

2019 AWARDS & SURVEYS

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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 Event Style Awards](#)
[Bon Appétit Annual Restaurant Issue](#)
[Boutique Design The Boutique 18: Designers of the Next Generation](#)
[Boutique Design In Conjunction with HX: The Hotel Experience; BDNY; Hospitality Media Group Gold Key Awards for Excellence in Hospitality Design](#)
[Budget Travel America's Coolest Small Towns](#)
[Condé Nast Traveler Gold List](#)
[Condé Nast Traveler Hot List](#)
[Corporate & Incentive Travel Magazine Award of Excellence](#)
[Corporate & Incentive Travel Magazine Greens of Distinction](#)
[Fodor's Hotel Awards](#)
[Food & Wine Magazine Best New Chefs](#)
[Forbes Travel Guide: Verified Lists Series](#)
[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](#)
[HSMIA: 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](#)

[International Travel and Tourism Awards](#)

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

[James Beard Foundation Book Awards](#)

[James Beard Foundation Journalism Awards](#)

[James Beard Foundation Broadcast & New Media Awards](#)

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

[Luxury Travel Advisor Awards of Excellence](#)

[MeetingsNet Paragon Awards](#)

[Michelin Group Michelin Restaurant Guide](#)

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

[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 Web Awards](#)

[USA Today 10 Best 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 Enthusiast 40 Under 40: America's Tastemakers](#)
[Wine Enthusiast Top 10 Wine Travel Destination](#)
[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](#)
[Zagat 30 Under 30](#)

SURVEYS

[Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report Readers' Survey](#)
[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](#)
[Convention South Readers' Choice Awards](#)
[Convention South Top Adventure Resorts](#)
[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: Travelerschoice@afar.com

CATEGORIES:

- Phase 1:
 - Hotels
 - Cruises
 - Airlines
- Phase 2:
 - Outfitters
 - Destinations

SELECTION PROCESS: AFAR editors select and vet the nominees for each category. The categories are organized in two different phases. Readers may then vote on the selected finalists during a set voting period. Winners will be announced three months after voting ends and in the following month's print issue.

DEADLINES:

- Hotel, Cruises and Airlines: Voting is April 12- May 14, 2019; Winners announced September 25 online and in the October/November 2019 issue.
- Outfitters & Destinations: Voting is June 4 – July 17, 2019; Winners announced December 2 online and in the January/February 2020 issue.

American Automobile Association Diamond Awards (Lodging)

CONTACT:

For award information visit:
<http://www.aaa.biz/approved/diamond-ratings.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 in the [Approval Requirements & Diamond Rating Guidelines: Lodging](#) (also linked below). 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 AAA Tourism Editors.

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.

Lodging Application: <http://bit.ly/2EqLXA4>

Application Processing Fee Form: <http://bit.ly/2Psfcmn>

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:

For award information visit:
<http://bit.ly/2G7Vf60>

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.

◆ Simple, economical food, often quick-serve, in a functional environment

◆◆ Familiar food, often cooked to order, served in a casual surrounding

◆◆◆ Trendy cuisine, skillfully prepared and served, with expanded beverage options, in an enhanced setting.

◆◆◆◆ Distinctive fine-dining. Creative preparations, skillfully served, often with wine steward, amid upscale ambience.

◆◆◆◆◆ Leading-edge cuisine of the finest ingredients, uniquely prepared by an acclaimed chef, served by expert service staff by maître d' in extraordinary surroundings.

RATING PROCESS:

Complete the AAA Application for Evaluation found in the [Approval Requirements & Diamond Rating Guidelines: Restaurants](#).

Restaurant Inspection Application: <http://bit.ly/2UxYarK>

Application Processing Fee Form: <http://bit.ly/2SGFww4>

REQUIREMENTS:

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.

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 in February of each year

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:** Olivia Klipa
lpravlik@ahla.com
202-289-3196
www.ahla.com
- CATEGORIES:** AH&LA Employee Awards categories:
- North Star Award: Lodging Employee of the Year
 - Outstanding General Manager of the Year, Small Property (250 rooms or less)
 - Outstanding General Manager of the Year, Large Property (251 rooms or more)
 - Paving the Way Award
 - Steven Porter Emerging Hospitality Leader (must be under age 30)
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Committee of industry professionals
- REQUIREMENTS:** Open to AH&LA member properties only.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** Submissions open in January and will be accepted through September. Winners will be notified in November and presented with their awards in January of the following year at the annual Night of a Thousand Stars event. 2018 winners will be announced on January 27, 2019 at the Night of a Thousand Stars which will take place in Los Angeles. The 2020 event date has not been announced.
- ELIGIBILITY:** Any AH&LA members can submit applications to online@ww.ahla.com/stars

**American Spa Magazine
Professional's Choice Awards**

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

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 (AHHR)

CONTACT: 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: AHHR makes a secret unannounced visit to properties under consideration 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 end.

RESULTS: Announced in the end-of-year 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
harvey.grotsky@themeetingmagazines.com
561-989-0600, ext. 106
<http://bit.ly/2QRbzfD>
- 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: Aileen McDermott
amcdermott@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.

Bon Appetit
Annual Restaurant Issue

CONTACT: askba@bonappetit.com

FREQUENCY: Annual

RESPONDENTS: Internal panel chooses what restaurants will be featured with additional digital only content. To view the 2018 winners visit: [The Hot 10](#).

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

Boutique Design
The Boutique 18: Designers of the Next Generation

- CONTACT:** Matthew Hall
Editor, Boutique Design magazine
matthew.hall@stmediagroup.com
513-263-9327
- 11262 Cornell Park Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45242
- CRITERIA:** Nomination forms can be accessed [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.
- Candidates will be evaluated on their accomplishments in the following categories:
- Impact on recent projects
 - Contributions to the industry
 - Contributions to their company or firm
 - Outstanding individual qualities
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** Submissions were due October 31, 2018. Submission deadlines for the 2020 awards will be announced at a later date.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners featured in March issue. The 2019 Boutique 18 honorees will be revealed at Boutique Design New York (BDNY), Nov. 11-12 and then celebrated at an induction ceremony at next spring's BDwest in Los Angeles, March 13 – 14.
- ELIGIBILITY:** See nomination form. They are looking for young leaders who are actively pushing the envelope in hospitality interiors, worldwide.

