/Ferry Site
- Best Rail Operator Site
- Best Responsible Tourism Site
- Best Sports Travel & Tourism Site
- Best Tour Operator Site
- Best Tourist Board Site
- Best Travel Agent Site
- Best Travel Blog
- Best Travel Directory Site
- Best Travel Recruitment Site
- Best Use of Social Media
- Best Holiday Miscellaneous
- Best Trade Accommodation Only Site

SELECTION PROCESS: Nominations are accepted through September. The shortlist, chosen by judges completely independent of TravelMole, is announced in November. Readers can typically vote in a designated period between October and December. Winners are announced at a final ceremony TBA.

CRITERIA: The UK TravelMole Web Awards focus not on the travel Companies, but on the websites, social media, mobile and technology that represent those businesses. They are looking for what represent the best online practice that demonstrate excellence in content, flow, usability and engagement, and the best examples of strategies and techniques for enhanced marketing and conversion.

“The Annual TravelMole UK Awards aim to recognize the best of web, social, mobile and technology in the travel industry.”

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Winners are presented at a ceremony in London in January - exact date yet to be set.

U.S. News & World Report

Best Vacations, Best Hotels, Best Cruises & Best Rewards Programs

CONTACT NAME: Hannah Cheney | Assistant Travel Editor
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Washington, DC 20007 | 202-955-2103 | hcheney@usnews.com
Website: travel.usnews.com | Twitter: [@hannahlcheney](https://twitter.com/hannahlcheney)

OVERVIEW: U.S. News & World Report is a reputable American news magazine first published in 1933. It was a competitor to Time and Newsweek, but with the demise of print news, it went completely digital in 2011. It known for its ranking system and annual reports on American colleges, graduate schools and hospitals, but entered the travel ranking game in the past few years with an initial regional focus on USA, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean. The U.S. News awards are released annually at the time the rankings are updated.

SELECTION PROCESS: Each ranking takes into account the aggregate opinion of published travel experts and the overall customer satisfaction expressed in guest reviews across the Web. The highest-ranking vacations, hotels, cruises and rewards programs are those that experts and users alike recognize for exceptional quality. For more information, please visit <http://travel.usnews.com/Rankings/>.

- **Hotel Rankings**

Each hotel's rank is dependent upon several factors, including awards & recognition received, hotel class and guest rating. Specific awards categories include: U.S. News Hotel Awards, Best Resorts and Best Hotels in Europe.

- **Vacation Rankings**

U.S. News vacation rankings are based on user score (50%) and editors score (50%). Ranking list qualifiers include seasonality, seasonal breakdown, affordability and category distinction.

Note: The majority of destinations included in the rankings are places U.S. News has covered with travel guides.

- **Things to Do Rankings**

U.S. News rankings of things to do are based on our editors' analysis of expert opinions and user recommendations from a wide variety of websites. Rankings are computed on the basis of an overall consensus score, taking the following into account: Overall Level of Recommendation (50 percent weight), Value (20 percent weight), Atmosphere (15 percent weight), Facilities / Food Scene, as appropriate (15 percent weight).

- **Travel Rewards Programs Rankings**

U.S. News Travel ranks 17 loyalty programs associated with major hotel brands that have at least 50 properties in the United States. For a loyalty program to appear on the list, it must allow potential members to join without any prerequisites. Each hotel program's Overall Score is computed using an algorithm that comprises the following components: Ease of Earning Free Night (45 percent weight), Additional Benefits (25 percent weight), Geographic Coverage (15 percent weight), Number of Hotels in Network (10 percent weight), Property Diversity (5 percent weight).

- **Cruise Rankings**

To rank the best cruise ships and cruise lines, U.S. News uses the following scoring components: Expert Rating (30 percent weight), Traveler Rating (50 percent weight), Health Rating (20 percent weight). Each cruise ship and cruise line's placement on our traveler type cruise rankings takes into account Traveler Type, Region and Price Class. Cruise lines are ranked in six categories: Best Luxury Cruise Lines, Best Cruise Lines for the Money, Best Cruise Lines for Couples, Best Cruise Lines for Families, Best Cruise Lines in the Caribbean and Best Cruise Lines in the Mediterranean.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: No submissions; ongoing data collection

ELIGIBILITY: U.S. News Travel ranks 17 loyalty programs associated with major hotel brands that have at least 50 properties in the United States. For a loyalty program to appear on the list, it must allow potential members to join without any prerequisites. U.S. News and World Report only ranks cruise ships within 17 of their most popular ocean cruise lines. The majority of destinations included in the rankings are places U.S. News covers with in-depth travel guides.

