

2021 Awards & Surveys

Property of
Lou Hammond Group

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AFAR
Travelers' Choice Awards

*Please note, 2021 dates have not yet been announced. The below information is based on the previous year's award.

CONTACT: Sara Button
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 typically from April – May. Winners announced in September online and in the October/November issue.
 - Outfitters & Destinations: Voting is typically from June – July. Winners announced in December online and in the January/February issue.

AAA
Diamond Awards - Lodging

CONTACT: <https://approved.aaa.biz/diamond-program/diamond-ratings-hotels>

TYPE: Rating system reflecting overall quality.

RATINGS: AAA Diamond designations for hotels represent the overall quality, range of facilities and level of hospitality offered.

- Approved (28%) – Noteworthy by meeting the industry-leading standards of AAA inspections
- Three Diamond (63%) – Comprehensive amenities, style and comfort level
- Four Diamond (6.5%) – Upscale style and amenities enhanced with the right touch of service
- Five Diamond (0.4%) – World-class luxury, amenities and indulgence for a once-in-a-lifetime experience

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.

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 along with the Lodging Application Processing Fee Form to authorize the \$500 nonrefundable processing fee. Once the application is received and processed, an email notification of the status of the property (qualified for a site inspection or not) will be sent. If the property qualifies, AAA inspectors will be deployed to the property for a site inspection, this inspection will be unannounced and will occur within one year of the application date.

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 in February of each year.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Awards are announced in January.

ELIGIBILITY:

U.S./Canada/Mexico/Caribbean

AAA AFFILIATION PROCESS:

Complete the AAA Application for inspection form found below and return to AAA along with the Hotel Application Processing Fee Form to authorize the \$800 nonrefundable processing fee. Once the application is received and processed, an email notification of the status of the property (qualified for a site inspection or no) will be sent. If the property qualifies, AAA inspectors will be deployed to the property for a site inspection, this inspection will be unannounced and will occur within one year of the application date.

[Hotel Application Form](#)

[Hotel Application Processing Fee Form](#)

REQUIREMENTS:

Overall inspection process includes review of six key areas: Cleanliness & Condition; Management & Style of Operations; Exterior and Public Areas; Guestrooms; Guest Bathrooms and Guest Services & Hospitality. Detailed information can be found here: [Hotel Requirements & Diamond Guidelines](#)

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Ongoing

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Four and Five Diamond awards are announced in January.

ELIGIBILITY:

U.S./Canada/Mexico/Caribbean

AAA
Diamond Awards - Restaurants

CONTACT: <https://approved.aaa.biz/>

TYPE: Rating system reflecting overall quality

RATINGS: AAA Diamond designations for restaurants represent the overall food, service and vibe offered.

- Approved (71%) – Noteworthy by meeting the industry-leading standards of AAA inspections
- Three Diamond (26%) – Trendy food skillfully presented in a remarkable setting
- Four Diamond (2.3%) – Distinctive fine dining, well-served amid upscale ambience
- Five Diamond (0.2%) – Leading-edge cuisine, ingredients and preparation with extraordinary service and surroundings

AAA AFFILIATION

PROCESS: Complete the AAA Application for inspection form found below and return to AAA along with the Restaurant Application Processing Fee Form to authorize the \$800 nonrefundable processing fee. Once the application is received and processed, an email notification of the status of the property (qualified for a site inspection or no) will be sent. If the property qualifies, AAA inspectors will be deployed to the property for a site inspection, this inspection will be unannounced and will occur within one year of the application date.

[Restaurant Application Form](#)
[Restaurant Application Processing Fee Form](#)

REQUIREMENTS: Overall inspection process includes review of Cleanliness & Condition, Food, Service, Vibe, and Management & Staff. Detailed information can be found here: [Restaurant Requirements & Diamond Guidelines](#).

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Ongoing

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Four and Five Diamond Awards are announced in February.

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

American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA) Stars of the Industry Awards

CONTACT: Allison Brennan
abrennan@ahla.com
202-289-3111

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
- Stevan Porter Emerging Hospitality Leader (must be under age 30)

SELECTION PROCESS: Committee of industry professionals

REQUIREMENTS: Open to AHLA member properties only. The nomination form can be found in the [AH&LA Members' Portal](#).

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Submissions open in August and will be accepted through December 31, 2021. Winners will be notified in March 2022 and presented with their awards in January of the following year at the annual Night of a Thousand Stars event.