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

PLEASE NOTE 2019 CATEGORIES AND TIMELINE HAVE NOT BEEN RELEASED

CONTACT: Keisha Byrd
Conference and Events Manager
513-263-9341
keisha.byrd@stmediagroup.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. 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 in November 2019 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.

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:

David Jefferys
Editor, Service & Surveys
david_jefferys@condenast.com
212-286-2397

*Please note, all Condé Nast Traveler awards are now managed by the outlet's London office; however, Jefferys is still the best point of contact for each award.

CRITERIA:

Condé Nast Travel UK editors, writers and network of influencers select their favorite hotels in the world. The Gold list is derived of the Condé Nast Reader's Choice Awards.

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. The closing date to be considered for the 2019 list is November 2019.

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

Results appear in the January issue and online in mid-December

Condé Nast Traveler Hot List

CONTACT: David Jefferys
Editor, Service & Surveys
david_jefferys@condenast.com
212-286-2397

*Please note, all Condé Nast Traveler awards are now managed by the outlet's London office; however, Jefferys is still the best point of contact for each award.

CATEGORIES: Hotels; new openings

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.

This list will be handled transatlantic; with input from both the U.K. and U.S. editorial staffs.

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.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Results appear in the May issue and online in late April.

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 above. The ballot is announced to subscribers via email. Eligible ballots are limited to those submitted by meeting planner subscribers. 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

Fodor's Hotel Awards

CONTACT: Teddy Minford
tminford@fodors.com
212-782-9000

825 8th Avenue, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10019

CATEGORIES:

- Under \$300
- Over \$1,000
- Historic
- New in 2018
- Remote
- Quirky/Nontraditional
- Trusted Brand

SELECTION PROCESS: Annual award program with a comprehensive list of the world's best hotels, curated by the Fodor's editors. Nominations are open to the public and can be made through the below link. Nominations are open from August 1 – August 17, 2019. Winners are selected by the editors at Fodor's and will be announced in October.

REQUIREMENTS: Nominees must be submitted through an independent portal.
(<http://bit.ly/2MQ5FWC>)

DATE OF SUBMISSION: August 1-17, 2019

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Winners are announced in October 2019.

**Food & Wine Magazine
Best New Chefs**

- CONTACT:** Nina Friend
202-445-6000
Nina.friend@foodandwine.com
- 4100 Old Montgomery Hwy
Birmingham Alabama, 10281-1012
- 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 narrowed 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 Verified Lists Series: Hotels & Spas

CONTACT: forbestravelguide.com/collections

CRITERIA: For the first time, the Forbes Travel Guide has created two new list for the world's most luxurious hotels and spas. In order for a hotel or spa to be in the first Forbes Travel Guide Verified Lists for the world's most luxurious hotels and spas, it had to meet some pretty steep standards.

Some of the criteria for hotels include:

- Hotel surroundings that are distinctive and convey a sense of place, including exceptional attention to interior design and landscaping.
- The hotel provides thoughtful touches throughout the guest experience, such as fresh flowers in the guest room, a noteworthy or thoughtful element at evening turndown service, chilled towels and fresh fruit in the fitness center, etc.
- Rooms are exceptionally comfortable, with top-of-the-line bed linens and pillows, luxurious bath amenities, and high-quality robes, slippers, and towels.
- The guests' belongings are handled thoughtfully and with care.
- There is a notable variety and distinctive presentation of food and beverages in the bar, hotel dining, and room service. All silverware, napkins, and coasters are of exceptional quality.

Spas that made the cut had to live up to a similar set of considerations, though slightly less specific:

- When inside a private treatment room, the ambiance is relaxed, quiet, private and comfortable.
- The spa's public spaces are generously spacious and thoughtfully laid out.
- Amenities are always plentifully stocked and conveniently and attractively displayed in showers and dressing areas
- Spa amenities (e.g., shampoo, conditioner, lotion, etc.) are exceptionally luxurious in quality.
- The use of sound, light, scent, and other visual elements combine to create a unique sense of place.

SELECTION PROCESS: Incognito inspectors evaluate the properties on up to 900 standards. They then use these standards to evaluate the properties' Forbes star ratings. Basically, that means if a hotel or spa makes the cut, guests can feel confident that luxurious means luxurious. Around the world, 58 hotels and 30 spas made the Forbes Travel Guide Verified Lists for the world's most luxurious hotels and spas in 2019. You will find these particular hotels in 17 countries.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Online in October

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

CONTACT :

Peter M. Kressaty
Executive Vice President, Global Partner Services
peter@forbestravelguide.com
917-476-6101

Amanda Fraser
Executive Vice President, Standards & 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, Executive Vice President, Global Partner Services

Forbes Travel Guide
590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor
New York, NY 10022

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, Executive Vice President, Standards & Ratings at:

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

Garden & Gun
Made in the South Awards

- CONTACT:** Caroline Sanders
Editorial Assistant, Garden & Gun
csanders@gardenandgun.com
843-795-1195
- 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. 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.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Finalists are notified in mid-September. Winners are announced in the December/January issue. Winners are also presented during a special Garden & Gun event; 2019 date TBD.

**Golf Digest
U.S. Awards**

CONTACT:

Stephen Hennessy
Associate Editor, Golf Digest
Stephen.hennessy@golfdigest.com
212-286-5163

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:**

Winners are published biennially and announced online in January and included in the February issue.

Golf Digest
World's 100 Greatest Golf Courses

CONTACT: Stephen Hennessy
Associate Editor, Golf Digest
Stephen.hennessy@golfdigest.com
212-286-5163

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

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Winners for the rankings will be published in the February issue.