U.S. Travel Association Award Programs Destinations Council Rising Star Award

- CONTACT NAME:** Veronica Nalbandian
vnalbandian@ustravel.org
Tel: 202-218-3604
- CRITERIA:** With the Rising Star Award, the Destinations Council aims to recognize individuals making an exceptional impact in the destination marketing arena.
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Candidates for this award must be nominated by another member of his/her DMO. All entries are reviewed and the winner selected by a nominating committee. The next call for Rising Star Award nominations will be in May or June 2018.
- ELIGIBILITY:** The ideal candidate for the Destinations Council Rising Star is a professional who works within a DMO, has three of experience or less in the industry and is creating positive change in an always-changing industry – regardless of experience.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** The winner will be announced at ESTO which will take place August 11-14, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ.

**U.S. Travel Association
National Council of Destination Organization (NCDO)
Destiny Awards**

CONTACT NAME: Veronica Nalbandian
vnalbandian@ustravel.org
Tel: 202-218-3604

CATEGORIES:

- Branding and Integrated Marketing Campaign: Destination Marketing Budget \$1 Million to \$2.5 Million
- Branding and Integrated Marketing Campaign: Destination Marketing Budget \$2.5 Million to \$5 Million
- Branding and Integrated Marketing Campaign: Destination Marketing Budget \$5 Million to \$10 Million
- Destination Website
- Digital Campaign
- International Marketing
- Niche Targeting
- Public Relations Campaign
- Printed Collateral Materials
- Short-Term Marketing Campaign
- Social Media Campaign
- Special Projects
- Judges' Choice

CRITERIA: The Destinations Council Destiny Award program recognizes U.S. Travel destination members for excellence and creative accomplishment in destination marketing and promotion at the local and regional level; and foster the development of imaginative and innovative destination marketing promotion programs and activities.

SELECTION PROCESS: Candidates submit information to a committee of judges who determine how the marketing programs and special projects met their stated objectives.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: The entry period for the next Destinations Council Destiny Awards begins in May or June 2018.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: The winner will be announced at ESTO which will take place August 11-14, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ.

**U.S. Travel Association
National Council of State Tourism Directors'
Mercury Awards**

CONTACT NAME: Veronica Nalbandian
vnalbandian@ustravel.org
Tel: 202-218-3604

CATEGORIES:

- Branding and Integrated Marketing Campaign: State Marketing Budget Less Than \$10 Million
- Branding and Integrated Marketing Campaign: State Marketing Budget More Than \$15 Million
- Broadcast Advertising: Television
- Co-Op Marketing
- Digital Campaign
- Niche Targeting
- Public Relations Campaign
- Printed Collateral Materials
- Social Media Campaign
- Special Projects
- Travel Website
- Judges' Choice

CRITERIA:

The Mercury Awards recognize members for excellence and creative accomplishment in state destination marketing and promotion; and inspire, through showcasing outstanding work, the continued development of imaginative and exciting marketing and promotional programs. The [Mercury Awards](#) are given to state tourism offices by the [National Council of State Tourism Directors](#) (NCSTD).

SELECTION PROCESS:

Candidates submit information to a committee of judges who determine how the marketing programs and special projects met their stated objectives.

DATE OF SUBMISSION:

The entry period for the next NCSTD Mercury Awards begins in May or June 2018.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

The winner will be announced at ESTO which will take place August 11-14, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ.

U.S. Travel Association
State Tourism Director of the Year Award

CONTACT NAME: Veronica Nalbandian
vnalbandian@ustravel.org
Tel: 202-218-3604

CRITERIA: The State Tourism Director of the Year Award honors a tourism director that has clearly influenced the obvious and measurable improvement of a state's "travel and tourism profile" with his/her leadership. Each year, such success is measured in relationship to the amount of money and staff that the director has at his/her disposal.

SELECTION PROCESS: Candidates are nominated by other state tourism directors and a slate of three finalists is presented for selection by ballot.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Call for nominations is typically in May or June.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: The winner will be announced at ESTO which will take place August 11-14, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ.