ELIGIBILITY: Any AHLA members can be nominated through the portal: <https://bit.ly/2XE2UO1>

American Spa Magazine Professional's Choice Awards

CONTACT:

Nicole Altavilla
naltavilla@questex.com

CATEGORIES:

- Favorite New International Spa
- Favorite New U.S. Spa
- Favorite Destination Spa
- Favorite Resort Spa
- Favorite Multiple Location Spa
- Favorite Romantic Spa
- Favorite Green Spa
- Favorite Cruise Spa
- Favorite Day Spa
- Favorite Medical Spa
- Favorite Treatment Table Manufacturer
- Favorite Hydrotherapy Equipment Manufacturer
- Favorite Laser and Light Manufacturer
- Favorite Fitness Equipment Manufacturer
- Favorite Aesthetic Equipment Manufacturer
- Favorite Spa Cuisine
- Favorite Spa Treatment Menu
- Favorite Nailcare Equipment Manufacturer
- Favorite Nailcare Line
- Favorite Spa Sandal Manufacturer
- Favorite Spa Software
- Favorite Distributor
- Favorite Private Label Manufacturer
- Favorite Spa Uniform Manufacturer
- Favorite Spa Robe Manufacturer
- Favorite Haircare Line
- Favorite Hair Removal Line
- Favorite Sunless Tanning Line
- Favorite Suncare Line
- Favorite Skincare Line
- Favorite Anti-Aging Line
- Favorite Sensitive Skincare Line
- Favorite Acne Line
- Favorite Men's Line
- Favorite Lightening Line
- Favorite Eyelash Extension Line
- Favorite Eyelash Conditioner Line
- Favorite Cosmetics Line
- Favorite Indie Beauty Brand
- Favorite Ayurvedic Line

- Favorite Aromatherapy Line
- Favorite Natural Line
- Favorite Body Care Line
- Favorite Anti-Cellulite Line
- Favorite Vitamin and Supplement Line
- Favorite Health and Fitness Spa
- Favorite Company for Product Education
- Favorite Company for Manufacturer Support
- Favorite Spa Consultant
- Most Influential Spa Leader

SELECTION PROCESS: Nominations and voting are open to the public.

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

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Winners are announced in the November/December issue and shared online in November.

Andrew Harper Hideaway Report Grand Awards

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

CATEGORIES:

- Hideaways of the Year
- Favorite Hotels
- Best Restaurants
 - United States Restaurants
 - Hotel Restaurants
 - International Restaurants
- Best Amenities
 - Best Spa
 - Best Beach
 - Best Pool
- Travel Highlights
 - Indelible Memories
 - Disappointments of the Year
 - Best Travel Experiences
 - Hospitality Awards
 - Hotel Standouts
- Best Shops
- Favorite Photos

SELECTION PROCESS: AHHR makes a secret unannounced visit to properties under consideration and at the end of year announces winners for Grand Awards. To be considered for the annual Grand Awards, properties must be relatively small in size, possess strong personalities and demonstrate a consistent devotion to personal service.

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 January in Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report, which is only available to members.

Association Conventions & Facilities Magazine Distinctive Achievement Award

CONTACT:

Mr. Harvey Grotsky
harvey.grotsky@themeetingmagazines.com
561-989-0600 ext. 106
<http://bit.ly/2QRbzfD>

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:

Nominations come from subscribers. Note, the outlet sends ballots to qualified meeting planner subscribers so there is no relevant deadline date for properties. 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.

REQUIREMENTS:

The voter must be a qualified meeting planner subscriber.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Awards announced in the September issue of Association Conventions & Facilities and have the opportunity to purchase a full-page advertisement that is accompanied by a page of free matching editorial coverage including a photograph and contact information.

ELIGIBILITY:

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

BizBash

National BizBash Event Style Awards

CONTACT: Brittany Jaber
bjaber@bizbash.com
www.bizbash.com

SUMMARY: The National BizBash Event Style Awards honor the top names in events throughout the globe. Award categories will be finalized in April 2021.