**Golf Magazine
Architects of the Year**

- CONTACT:** Joe Passov
Senior Editor and Course Ranking Editor, Golf Magazine
passovgolf@aol.com
480-515-1339
- 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:** Joe Passov
Senior Editor and Course Ranking Editor, Golf Magazine
passovgolf@aol.com
480-515-1339
- 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:

Joe Passov
Senior Editor and Course Ranking Editor, Golf Magazine
passovgolf@aol.com
480-515-1339

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:** Joe Passov
Senior Editor and Course Ranking Editor, Golf Magazine
passovgolf@aol.com
480-515-1339
- 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:** Joe Passov
Senior Editor and Course Ranking Editor, Golf Magazine
passovgolf@aol.com
480-515-1339
- 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:** Joe Passov
Senior Editor and Course Ranking Editor, Golf Magazine
passovgolf@aol.com
480-515-1339
- 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, Hosp
alissa.ponchione@emeraldexpo.com
646-668-3749

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

DEADLINE:

First week of March 2019. Forms will be uploaded at a later date to <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 2019 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: Mr. Jeff Weinstein
jweinstein@hotelsmag.com
312-274-2226

1415 N. Dayton St.
Chicago, IL 60642

SELECTION PROCESS: Chosen by Expert Committee

REQUIREMENTS: None

**Hotels Magazine
Hotelier of the World**

- CONTACT:** Mr. Jeff Weinstein
jweinstein@hotelsmag.com
312-274-2226
- 1415 N. Dayton St.
Chicago, IL 60642
- CRITERIA:** Leadership
Style
Hotelman-ship
- 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.

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

CONTACT:

Ellen Wilson
HSMAI
ewilson@hsmi.org
I571-442-8489

7918 Jones Branch Road, Suite 300
McLean, VA 22102

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:

Advertising Division Categories

Advertising Innovation: A new idea, device, or method; the application of better solutions that meet new requirements, unarticulated needs, or existing market needs.

Advertising Single Entry Categories: *Limited to one example or item per entry supported by a maximum of 2 file uploads and/or 3 links.*

- 1A. Brochure-Consumer
- 2A. Brochure-Group Sales/Meetings
- 3A. Brochure-Travel Trade
- 4A. Direct Mail-Consumer
- 5A. Direct Mail-Group Sales/Meetings
- 7A. DVD/CD/Video –Consumer, Group Sales or Travel Trade
- 8A. On-Property/In Flight Marketing- Consumer, Group Sales or Travel Trade
- 9A. Magazine or Newspaper-Consumer

CATEGORIES CONTINUED:

- 10A. Magazine or Newspaper- Group Sales/Meetings
- 11A. Magazine or Newspaper- Travel Trade
- 12A. Radio Consumer
- 13A. Signage- Outdoor/Transit
- 14A. Special Advertising Section
- 15A. Television Consumer

Advertising Series Categories: Two or more ads built around a theme or event in one medium. *Series categories are limited to a maximum upload of eight (8) files and three (3) links.*

- 16A. Direct Mail-Consumer
- 17A. Direct Mail-Group Sales /Meetings
- 18A. Direct Mail-Travel Trade
- 19A. Print Media-Consumer
- 20A. Print Media-Group Sales /Meetings
- 21A. Print Media-Travel Trade
- 22A. TV-Consumer
- 23A. Radio-Consumer

Advertising Campaign Categories: An advertising effort built around a single, unified theme, using at least two different types of media. Campaigns primarily conducted online should be entered under Digital Marketing. *Campaign categories are limited to a maximum of 8 uploads and 3 links.*

- 24A. Contest/Sweepstakes Consumer/Group Sales/Travel Trade
- 25A. Group Sales
- 26A. Complete Campaign-Consumer or Group Sales or Travel Trade (to include Positioning)
- 27A. Loyalty Program- Consumer Marketing
- 28A. Loyalty Program- Member Marketing
- 29A. Re-Positioning - Consumer Group Sales/Travel Trade
- 30A. Tradeshow Marketing
- 31A. Signage-Outdoor/Transient
- 32A. Multi-Cultural
- 33A. Youth
- 34A. LGBT
- 35A. Global
- 36A. New Opening/Launch
- 37A. Geo-Targeted
- 38A. Experiential
- 39A. Advertising Innovation

CATEGORIES

CONTINUED:

Digital Marketing Division Categories

Digital Marketing Innovation: A new idea, device, or method; the application of better solutions that meet new requirements, unarticulated needs, or existing market needs.

Digital Marketing Single Entry Categories: *Limited to one example or item supported by a maximum of two (2) file uploads and/or three (3) links.*

- 1D. Blog
- 2D. Game
- 3D. Email
- 4D. Mapping & Location Marketing
- 5D. Mobile Marketing
- 6D. Multimedia (podcasts, video)
- 7D. Social Media/Social Networking
- 8D. Video
- 9D. Web Ad
- 10D. Web Site
- 24D. Website User Experience
- 25D. App User Experience
- 26D. Loyalty
- 36D. Virtual Reality/Artificial Intelligence
- **39D. NEW! Facebook Mobile Video Award**

Digital Marketing Series Categories: Two or more ads built around a theme or event in one medium. *Series categories are limited to maximum upload of eight (8) files and three (3) links.*

- 11D. Email Series
- 12D. Multimedia Series (podcasts, video, flash)
- 13D. Web Ad Series
- 14D. Web Cast Series
- 28D. Loyalty Series

Digital Marketing Campaign Categories: A digital marketing effort built around a single, unified theme, using at least two different types of media. *Campaign categories are limited to a maximum of 8 uploads and 3 links.*

- 15D. Contest/Sweepstakes
- 16D. Integrated Marketing Campaign for Consumers
- 17D. Integrated Marketing Campaign for GDS & Travel Agents
- 18D. Mobile Campaign
- 19D. Search Marketing Strategy

**CATEGORIES
CONTINUED:**

- 20D. Social Media Campaign
- 21D. Tradeshow Marketing Campaign
- 22D. Loyalty Program-Consumer
- 23D. Loyalty Program-Member
- 30D Geo-Targeted Campaign
- 31D In-house Guest Capture Campaign
- 32D. Multi-Cultural Marketing
- 33D. Youth Marketing
- 34D. LGBT Marketing
- 35D. Global Marketing
- 36D. New Opening/Launch
- 37D. Experiential
- 38D. Digital Innovation
- **40D NEW! Facebook Mobile Video Award**

Public Relations Division Categories

Public Relations Innovation: A new idea, device, or method; the application of better solutions that meet new requirements, unarticulated needs, or existing market needs.