VIRTUOSO LIFE Magazine
Best of the Best Virtuoso Awards

CONTACT:

Marika Cain
Managing Editor
mcain@virtuoso.com

Misty Ewing Belles
Director of Global Public Relations
mewing@virtuoso.com

FREQUENCY:

Annual

SELECTION PROCESS:

Nominees are announced in June. These nominees represent the highest standards in their given category with only 55 properties under consideration for the awards. Editors of VIRTUOSO LIFE Magazine review numerous submissions from members of the Virtuoso network and research hundreds of properties to select the award nominees. Virtuoso's travel advisors lend their experience and first-hand accounts to the voting process, as they determine the winners in each category. To have your client considered, they will need to work directly with their account representative within Virtuoso. In the early part of the year (February-March timeframe), the hotel should reach out to their account person with news and information that supports a potential nomination in a given category. The account person can help shepherd their cause through the internal channels, as the Best of the Best Awards are a joint effort between the Virtuoso Life editorial team and the Global Product Partnership team.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Winners are revealed at the Hotels & Resorts dinner in mid-August. VIRTUOSO LIFE Magazine features the Best of the Best winners in its September/October issue.

VIBE Vista Awards

CRITERIA: The VIBE Vista Awards recognizes top performance in the Multi Unit Chain Restaurants and Hotel, Cruise Lines and Casinos categories. The awards highlight programs and promotions which create positive initiatives that spark beverage sales, innovations that contribute to operational efficiencies and training and service programs that lead to the highest quality standards and operational practices.

CATEGORIES: **Hotels, Cruise Lines and Casinos:**

- Best Beer
- Best Beverage Menu
- Best Wine
- Best Spirits
- Best Alcohol Free Program
- Responsible Beverage Alcohol Service
- Best Promotion
- Best Single Event
- Best Overall

*Same categories apply to Multi-Unit Chain Restaurants

DEADLINE: Applications can be found on <http://awards.vibeconference.com>. They open early September and close early-November.

SELECTION PROCESS: All submissions are reviewed by a panel of Johnson & Wales University beverage faculty, staff and alumni.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Winners announced during VIBE Conference held each February.

VISIT FLORIDA The Flagler Awards

- CONTACT:** Kevin Hayworth
flaglerawards@visitflorida.org
<https://flaglerawards.secure-platform.com>
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- ABOUT:** The Flagler Awards is an annual statewide competition recognizing outstanding Florida tourism marketing. The program was created by VISIT FLORIDA to honor the countless individuals and organizations that help position Florida as the No. 1 travel destination in the world. Each year the Flagler Awards pay tribute to the determined efforts of those who use their skill, resourcefulness, creativity and innovative spirit to market Florida to the world.
- CRITERIA:** The Flagler Awards are open to any Florida-based company, association, non-profit organization offering a product or service that promotes tourism to Florida. Do not have to be a VISIT FLORIDA partner to enter. (Public Relations and Advertising)
- CATEGORIES:**
- Tourism Advocacy
 - Creativity in Public Relations
 - Special Event
 - Niche Marketing
 - Resource/Promotional Material-Trade
 - Resource/Promotional Material Consumer
 - Direct Marketing
 - Out-of-Home
 - Print Advertising
 - Websites
 - Internet Advertising
 - Mobile Marketing
 - Social Media Marketing
 - Radio Advertising
 - Television Advertising
 - Mixed Media Campaign
 - Rural County Marketing
 - Best of Show:
 - (Under 100K)
 - (\$100K to \$1M)
 - (Over \$1M)
- REQUIREMENTS:** Complete set of entry guidelines available on Web site (available in Jan/Feb of each year). All work entered must have first been used between Jan. 1–Dec. 31 of previous year.

ENTRY DEADLINE: There is a three-week entry period each year in the spring.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Award presented at a presentation gala in early fall.

Wine Enthusiast
America's Best 100 Wine Restaurants

CONTACT:

Lauren Buzzeo
Managing Editor
Wine Enthusiast Magazine
914-345-9463 x4613
lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net

FREQUENCY:

Annual

SELECTION PROCESS:

Voting is done by an international panel of judges chosen by Wine Enthusiast.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Results are announced in June and published in the August issue.