PENDING CATEGORIES: The below categories are subject to change. Full list of awards categories can be found at bizbash.com/awards

- Best Association Event
- Best Attendee Gifting Experience/Swag Bag
- Best Awards Show/Ceremony
- Best Brand Activation
- Best Brand/Product Launch
- Best Catering at an Event
- Best Conference—Less Than 5,000 Attendees
- Best Conference—More Than 5,000 Attendees
- Best Corporate Event Concept—Budget Over \$500,000
- Best Corporate Event Concept—Budget Between \$250,000 - \$500,000
- Best Corporate Event Concept—Budget Under \$250,000
- Best Cultural/Multicultural Event
- Best Esports Event
- Best Event Decor—Budget Over \$250,000
- Best Event Decor—Budget Under \$250,000
- Best Event Lighting Design
- Best Fair/Festival
- Best Floral Design for an Event or Meeting
- Best Guerrilla Marketing Initiative/Marketing Campaign
- Best Immersive Experience
- Best Incentive Program
- Best Influencer Event
- Best Millennial/Gen Z Event
- Best Mobile Tour/Roadshow
- Best Nonprofit Event Concept—Budget Over \$250,000
- Best Nonprofit Event Concept—Budget Under \$250,000
- Best Political Event
- Best Press Event
- Best Social Event

- Best Sponsor Activation at an Event
- Best Sporting Event
- Best Staging and Set Design
- Best Sustainability/Corporate Social Responsibility Program
- Best Tabletop Design
- Best Team Building Activity
- Best Trade or Consumer Show
- Best Trade Show Booth
- Best Virtual Experience
- Best Association Event (PEOPLE'S CHOICE)
- Best Attendee Gifting Experience/Swag Bag
- Best Awards Show/Ceremony
- Best Brand Activation
- Best Brand/Product Launch
- Best Catering at an Event
- Best Conference—Less Than 5,000 Attendees
- Best Conference—More Than 5,000 Attendees
- Best Corporate Event Concept—Budget Over \$500,000
- Best Corporate Event Concept—Budget Between \$250,000 - \$500,000
- Best Corporate Event Concept—Budget Under \$250,000
- Best Cultural/Multicultural Event
- Best Esports Event
- Best Event Decor—Budget Over \$250,000
- Best Event Decor—Budget Under \$250,000
- Best Event Entertainment Act
- Best Event Lighting Design
- Best Event Technology Solution
- Best Fair/Festival
- Best Floral Design for an Event or Meeting (PEOPLE'S CHOICE)
- Best Guerrilla Marketing Initiative/Marketing Campaign
- Best Immersive Experience
- Best Incentive Program
- Best Influencer Event
- Best Millennial/Gen Z Event
- Best Mobile Tour/Roadshow
- Best New Event Product/Service (PEOPLE'S CHOICE)
- Best Nonprofit Event Concept—Budget Over \$250,000
- Best Nonprofit Event Concept—Budget Under \$250,000
- Best Press Event
- Best Reimagined Event Experience
- Best Social Event
- Best Sponsor Activation at an Event
- Best Sporting Event

- Best Staging and Set Design
- Best Sustainability/Corporate Social Responsibility Program
- Best Tabletop Design
- Best Team Building Activity
- Best Trade or Consumer Show
- Best Trade Show Booth
- Best Use of Event Technology
- Best Use of Physical Distancing Design
- 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 Use of Social Media for a Virtual Event or Meeting
- Best Virtual Association Event
- Best Virtual Attendee Gifting Experience/Swag Bag
- Best Virtual Awards Show/Ceremony
- Best Virtual Brand Activation
- Best Virtual Brand/Product Launch
- Best Virtual Conference—Less Than 1,500 Attendees
- Best Virtual Conference—More Than 1,500 Attendees
- Best Virtual Cultural/Multicultural Event
- Best Virtual Environment
- Best Virtual Esports Event
- Best Virtual Event Entertainment Act
- Best Interactive Virtual Entertainment
- Best Virtual Event/Meeting Platform
- Best Virtual Fair/Festival
- Best Virtual Fundraiser
- Best Virtual Guerrilla Marketing Initiative/Marketing Campaign
- Best Virtual Influencer Event
- Best Virtual Millennial/Gen Z Event
- Best Virtual Multi-Day Event
- Best Virtual Networking Event
- Best Virtual Networking/Matchmaking Platform
- Best Virtual Social Event
- Best Virtual Sponsor Activation
- Best Virtual Sporting Event
- Best Virtual Team Building Activity
- Best Virtual Trade or Consumer Show
- Best Virtual Trade Show Booth

SELECTION PROCESS: Industry professionals are invited to submit their most creative and effective work in over 30 award categories. Winners are chosen by event industry experts and BizBash editors and announced TBD.