Public Relations Single Entry Categories: *Limited to one example or item supported by a maximum of two (2) file uploads and/or three (3) links.*

- 1P. Feature Placement Online-Consumer Media
- 2P. Feature Placement Online-Trade Media
- 3P. Feature Placement Print-Consumer Magazine or Newspaper
- 4P. Feature Placement Print-Trade Publication
- 5P. Feature Placement-Radio
- 6P. Feature Placement-Television
- 7P. Newsletter- Print or eNewsletter
- 8P. Media Center- Online Press Room
- 9P. Press Kit
- 11P. Video News Release
- 24P. Blog

Public Relations Campaign: A Public Relations effort built around a single, unified theme, using at least two different types of media. Campaigns primarily conducted online should be entered under Digital Marketing. *Campaign categories are limited to a maximum of eight (8) uploads and three (3) links.*

- 12P. Community Service/Social Responsibility
- 13P. Crisis Communication/Recovery Communication

**CATEGORIES
CONTINUED:**

- 14P. Employee Program

- 15P. Marketing Program- Consumer
- 16P. Marketing Program- Trade
- 17P. New Opening/Launch
- 18P. Partnership with Major Brand (national or local)
- 19P. Public Affairs/Public Service Announcement
- 20P. Relaunch of Existing Product
- 21P. Special Event
- 22P Loyalty Program - Consumer
- 23P. Loyalty Program - Member
- 25P. Multi-Cultural
- 26P. Youth
- 27P. LGBT
- 28P. Global
- 29P. Influencer Marketing
- 30P Public Relations Innovation
- 31P Experiential
- 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 early 2020.

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: Ms. Kathie Stapleton
HSMAI
kstapleton@hsmainyc.org
914-762-1456

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
Frank W. Berkman Tourism Achievement Award
Hospitality Professional of the Year

CRITERIA:

- **Frank W. Berkman Tourism Achievement Award**
A person or organization may be nominated for the HSMAI Frank W. Berkman Tourism Achievement Award. The person or organization must be nominated by a member of HSMAI Greater NY Chapter, accept the nomination, and complete a Nomination Consideration form.
- **Hospitality Professional of the Year**
Nominees for Hospitality Professional of the Year must have held their current title or have been with their current employer for a minimum of one year. Nominees are not limited to hotel or property level positions and may be an employee or principal of a hotel management company, ownership company, PR firm, marketing firm, supplier company, consultant or any vendor related to the hospitality industry.
- **Revenue Management Professional of the Year**
In order to qualify for Revenue Management Professional of the Year, the nominee must:
 1. 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.
 2. 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:

1. 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:

1. Hold the title of Vice President or Director of Marketing for a minimum of one year.
2. Have responsibility for one or more properties and have at least one direct report such as a Sales Manager or Sales Coordinator

- **Marketing Professional of the Year**

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

1. Hold the title of Vice President or Director of Marketing for a minimum of one year.
2. 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:

1. Have held their current title or have been with their current employer for a minimum of one year.
2. 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 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:** Mr. Harvey Grotzky
Publisher, Insurance & Financial Meetings Management
cccpublisher@att.net
561-989-0600
- 2700 North Military Trail, Suite 120
Boca Raton, FL 33431-6394
- TYPE:** Plaque of recognition to advertisers in awards issue
- CRITERIA:**
- Hotels, Resorts and Conference Centers**
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
- Convention and Visitor Bureaus**
Superior service and support
Comprehensive marketing and promotional assistance
High level of supplier facility and venue information
Coordination and liaison with local officials, attractions and transportation
Extensive assistance with accommodations and site inspections
- 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**

NOTE – 2019 GUIDELINES HAVE NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED, BUT WILL BE SIMILAR TO 2018

CONTACT:

Laura Steele

lsteel@interiordesign.net

<http://boyawards.interiordesign.net/faq>

CATEGORIES:

- Accessories
- Acoustical Furniture Applications
- Acoustical Wall and Ceiling Applications
- Architectural Products
- Automotive: Concept Car
- Automotive: Interiors
- Automotive: Overall Design
- Bath: Accessories and Hardware
- Bath: Cabinetry
- Bath: Fittings
- Bath: Fixtures
- Flooring: Carpet/Broadloom
- Flooring: Carpet/Modular
- Flooring: Carpet/Rugs
- Flooring: Hard
- Flooring: Tile & Stone
- Furniture: Contract/Case Goods
- Furniture: Contract/Desking
- Furniture: Contract/Partitions and Wall Systems
- Furniture: Contract/Pods
- Furniture: Contract/Systems
- Furniture: Contract/Tables
- Furniture: Education
- Furniture: Healthcare
- Furniture: Outdoor
- Furniture: Outdoor Lounge
- Furniture: Outdoor Seating
- Furniture: Residential/Dining Tables
- Furniture: Residential/Occasional Tables
- Furniture: Residential/Storage
- Green Innovation
- Hardware
- Kitchen: Appliances