Wine Enthusiast
Best of Year: Enthusiast 100, Top 50 Spirits & Top 25 Beers
Top 100 Cellar Selections

CONTACT: Lauren Buzzeo
Managing Editor
Wine Enthusiast Magazine
914-345-9463 x4613
lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net

FREQUENCY: Annual

RESPONDENTS: Voting is done by an internal panel of judges chosen by Wine Enthusiast.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Results are published in December 31 (or “Best of the Year”) issue.

Wine Enthusiast
40 Under 40: America's Tastemakers

CONTACT: Lauren Buzzeo
Managing Editor
Wine Enthusiast Magazine
914-345-9463 x4613
lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net

FREQUENCY: Annual

RESPONDENTS: Voting is done by an internal panel of judges chosen by Wine Enthusiast.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Results are published in the October issue.

**Wine Enthusiast
Top 100 Best Buys**

CONTACT:

Lauren Buzzeo
Managing Editor
Wine Enthusiast Magazine
914-345-9463 x4613
lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net

FREQUENCY:

Annual

RESPONDENTS:

Voting is done by an internal panel of judges chosen by Wine Enthusiast.

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

Results are published in the November issue.

Wine Enthusiast
Top 10 Wine Travel Destinations

CONTACT: Lauren Buzzeo
Managing Editor
Wine Enthusiast Magazine
914-345-9463 x4613
lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net

FREQUENCY: Annual

RESPONDENTS: Voting is done by an internal panel of judges chosen by Wine Enthusiast.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Results are published in the February issue.

Wine Spectator Restaurant Wine List Awards

CONTACT NAME: restaurantawards@mshanken.com

TYPE: Listed in Wine Spectator August issue. Award certificate for dining room follows.

CRITERIA: Wine Spectator's Restaurant Awards recognize restaurants whose wine lists offer interesting selections, are appropriate to their cuisine and appeal to a wide range of wine lovers.

Award of Excellence

2,335 winners

These wine lists, which typically offer at least 90 selections, feature a well-chosen assortment of quality producers, along with a thematic match to the menu in both price and style. Whether compact or extensive, focused or diverse, these lists deliver sufficient choice to satisfy discerning wine lovers.

Best of Award of Excellence

1,168 winners

These wine lists display excellent breadth across multiple winegrowing regions and/or significant vertical depth of top producers, along with superior presentation. Typically offering 350 or more selections, these restaurants are destinations for serious wine lovers, showing a deep commitment to wine, both in the cellar and through their service team.

Grand Award

87 winners

Our highest award, given to restaurants that show an uncompromising, passionate devotion to the quality of their wine programs. These wine lists typically feature 1,000 or more selections, and deliver serious breadth of top producers, outstanding depth in mature vintages, a selection of large-format bottles, excellent harmony with the menu, and superior presentation. These restaurants offer the highest level of wine service.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Early bird entries are accepted from December 1 to December 31, and regular entries are accepted through February 1. New details and an FAQ for submitting entries can be found [here](#) and the online application for new entries can be found [here](#). All award winners will be notified by mail in May and will be listed in the August 31 issue of magazine. Order extra copies [here](#).

ELIGIBILITY: Everything you need to know to enter is found [here](#). Entries submitted before December 31 will receive an “early bird” discount submission

fee of \$350; entries submitted January 1 to February 1 will pay a regular fee of \$400.

Working Mother Magazine

Working Mother 100 Best Companies

- CONTACT:** Krista Carothers, Executive Research Editor
Tel: 347-751-3112
krista.carothers@workingmother.com
www.wmmsurveys.com
- CATEGORIES:** Six areas are assessed: workforce profile, paid time off and leaves, benefits and child care, women's issues and advancement, flexible work, and company culture and work life programs.
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Go to www.wmmsurveys.com; complete online registration to receive application. Application includes some 400 questions on six assessment areas. It also surveys usage, availability and tracking of programs as well as accountability of managers who oversee them.
- The award promotes the interests of working mothers in corporate America by honoring companies that successfully help employees integrate home and work.
- All applicants receive feedback comparison to all other applicants; however, names of applicants not making the list remain confidential.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** The online application for the 2018 Working Mother 100 Best Companies is available December 11, 2017 and is due in March 16, 2018. Register at www.workingmother.com/surveys. The 2018 Working Mother 100 Best Companies list will be announced in the October/November 2018 issue of *Working Mother Magazine* and on workingmother.com. Winning companies will also be celebrated at the WorkBeyond Summit in October 2018, to be held in New York City.
- ELIGIBILITY:** Your company is eligible to apply to the Working Mother 100 Best Companies survey if it meets the following eligibility requirements
1. Your company must have a minimum of 500 employees in the United States.
 2. Your company must offer at least one week of fully paid maternity leave (this includes disability pay, but does not include any type of accrued or banked time off) to all female full-time exempt employees who have been with the company for one year or more. If you have any questions about this requirement, please contact surveysupport@workingmother.com.
 3. Your company must offer some type of flex benefits.
 4. The following organizations are NOT eligible to apply: Divisions of companies and companies in the business of providing work-life services or consulting (e.g. childcare or flexibility) and government agencies (taxation and revenue departments, motor vehicle bureaus,