This year announcements will be made via a virtual event in February 2021. In the past, this has been done in person at BizBash Live events. Future events still TBA.

**DATE OF
SUBMISSION:**

Subject to change for 2021, 2020 submissions were open August - November due to COVID and may change for 2021. 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

*Due to COVID-19, the Bon Appetit Annual Restaurant Issue is not yet confirmed for 2021

CONTACT:	Sonia Chopra sonia_chopra@condenast.com
FREQUENCY:	Annual
RESPONDENTS:	Editors travel to restaurants across the country to choose which will be featured in print with additional digital-only content.
PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:	Favorite restaurants and recipes are announced online in September and published in the October issue. Results are widely publicized to consumers.

Boutique Design
The Boutique 18: Designers of the Next Generation

- CONTACT:** Keisha Byrd
Keisha.byrd@emeraldx.com
- CRITERIA:** The 2021 nomination form is not yet available. The 2020 nomination form can be accessed [here](#) for reference.
- SELECTION PROCESS:** They will select the 18 designers based on the linked above 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:
- Noteworthy hospitality design projects
 - Contributions to the industry
 - Contributions to their employer
 - Specialized skill set
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** Submissions will go live summer 2021.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners will be announced at BDNY in November 2021. The winners are included in a Spring issue of Boutique Design and recognized at an event in the spring. Dates for the 2021 publication and event have not yet been released.
- ELIGIBILITY:** See example nomination form linked above. They are looking for young leaders who are actively pushing the envelope in hospitality interiors, worldwide.

Boutique Design

Gold Key Awards for Excellence in Hospitality Design

CONTACT: Keisha Byrd
keisha.byrd@stmediagroup.com
513-263-9341
<https://bit.ly/2sDvqEt>

CATEGORIES:

- Best Eco-Conscious or Socially-Conscious Hotel
- Best Lobby Focused Service
- Best Lobby Midscale
- Best Lobby Upper Midscale
- Best Lobby Upscale
- Best Lobby Luxury
- Best Guestroom Focused Service
- Best Guestroom Midscale
- Best Guestroom Upper Midscale
- Best Guestroom Upscale
- Best Guestroom Luxury
- Best Suite
- Best Nightclub/Lounge
- Best Emerging Hotel Concept: The Most
- Influential New Hotel Brand (Must Have At Least One Hotel Open)
- Best Restaurant Casual Dining
- Best Restaurant Fine Dining
- Best Specialty Design: Casinos, Cruise Ships, Spas, Fitness/Wellness Facilities, Hotel Retail, Senior Living, Pop-Ups, Trains, Glamping, Etc.
- Best Resort
- Best Hotel Focused Service
- Best Hotel Midscale
- Best Hotel Upper Midscale
- Best Hotel Upscale
- Best Hotel Luxury

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, 2020 to April 1, 2021. A renowned judging panel will select winners and finalists.

SUBMISSIONS:

The 2021 competition will open in April 2021. 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 on November 14-15, 2021 at the Javits Center 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
646-695-6700

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.

Condé Nast Traveler Gold List

- CONTACT:** David Jefferys
david_jefferys@condenast.com
212-286-2397
- SUMMARY:** 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 2021 list is November 2021.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Results appear in the January issue and online in mid-December.

Condé Nast Traveler Hot List

- CONTACT:** David Jefferys
david_jefferys@condenast.com
212-286-2397
- 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 mid-April.

Corporate & Incentive Travel Magazine Award of Excellence

- CONTACT:** Harvey Grotsky
harvey.grotsky@themeetingmagazines.com
561-989-0600 ext. 106
<https://bit.ly/2WrA0Bd>
- 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 of Corporate & Incentive Travel magazine.

Corporate & Incentive Travel Magazine Greens of Distinction

- CONTACT:** Harvey Grotsky
harvey.grotsky@themeetingmagazines.com
561-989-0600 ext. 106
<https://bit.ly/3rb8RAz>
- 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 of Corporate & Incentive Travel magazine.

Departures Legend Awards

*2021 Categories have not yet been announced and may differ due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the inability of editors to travel.

CONTACT:

Deanne Kaczerski
Deanne.Kaczerski@meredith.com

SUMMARY:

Curated by the editors, the Legend Awards source the best of the best in luxury offerings within the travel industry each year.