- Kitchen: Cabinetry
- Kitchen: Fixtures & Fittings
- Lighting: Architectural
- Lighting: Chandelier
- Lighting: Floor
- Lighting: Pendant
- Lighting: Sconce
- Lighting: Table
- Lighting: Task
- Marketing & Branding Materials
- Materials, Treatments & Surfaces
- Seating: Contract/Bench & Stool
- Seating: Contract/Conference
- Seating: Contract/Guest
- Seating: Contract/Lounge
- Seating: Contract/Modular
- Seating: Contract/Sofa
- Seating: Contract/Task
- Seating: Residential/Accent
- Seating: Residential/Lounge
- Seating: Residential/Side
- Seating: Residential/Sofa
- Seating: Residential/Stool
- Tabletop
- Technology
- Textiles: Contract
- Textiles: Healthcare
- Textiles: Hospitality
- Textiles: Outdoor
- Textiles: Residential
- Wall Covering: Contract
- Wall Covering: Fabric
- Wall Covering: Paper
- Wall Covering: Tile and Stone
- Window Treatments

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

*NOTE – 2019 guidelines have not yet been announced, but will be similar to 2018

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

CATEGORIES:

- Asian Restaurant
- Bar/Lounge
- Beach House
- Beauty/Spa
- Bookstore
- Branding & Graphics: Environmental
- Branding & Graphics: Marketing Collateral
- Budget
- Casual Dining
- Coffee/Tea
- Commercial Lobby
- Counter Service
- Country House
- Coworking Space
- Domestic Boutique Hotel
- Education: Higher Learning
- Education: Primary and High Schools: Large
- Education: Primary and High Schools: Small
- Entertainment
- Exhibition
- Extra Large Office
- Extra Small Office
- Fine Dining
- Firm's Own Office
- Fitness
- Government/Institutional
- Green
- Health & Beauty Retail
- Health & Wellness
- Health Care
- Hotel Dining
- Hotel Transformation
- Installation
- International Boutique Hotel
- Kitchen & Bath
- Large Apartment

- Large Corporate Office
- Large Creative/Tech Office
- Large Curative/Consumer Goods Office
- Large Law Office
- Large Retail
- Library
- Mall/Hall Restaurant
- Mid-Size Corporate Office
- Mid-Size Creative Office
- Mid-Size Tech Office
- Mixed Retail
- Model Apartment
- Multi-Unit Housing
- Museum/Gallery
- Nonprofit
- Office Transformation
- On the Boards: Commercial
- On the boards: Residential
- Outdoor
- Residential Lobby & Amenity Space
- Residential Sales Center
- Residential Transformation

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 2018 and September 2019.
- 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/news/awards](https://www.interiordesign.net/news/awards) in November, live Best of Year awards event will be held December.

International Travel and Tourism Awards

CONTACT:

Nicole Collett
Media Relations, The Bradford Group
awards@reedexpo.co.uk
44-(0)-20-8432-4320

347 Fifth Ave. Suite 610
New York, New York 10016

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:

2019 dates TBD (typically April)

CATEGORIES:

- Best National Tourism Board Campaign
- Best Tourism Marketing Agency
- Best Regional/City Campaign
- Best Food Destination
- Best in Luxury
- Best in Wellness
- Best in Responsible Tourism
- Most Innovative Use of Technology within a Destination
- Best Digital Campaign in Tourism
- Best Digital Influencer in the Industry
- Best in Adventure
- Best in LGBT
- Best PR Campaign

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at the WTM Showcase in London.

James Beard Foundation Chef and Restaurant Awards

*2020 DEADLINE NOT YET ANNOUNCED WILL LIKELY BE ANNOUNCED IN
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2019*

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

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

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

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

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 2019; 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**

*2020 GUIDELINES NOT YET ANNOUNCED; WILL LIKELY BE ANNOUNCED IN
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2019*

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. Fees: To encourage increased access to the awards, entry fees will be waived for the first two weeks after entries open, from Oct. 15 to 29, 2018. For work published in 2018 but after the window closes, the Foundation will allow individuals to write in for exception, which the committee will consider on a case-by-case basis.

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:

Quick International Courier
C/O James Beard Books 200 Robbins Lane, Suite E
Jericho, NY 11753
Attn Kathy Canarte

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: 2019 Award Deadline: December 8, 2018

The 2020 Deadline is not yet announced

CATEGORIES:

- Cookbook of the Year
- Cookbook Hall of Fame
- American
- Baking and Dessert

RESULTS:

The winners are announced at the Book, Journalism and Broadcast Media Awards Dinner on April 26, 2019.

James Beard Foundation Journalism Awards

*2020 GUIDELINES NOT YET ANNOUNCED; WILL LIKELY BE ANNOUNCED IN
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2019*

CONTACT: awards@jamesbeard.org

CRITERIA: To ensure the Journalism awards attract new voices, the entry fee for first-time submissions will be waived for the entire entry period (October 15, 2018 through January 2, 2019). Individual writers who have never submitted a work and who have never had work submitted on their behalf by a media company to which they contribute are eligible for free entry.

CATEGORIES:

- MFK Fisher Distinguished Writing Awards
- Craig Claiborne Distinguished Restaurant Review Award
- Jonathan Gold Local Voice Award
- Food Coverage in a General Interest Publication
- Foodways
- Personal Essay, Long Form
- Personal Essay, Short Form
- Humor
- Home Cooking
- Innovative Storytelling
- Foodways
- Dining and Travel
- Feature Reporting
- Health and Wellness
- Columns
- Wine, Spirits and Other Beverages
- 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 for the 2019 Awards: January 3, 2018 – The 2020 deadline is not yet announced

RESULTS: The winners are announced at the Book, Journalism and Broadcast Media Awards Dinner on April 26, 2019. Journalist(s) receive(s) the award.

James Beard Foundation Broadcast and New Media

*2020 GUIDELINES NOT YET ANNOUNCED; WILL LIKELY BE ANNOUNCED IN
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2019*

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: Previous deadline: 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 26. The host(s) or producer(s) receive(s) the award.

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

*2020 GUIDELINES NOT YET ANNOUNCED; WILL LIKELY BE ANNOUNCED IN
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2019*

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 2017 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: Previous deadline: 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 26. The architect(s) or designer(s) receive(s) the award.