military, legislatures, executive branches, judiciaries, prosecutorial offices, etc.).

Public or private companies are invited to apply, including companies, corporations, and autonomous subsidiaries that offer their own benefits program and report to their own CEO.

World Travel Awards

CONTACT NAME:

Amiee Smith
+44-0-20-7925 0000
awards@worldtravelawards.com
amiee.smith@worldtravelawards.com
www.worldtravelawards.com

SELECTION PROCESS:

Note: Information will be released January 2018. 2017 information:
Voting is cast by travel agents in over 200 countries around the world. Geographical categories are broken down from the Whole World category into eight regional areas – Africa, Asia, Australasia, Caribbean, Central America, Europe, Indian Ocean, Middle East, North America and South America. Votes can be cast online at the World Travel Awards website.

ELIGIBILITY:

Note: Information will be released January 2018. 2017 information:
Candidates for nomination are based upon the previous year's voting or you can nominate yourself by completing the form online, www.worldtravelawards.com. Nomination process details and rules for entry may be found [here](#).

ENTRY FEES:

Note: Information will be released January 2018. 2017 information:
Country/Sub-Region Categories: 399 Euros
Regional Categories: 499 Euros

DATE OF SUBMISSION:

Note: Information will be released January 2018. 2017 information:
Asia and Australasia region deadline January 31.
Europe deadline February 28.
Africa,, Caribbean, Central America, Indian Ocean, Middle East, North and South America regions deadline March 14.
Travel Technology deadline July 31.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Note: Information will be released January 2018. 2017 information:
The regional winners over the year will come together to compete in the Grand Final in November.

World Travel & Tourism Council Tourism for Tomorrow Awards

Note: 2018 submissions closed Nov. 14, 2017; 2019 applications will open fall 2018

CONTACT NAME: Kmar Makni, Tourism for Tomorrow Manager
kmar.makni@wttc.org / +44-0-207-481-8007

<http://www.wttc.org/tourism-for-tomorrow-awards/apply/>

CATEGORIES: **Destination Award** – The Destination Award is about the places where tourism takes place. Typically this will mean a region, state, city, town or national park that is working to create greater sustainability through its Travel & Tourism sector. The award can be for destinations that have worked exceptionally in any aspect of sustainability i.e. economically, socially, culturally, environmentally or politically. Applicants may include national, regional or local authorities, NGOs, businesses, or community organizations on behalf of the destination.

Destination Award Criteria: This award aims to celebrate excellence in destination stewardship, and while the following list is not exhaustive, it is anticipated that destinations be able to demonstrate;

- Exceptional destination management practices
- High level government commitment to destination management
- Policies for destination management embedded across the organization
- Evidence of significant investment in destination management activities
- Creation of a sense of place and an attractive destination for tourists
- Wide engagement from local businesses in destination management
- Strong systems of governance

Environment Award – The Environment Award is for any Travel & Tourism organization that is working to improve the natural environment through its practices. The award can be for an organization that has worked exceptionally to improve bio-diversity, promote conservation, minimize use of scarce resources or developed mitigation and adaptation strategies for climate change. This award aims to celebrate the force for good tourism can be for the environment, and while the following list is not exhaustive, it is anticipated that an organization be able to demonstrate

Environment Award Criteria:

- Exceptional environmental benefits from its practices

- Board level commitment to environmental issues
- Policies for environmental management embedded across the organization
- Evidence of investment in green technologies
- Development of programs of behaviour change amongst guests, staff and suppliers
- Environmental supply chain management

Community Award – The Community Award is for any Travel & Tourism organization that is working to improve the lives and opportunities for communities where it operates. The award can be for an organization that has worked exceptionally to enhance the capacity of the community, for community engagement, to provide health and education facilities, for the empowerment of local people and increasing the spread of benefits. This award aims to celebrate the force for good tourism can be for the local population, and while the following list is not exhaustive, it is anticipated that an organization be able to demonstrate;

Community Award Criteria:

- Exceptional community engagement
- Board level commitment to community issues
- Policies for community engagement embedded across the organization
- Evidence of significant investment in creating and maintaining community projects
- Helping to maintain a sense of place and cultural heritage
- Supporting direct local employment and local supply chains

People Award – The People Award is for any Travel & Tourism organization, or partnership of organizations that are working to improve the career opportunities for people within the Travel & Tourism sector. The award can be for organizations that have worked exceptionally to enhance the capacity of individuals and groups of people to enter the Travel & Tourism sector, to aid the recruitment and retention of underrepresented groups, to develop skills for those already employed to advance in the sector and to offer fair employment practices.

People Award Criteria:

This award aims to celebrate the force for good tourism can be for the people it employs, and while the following list is not exhaustive, it is anticipated that organizations be able to demonstrate;

- Exceptional human resource management for the Travel & Tourism sector
- Board level commitment to human resource issues
- Policies for developing people embedded across the organization

- Evidence of significant investment in creating and maintaining education/training/staff development
- The development of skills for those already employed to advance in the sector and to offer fair employment practices

Innovation Award – The Innovation Award aims to identify future solutions to current sustainability challenges. The kind of innovation can relate to the process, product, delivery or financing of the approach, but it should be new to the world and not simply new to an organization or destination. The award can be for projects that have worked exceptionally to develop an innovative solution to problems such as mitigating impact on climate change, reducing demands on scarce resources, promoting bio-diversity or improving health and well-being. Applicants must be able to demonstrate the cutting-edge features of their project.

Innovation Award Criteria:

This award aims to celebrate the creativity and innovation that will influence the Travel & Tourism sector and while the following list is not exhaustive, it is anticipated that organizations be able to demonstrate:

- Exceptional creativity and innovation for the Travel & Tourism sector
- The nature and significance of the problem the innovation has addressed
- The benefits for sustainability from the innovation
- The scalability of the innovation
- The replicability of the innovation

SELECTION PROCESS: See <http://bit.ly/2gh0iAG> for details.

REQUIREMENTS:

Full list of requirements: <http://bit.ly/2gh0iAG>

- Creates economic benefits for the destination
- Creates environmental benefits for the destination
- Creates social and cultural benefits for the destination, including gender equality
- Engages tourists with the people and the places they visit to create an excellent experience
- Demonstrates leadership through active engagement with the media and wider tourism community to promote and encourage sustainable tourism best practice
- Engages residents and employees in the sustainable management of Travel & Tourism in the destination
- Measures, monitors and reports on environmental and social impacts
- Applies an appropriate policy for climate change adaptation and mitigation

ELIGIBILITY:

See <http://bit.ly/2gh0iAG> for details. All companies/organizations must

have been in operation for at least THREE full years and the sustainable tourism project/initiative submitted for consideration must have been in operation for at least ONE full year. There is no minimum length of time for applicants to the innovation category to have been in operation.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Winners and finalists of the Awards are recognized by a panel of internationally acclaimed sustainable tourism judges; they receive free flights and accommodations to attend a glamorous awards ceremony which will be held during WTTC's Global Summit location (TBD) and they benefit from outstanding international media exposure.

Video of award ceremony here:

[http://www.wttc.org/tourism-for-tomorrow-awards/apply/.](http://www.wttc.org/tourism-for-tomorrow-awards/apply/)

ZAGAT 30 Under 30 Awards

- AWARD:** National award given to 30 food and beverage individuals under the age of 30. Awards are posted online on the Zagat Website: www.zagat.com
- ELIGIBILITY:** Qualifications are the following: must be under 30 years of age, be currently working at a restaurant / cafe / bar / brewery / distillery / farm / bakery, etc.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** From January 2018 - March 2018, Zagat will hold an open call for nominations. Zagat editors then vet the nominations from their readers, local editors, previous honorees and industry insiders to narrow the list to 60 potential honorees. In June, the editors then cut that list to 45 finalists
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners will be announced September 2018 on the Zagat Website.