Luxury Travel Advisor Awards of Excellence

CONTACT:

Matt Turner
mturner@questex.com

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:

- 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

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

Spring 2019

**MeetingsNet
Paragon Awards**

- CONTACT:** Ms. Melissa Fromento
mfromento@penton.com
212-772-9154
- 249 West 17th St. (3rd Floor)
New York, NY10011
- 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 of the previous calendar year. 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.

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. Stars are awarded 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.

Pacific Asia Travel Association PATA Gold Awards

CONTACT:

Ms. Parita Niemwongse
Director – Human Capital Development
goldawards@PATA.org
66-2-658-2000 ex. 116

Unit B1, 28/F Siam Tower
989 Rama 1Rd
Pratumwan, Bangkok 10330
Thailand

CATEGORIES:

- Marketing Campaign (six Gold Awards and one Grand Award)
 1. Primary Government/Destination (As defined by the PATA)
 2. Secondary Government/Destination (State or city tourism organization)
 3. Carrier (Airline, cruise, airport, train etc.)
 4. Hospitality (Individual hotel, resort hotel or management company)
 5. Industry (Any other travel and tourism organization)
 6. Young Travelers/Adventure Travel
- Women Empowerment Initiative
- Environment (three Gold Awards and one Grand Award)
 1. Ecotourism Project
 2. Corporate Environmental Program
 3. Environmental Education Program
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Heritage (manmade or natural cultural inheritance)
- Culture (traditional performing and visual arts)
- Education & Training (program, text or curriculum)
- Community-based Tourism
- Marketing Media
 1. Consumer Travel Brochure
 2. Travel Advertisement Broadcast Media
 3. Travel Advertisement Print Media
 4. Travel Poster
 5. Promotional Travel Video
 6. Public Relations Campaign
 7. Social Media
 8. Website
 9. Mobile Travel Application
 10. Promotional E-Newsletter

11. Travel Journalism
12. Destination Article (Consumer audience)
13. Industry Business Article (Travel trade audience)
14. Travel Photograph
15. 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. Award recipients will be notified in July.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: At the PATA Travel Mart, Astana, Kazakhstan, September 18-20, 2019.

**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 2018.
- 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:** Jennifer Harrington
Director of Marketing
jennifer@smartmeetings.com
415-339-9355
- 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 SUBMISISON:** Nominations for Platinum Choice Awards usually open around July or August of each year. Voting opens late July/early August and runs for about one month.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners announced in October and featured in the December issue.

Smart Meetings Magazine Smart Star Awards

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

CATEGORIES:

- Best Airport Hotel
- Best Attraction/Theme Park
- Best Ballroom
- Best Beach Hotel
- Best Boutique/Lifestyle Hotel
- Best City Hotel
- Best Coastal Hotel
- Best Conference Center
- Best Convention Center
- Best Convention Center Hotel
- Best Cruise Line
- Best Desert Hotel
- Best Eco/Green Hotel
- Best Executive Retreat
- Best Family-Friendly Hotel/Resort
- Best Gaming/Casino Hotel
- Best Golf Resort
- Best Historic Hotel
- Best Hotel Pool
- Best Hotel Spa
- Best Incentive Hotel
- Best Island Hotel
- Best Mountain/Ski Hotel
- 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 a one quarter 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 and featured in nationwide PR.

**Smart Meetings Magazine
Smart Women in Meetings Awards**

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

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: Award dates and nomination details announced in December.

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

Southeast Tourism Society Shining Example Awards

CONTACT:

Wendy Thomas
555 Sun Valley Drive
wendy@southeasttourism.org
770-542-1523
<https://www.southeasttourism.org/meetings/shining-example>

Suite E-5
Roswell, GA 30076

TYPE:

Shining Example Awards recognize outstanding contributions in professional tourism across its member states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

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
- Tourism Office of the Year < \$2 Million
- 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
- Beacon Award
- Rising Star Award
- Best Marketing Award < \$500,000
- Best Marketing Award > \$500,000
- Best Niche Marketing Campaign
- Partnership 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.

DATE OF SUBMISSION:

All Online Submissions are due December 31, 2019.

- ELIGIBILITY:** 10 Nomination Categories (13 awards) Available to STS Members & Non-Members.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners will be announced at the STS Annual Meeting in 2020.

**Southern Living
South's Best Awards**

CONTACT: 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.

Send Valerie Luesse nominees to add to the ballot if not included.

CATEGORIES:

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

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

StarChefs.com
Rising Stars Award

2019 LOCATIONS AND DATES HAVE YET TO BE ANNOUNCED

CONTACT: 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 2019 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 8, 2019 through June 14, 2019. Judging will be finalized on August 14, 2019.

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

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Winners will be announced November 4, 2019.

**Travel + Leisure
It List**

- CONTACT:** Lilla Battis
lila.battis@travelandleisure.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 February and in print in March.

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

- CONTACT:** customerservice@travelweeklyawards.com
212-675-3555
- 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, visit
<https://www.travelweeklyawards.com/awards/about/>
- 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: 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.

USA Today 10 Best Awards

CONTACT:	Travis Seward tseward@usatoday.com https://www.10best.com/about/
CATEGORIES:	Ongoing categories
SELECTION PROCESS:	Chosen by over 100 local experts who select original, unbiased and experiential travel content of top attractions, things to see and do, and restaurants for top destinations in the U.S. and around the world. At its core is the team of local travel experts: a well-traveled and well-educated group who are not only experts in their fields - and their cities - but discriminating in their tastes. These local experts live in the city they write about, with constantly updated content.
CRITERIA:	Contests are announced on an ongoing basis. Readers can cast one vote in each contest every day the contest is open. USA Today typically sends a notification to our nominees the week before the contest starts. Each contest has a four-week voting period and starts and ends on Mondays.
PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:	On the Friday, the week following the contest ending, winners are announced. Each contest's winner list is live on the 10Best site ongoing.