SURVEYS

Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report Readers' Survey

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Survey distributed in May or June to members only, requesting readers to select their favorite hotels and cruise lines for Andrew Harper's Readers' Choice Awards.

CATEGORIES: Hideaways, city hotels, safari lodges, beach resorts, spa resorts, golf resorts, food and wine resorts, family resorts, cruise lines

ELIGIBILITY: Any property/cruise line can be nominated by a reader for this survey. As the survey is exclusive, editors at Andrew Harper do not typically notify organizations individually when the survey is distributed to control distribution of survey just to their members.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Announced in the September issue of Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report. The complete list can be found by visiting www.AndrewHarper.com

Bon Appétit Annual Restaurant Issue

FREQUENCY: Annual

RESPONDENTS: Internal panel chooses what restaurants will be featured with additional digital only content. [See The Hot 10 2017.](#)

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Favorite restaurants and recipes are announced August 15th and published in the September issue. Results are widely publicized to consumers.

Celebrated Living Magazine
“Platinum List” Readers’ Survey

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| FREQUENCY: | Annual online curated survey |
| RESPONDENTS: | Public voting in May |
| CATEGORIES: | This special issue highlights the best in luxury travel today across a variety of categories such as hotels, golf, spas and cruises as selected by international judges and discerning passengers. |
| PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: | Winners announced in a special Platinum List issue in September. |

**Condé Nast Traveler
The 100 Best Cruise Ships**

CONTACT:

David Jefferys
Editor, Service & Surveys
david_jefferys@condenast.com

Conde Nast Traveler
One World Trade Center, 27th Floor
New York, NY 10007
Tel: 212-286-2397

FREQUENCY:

Annual - part of Readers' Choice Awards survey

RESPONDENTS:

Condé Nast Traveler readers rank the best cruise lines in the world in the Readers' Choice Awards survey, including large ships (more than 2,500 passengers), medium ships (500 to 2,500 passengers), small ships (fewer than 500 passengers), and river cruises

PRESENTATION OF

RESULTS:

Mid-October. Results are widely publicized to consumer media.

Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards

- CONTACT:** David Jefferys
Associate Service & Surveys Editor
david_jefferys@condenast.com
- Conde Nast Traveler
One World Trade Center, 27th Floor
New York, NY 10007
TEL: 212-286-2397
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- RESPONDENTS:** The Reader's Choice Survey is online and was open from April 1 to July 1, 2016 at www.condenasttraveler.com/vote. *2017 dates tbd
- CATEGORIES:** *(Subject to change)*
Golf Resorts
Properties
Cities
Islands
Cruise Lines
Transportation – Airlines, Cruise Lines
Hotels
- CRITERIA** **How it works:**
www.cntraveler.com/story/how-do-the-readers-choice-awards-work.
- Readers are asked to vote on the world's best establishments taking location, rooms, and service, ambience/design, food and leisure facilities into consideration. The average median age of Readers' Choice Awards voters dropped from the late-60s to upper-40s in 2016.
- Readers rate candidates, criterion by criterion. Criterion scores, which represent the percentage of respondents rating a candidate excellent or very good, are averaged to determine the final score. For example average of scores for activities, atmosphere/ambience, beaches, friendliness, lodging, restaurants and scenery.
- RESULTS:** November issue/cover story. Results are widely publicized to consumer media.
- NOTE:** Gold List always appears in the January issue and is derived from the Reader's Choice Survey. The Gold List always features accommodations and includes ratings.

NOTE ABOUT CNT SEAL:

CNT now charges for use of the CNT World's Reader's Choice Seal:

- Advertising: \$4,000 (print, television & radio mentions, digital)
- Print Marketing: \$2,500 (brochures, pamphlets, internal/consumer usages)
- Online Marketing: \$2,500 (website, commerce site, mobile, email blasts, etc.)
- Display Marketing: \$1,500 (in-store displays, shelf talkers, etc.)

Condé Nast Traveler Spa Awards

CONTACT:

David Jefferys
Associate Service & Surveys Editor
david_jefferys@condenast.com

Conde Nast Traveler
One World Trade Center, 27th Floor
New York, NY 10007
Tel: 212-286-2397

FREQUENCY:

Annual

RESPONDENTS:

The Reader's Choice Survey is online and was open from April 1 to July 1, 2016 at www.condenasttraveler.com/vote. *2017 dates tbd
Each spa is judged on treatments, staff and facilities.

CATEGORIES:

- Hotel Spas – U.S.
- Resort Spas – U.S.
- Resort Spas – Caribbean
- Resort Spas – Hawaii
- Cruise Ship Spas

All subscribers will receive an email inviting them to take the survey. Readers are also invited to take the Readers' Choice survey in the March issue. The survey is promoted on the website as well.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Online in January. Results are widely publicized to consumer media.

Convention South Reader's Choice Awards

- CONTACT:** Ashley Osborne
aosborne@conventionsouth.com
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- RESPONDENTS:** Readers and fans can vote online, and the top 300 meeting sites and destinations are chosen, based on number of votes.
- CATEGORIES:** Winners are divided into states including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia & DC.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Online in October and December Annual Awards Issue.

Convention South Top Adventure Resorts

CONTACT:

Kayla Head
Marketing & Communications Manager
akhead@coverypubs.com
251-968-7023

FREQUENCY:

Annual (2017 was first year)

RESPONDENTS:

In late February, ConventionSouth editors compile a Facebook ballot with a list of 51 resorts that exceed expectations by offering meeting and event attendees fun and exciting activities that add adventure to their meetings experience. From those 51 “Adventure Resorts”, ConventionSouth readers and Facebook fans are asked to vote for their top picks and the 15 with the most votes are selected.

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

May print and digital issues

Gayot
Top 40 Restaurants in the US

- CONTACT:** Nick Winfrey
nicholas.winfrey@gayot.com
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- RESPONDENTS:** Gayot's rating system works with the highest possible score being 20 (based on the system of grading students in France). The rankings reflect only Gayot's opinion of the food. The décor, service, ambience and wine list are commented upon within each review.
- CATEGORIES:** The categories for 2017 have not been finalized; sample categories include:
Top 40 Restaurants in the U.S.
Top 10 New Restaurants
Top 10 Cheap Eats
Top 10 Steakhouses
Top 10 Wine Lists
Best Female Chefs
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners announced in the February Annual Restaurant Issue.

**Meetings + Incentive Travel (Canada)
Readers' Choice Awards**

CONTACT:

Lori Smith
lori@newcom.ca
Tel: 416-614-5819

FREQUENCY:

Annual

DESCRIPTION:

Readers' Choice Awards are determined through a call for nominations. The call for nominations is sent to readers via email and is also available on the website, www.meetingscanada.com.

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

Winners are announced/presented in the November/December issue.

Ski Magazine
Top 50 Resorts in North America

CONTACT NAME: Samantha Berman, Travel Editor
sberman@aimmedia.com
www.skinet.com

CATEGORIES: Best in North America
Best Resorts in the West
Best Resorts in the East

Additional categories include character, scenery, variety, grooming, service, lodging, dining, access, lifts, challenge, and family programs.

SELECTION PROCESS: Chosen by editors with influence from a reader survey.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Results are announced in September. The full survey and rankings are published in the October issue.

**Travel + Leisure
World's Best Awards**

- NOMINATIONS:** Nominations end Dec. 1; Contact Jacqueline Gifford, Senior Editor, to nominate; jacqueline.gifford@travandleisure.
- VOTING:** To see if nominated and to vote, visit <https://wba.m-rr.com>. Voting takes place Nov. through March 5, 2018. Each person/email can only vote once.
- PERTINENT CATEGORIES:** Cities; Islands; Hotels; Cruise Lines; Destination Spas; Transportation; Tours & Safaris; Videos
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Online in July; Print in August.

Travel Weekly Readers Choice Awards

- RESPONDENTS:** Travel Weekly readers are invited to cast their votes to determine finalists. The open ballot phase of the voting was conducted July 31-Sept. 1. Readers were invited to write in the names of any company they believed best exemplified that particular category. The leading vote recipients were identified as finalists, and voting on finalists took place from Sept. 25-Nov. 3.
- CATEGORIES:** There are 78 categories, representing the best of the best of the travel industry, in the airline, car, hospitality, rail, GDS, agent education, tour, cruise, destination and theme park sectors.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Finalists featured in an early Dec. issue to Travel Weekly. Winners revealed at an even mid-December and featured in an upcoming January issue.
- CONTACT:** Bruce Shulman, Sr. VP/Group Publisher
bshulman@travelweekly.com