U.S. News & World Report Best Vacations, Best Hotels, Best Cruises & Best Rewards Programs

CONTACT: Erin Shields
Assistant Managing Editor
eshields@usnews.com
202-955-2103

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. Scheduled to launch early February 2019.

- **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. Regional rankings scheduled to be released June 2019.

- **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). Updates to the rankings are ongoing.

- **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 Nights (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). Rankings for each year are released late July/early August.

*Best point of contact for Travel Rewards Programs Rankings: crsmith@usnews.com.

- **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 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. Rankings for each year are released mid-November.

*Best point of contact for Cruise Rankings: Nicola Wood at nwood@usnews.com.

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
National Council of Destination Organization (NCDO)
Destiny Awards**

CONTACT: Veronica Nalbandian
Email: estoawards@ustravel.org
Phone: 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 2019.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: The winner will be announced at ESTO which will take place August 17-20, 2019 in Austin, TX.

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

CONTACT: Veronica Nalbandian
estoawards@ustravel.org
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 2019.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

The winner will be announced at ESTO which will take place August 17-20, 2019 in Austin, TX.

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

- CONTACT:** Veronica Nalbandian
estoawards@ustravel.org
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 2019.
- 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 17-20, 2019 in Austin, TX.

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

- CONTACT:** Veronica Nalbandian
estoawards@ustravel.org
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 17-20, 2019 in Austin, TX

VIRTUOSO LIFE Magazine Best of the Best Virtuoso Awards

- CONTACT:** Virtuoso Hotels & Resorts
hotelsandresorts@virtuoso.com
817-870-0300
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Nominees are announced in June. These nominees represent the highest standards in their given category with only 50 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 (prior to mid-March), 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. The nomination survey opens in mid/late March and closes in mid-April. In 2018, the nominees were announced to the network and voting opened in late May for a period of two weeks.
- 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 Training Program (NEW)
 - Best Beer
 - Best Beverage Menu Revamp
 - Best Wine
 - Best Spirits
 - Best Adult Alcohol-Free Program
 - Best Responsible Alcohol Service
 - Best Beverage Promotion
 - Best Beverage Limited Time Offer (LTO)
 - Best Overall – Multi Unit Chain Restaurants
 - Best Overall – Hotels, Casinos & Cruise Lines
- DEADLINE:** Vista Awards facts can be found [HERE](#). Nominations were due September – November.
- SELECTION PROCESS:** All submissions are reviewed by a panel of Johnson & Wales University beverage faculty, staff and alumni.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners will be announced during VIBE Conference held each February. 2019 dates will be February 25-27.

VISIT FLORIDA The Flagler Awards

- CONTACT:** Joanna Price
Email: jprice@visitflorida.org
<https://www.visitflorida.org/flaglerawards>
- 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 number one 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 the official aware website (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. Watch for official notices from VISIT FLORIDA or visit this website for updates on this year's Flagler Awards and entry dates for the 2019 competition.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** VISIT FLORIDA will notify winners via email in advance of the Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism. Awards will be presented at the conference during the Flagler Awards ceremony.

Wine Enthusiast
America's 100 Best Wine Restaurants

- CONTACT:** Lauren Buzzeo
Managing Editor
Wine Enthusiast Magazine
Email: lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net
Phone: 914-345-9463 x4613
- 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
lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net
914-345-9463 ex. 4613

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
Top 100 Best Buys**

CONTACT:

Lauren Buzzeo
Managing Editor, Wine Enthusiast Magazine
914-345-9463 ex. 4613
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
40 Under 40: America's Tastemakers

CONTACT: Lauren Buzzeo
Managing Editor, Wine Enthusiast Magazine
914-345-9463 ex. 4613
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 10 Wine Travel Destinations**

CONTACT:	Lauren Buzzeo Managing Editor, Wine Enthusiast Magazine 914-345-9463 ex. 4613 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: 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, 2018, and regular entries are accepted through February 1, 2019. 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
Email: krista.carothers@workingmother.com
Phone: 347-751-3112
Website: www.wmmsurveys.com
- CATEGORIES:** Five areas are assessed: representation, parental leave, family support, advancement and flexibility.
- 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 2019 Working Mother 100 Best Companies is available December 17, 2018 and is due in March 5, 2019. Register at www.workingmother.com/surveys. The 2019 Working Mother 100 Best Companies list will be announced in the October/November 2019 issue of *Working Mother Magazine* and on workingmother.com. Winning companies will also be celebrated at the WorkBeyond Summit in October 2019, 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

2019 DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED JANUARY 2019

CONTACT:

Kaye Holland
awards@worldtravelawards.com /
amiee.smith@worldtravelawards.com
+44-0-20-7925 0000
www.worldtravelawards.com

SELECTION PROCESS:

Note: Information will be released January 2019.
2018 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, Australia, 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 2019. *2018 information:* Nominations are based upon the previous year's voting or participants can nominate themselves by completing the form online at www.worldtravelawards.com. Nomination process details and rules for entry may be found [here](#).

ENTRY FEES:

Note: Information will be released January 2019. *2018 information:*

Country/Sub-Region Categories:	399 GBP
Regional Categories:	499 GBP

DATE OF SUBMISSION:

Note: Information will be released January 2019. *2018 information:* Asia and Australia 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 2019. *2018 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: 2019 SUBMISSIONS CLOSED NOV. 14, 2018; 2020 APPLICATIONS WILL OPEN
NOVEMBER 2019*

CONTACT:

Lucy Matthews
Tourism for Tomorrow Manager
lucy.matthews@wttc.org
+44-0-207-481-8007
<https://www.wttc.org/tourism-for-tomorrow-awards/>

CATEGORIES:

- **Social Impact Award**

The Social Impact Award is for any Travel & Tourism organization that is working to improve the people and places where it operates. Social Impact is demonstrated by the actions organizations take that go significantly beyond the financial imperative of their business needs. This award covers a broad range of benefits that Travel & Tourism can bring, but can include enhancing the lives of the community, improving and protecting the natural and man-made environments, bringing opportunity to a place, empowering local people or increasing the spread of benefits. Social Impact Award Criteria:

 - This award aims to celebrate the force for good Travel & Tourism can be for the people and places where tourism
 - takes place, and while the following list is not exhaustive, it is anticipated that an organization be able to demonstrate;
 - Evidence of addressing the key development challenges of the destination
 - Exceptional stakeholder engagement
 - Board-level commitment to creating positive social impact
 - Policies for enhancing social impact embedded across the organization
 - Evidence of significant and sustained investment in creating and maintaining long-term value

- **Destination Stewardship Award:**

The Destination Stewardship Award is for any organization that helps a place to thrive and bring forward its unique identity for the benefit of its residents and tourists. This award goes beyond simply managing a destination and looks to celebrate those organizations that have rejuvenated a place, maintained and developed its authenticity, brought stakeholders together and created something new and attractive.

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 involving key stakeholders, including local communities
- High-level government commitment and significant investment in destination management
- Policies for destination management embedded across the organization
- Creation of a sense of place and an attractive destination for tourists and residents
- Strong systems of governance and proven leadership extending beyond the Travel & Tourism context

- **Climate Action Award:**

The Climate Action Award is for any Travel & Tourism organization that is undertaking significant and measurable work to reduce the scale and impacts of climate change. This award seeks to recognize innovative actions through either behavior change of guests and employees, policy changes or the introduction of technology. Exceptional action is celebrated on mitigating impacts through reducing carbon and greenhouse gas emissions and reducing energy and water consumption; as well as effective adaptation strategies for climate change.

Climate Action Award Criteria:

- This award aims to celebrate tangible progress being made by Travel & Tourism in addressing climate change, and while the following list is not exhaustive, it is anticipated that an organization be able to demonstrate;
- Significant reduction in absolute, as well as relative climate change impacts from its practices
- Board-level commitment to climate change issues
- Policies for climate action embedded across the organization and its supply chain
- Evidence of investment in green technologies
- Development of programs of behavior change amongst guests, staff and suppliers

- **Investing in People Award:**

The Investing in People Award is for any Travel & Tourism organization demonstrating leadership in becoming an exciting, attractive and equitable employer in the sector. The award can be for organizations that have worked exceptionally to enhance the capacity of individuals and groups of people who would normally be excluded from employment or who find it difficult to enter the Travel & Tourism sector, to aid the recruitment and retention of under-represented groups, to develop skills for those already employed to advance in the sector and to offer fair employment practices.

Investing in 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 practices for Travel & Tourism
- Exceptional board-level commitment to developing the current and future workforce
- Innovative and significant policies for developing people embedded across the organization
- Evidence of significant investment in creating and maintaining education/training/staff development
- The development of skills to allow people to enter the Travel & Tourism sector

SELECTION PROCESS: For rules and regulations: <http://bit.ly/2R3TCu4>.

REQUIREMENTS:

- 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:

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.

For more information, please visit: <http://bit.ly/2rI2KGE>

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 in Seville, Spain on April 2-4, 2019 and they benefit from outstanding international media exposure.

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 - March 2019, 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 2019 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.

**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
212-286-2397

*Please note, all Condé Nast Traveler awards are now managed by the outlet's London office; however, Jefferys is still the best point of contact for each award.

FREQUENCY:

Annual; also, part of the 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
Editor, Service & Surveys
david_jefferys@condenast.com
212-286-2397

*Please note, all Condé Nast Traveler awards are now managed by the outlet's London office; however, Jefferys is still the best point of contact for each award.

FREQUENCY:

Annual

RESPONDENTS:

The Reader's Choice Survey is online and was open from April 1 to June 30, 2019.

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.

The properties included on the original nominee list are derived from staff recommendations. If a property is not on the list, you can reach out to David Jefferys to add, although there is no guarantee.

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 late-30s.

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 and online in mid-October. 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
Editor, Service & Surveys
david_jefferys@condenast.com
212-286-2397

*Please note, all Condé Nast Traveler awards are now managed by the outlet's London office; however, Jefferys is still the best point of contact for each award.

FREQUENCY:

Annual

RESPONDENTS:

The Reader's Choice Survey is online and was open from April 1 to June 30, 2018 at www.condenasttraveler.com/vote. 2019 dates TBD.

CATEGORIES:

- * Each spa is judged on treatments, staff and facilities.
- 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 and in print in March. Results are widely publicized to consumer media.

**Convention South
Reader's Choice Awards**

- CONTACT:** Ashleigh 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:** Winners are announced online in October and included in the 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, Convention South 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”, Convention South readers and Facebook fans are asked to vote for their top picks and the 15 with the most votes are selected.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners announced online in April/May.

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 2019 have not been finalized; sample categories include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Top 40 Restaurants in the U.S.Best New RestaurantsBest RestaurateurTop Five Restaurants with Striking Décor (NEW)
PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:	Winners announced in the February Annual Restaurant Issue.

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

CONTACT NAME:

Lori Smith
lori@newcom.ca
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:

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**

- CONTACT:** Jacqueline Gifford
Editor in Chief
jacqueline.gifford@travandleisure.com
- NOMINATIONS:** Nominations end Dec. 1; Contact Jacqueline Gifford to nominate:
jacqueline.gifford@travandleisure.com or Sarah Bruning:
sarah.bruning@travandleisure.com
- VOTING:** To see if nominated and to vote, visit <https://wba.m-rr.com>. Voting takes place Nov. through March 4, 2019. Each person/email can only vote once.
- PERTINENT CATEGORIES:** Cities; Islands; Hotels; Cruise Lines; Destination Spas; Transportation; Tours & Safaris; Videos
- For more information, please visit: <http://bit.ly/2BEMzQ2>.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Online in July; Print in August.

Travel Weekly Readers' Choice Awards

CONTACT:

Bruce Shulman, Sr. VP/Group Publisher

bshulman@travelweekly.com

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 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.