CATEGORIES:

For their timely categories—which are Best New City Hotel Openings, Best New Luxury Resorts and Lodges, Best Hotel Renovations, Cities with the Best Beautification Projects, and Best Wine and Spirit Releases— Departures will only consider entries from May 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. This means that all the new hotels, resorts, and lodges opened or completed their renovation in that time frame. It also means their favorite wine and spirits were released in that time frame, and that the beautification projects saw ongoing work between May 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021.

2020 Categories:

- Most Architecturally Interesting Buildings in the World
- Best New Hotel Openings this Year
- Best Luxury Cruise Lines
- Best Hotel Renovations this Year
- Most Beautiful Private Islands
- Best Private Transportation
- Best Cities to Visit this Year
- Most Instagrammable Destinations
- Most Amazing Over-the-Top Suites
- Products that Change the Way we Travel
- The Best Adventure Travel Experiences
- Most Unique Eco-Initiatives from Hotels & Resorts
- Best Meal We've had this Year
- Favorite In-flight Amenities this Year
- Best Wellness Experiences

SELECTION PROCESS:

Honorees are selected by editors based on what they have experienced or brands they have worked with. Best practices for being nominated include routinely sharing news and updates with the editors.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Typically announced in May.

Fodor's Go List

*The Go List has been postponed until next year due to COVID-19

CONTACT:

Jeremy Tarr
jtarr@fodors.com
310-280-4200

CATEGORIES:

The Go List is organized by region:

- Africa and the Middle East
- Asia
- Australia and the Pacific
- Europe
- Mexico and Central America
- South America
- USA and Canada

SELECTION PROCESS: There is no formal submissions process for the Go List, but Fodor's is considering creating one.

Fodor's Hotel Awards

*The Hotel Awards have been postponed until next year due to COVID-19

CONTACT:

Jeremy Tarr
jtarr@fodors.com
310-280-4200

CATEGORIES:

Award Categories change every year; the 2020 categories are listed below.

- Best Hotels in the USA
- Best Hotels in Europe
- Best Hotels in Asia
- Best Hotels in the Caribbean
- Best Hotels in Mexico + Central America
- Best Hotels in South America
- Best Hotels in Africa
- Best Hotels in the Middle East
- Best Hotels in Australis + the Pacific
- Best Hotels in Canada

SELECTION PROCESS:

This list is curated by the Fodor's editors. Nominations are open to the public in February and close in July (approximately).

REQUIREMENTS:

Nominees must be submitted through an independent portal. See sample linked form to submit nominations below.
(<http://bit.ly/2MQ5FWC>)

**Food & Wine Magazine
Best New Chefs**

- CONTACT:** Nina Friend
Nina.friend@foodandwine.com
202-445-6000
- CRITERIA:** Chefs must be “Head of the Kitchen” for less than five years.
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Nominators consist of a "trusted group of nominators" including writers for the magazine, past honorees, Food & Wine freelancers, restaurateurs, etc. They are 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 firsthand.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** No official form to submit.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners are announced in April, but formally announced to readers in the July issue.

Forbes Travel Guide

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

CONTACT:

Amanda Fraser
afrasier@forbestravelguide.com
404-906-6017

Jennifer Lodge
jlodge@forbestravelguide.com

Chris Fradin
cfradin@forbestravelguide.com

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:

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. Forbes Travel Guide covers all its own evaluation costs for the official star rating process. However, existing star rated properties and any eligible properties may proactively seek to partner with Forbes Travel Guide and, for a fee, receive transparency around the inspection process and their results. Properties in The Americas interested in a Global Partnership should contact Jennifer Lodge and properties in EMEA and APAC may contact Chris Fradin.

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
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 if 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 in mass. An e-commerce site helps greatly.
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** Nominations open mid-May and close July 1.
- 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; however, with COVID-19 an event may not happen in person.

Golf Digest U.S. Awards

CONTACT:

Stephen Hennessy
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
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 first part of the year; varies between February-April.

Hospitality Design Magazine Hospitality Design Awards

CONTACT:

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

CATEGORIES:

Projects:

- Lifestyle Hotel
- Lifestyle Public Space
- Luxury Hotel
- Luxury Public Space
- Upscale Hotel
- Upscale Public Space
- Luxury, Upscale + Lifestyle Guestroom
- Midscale Hotel
- Midscale Public Space
- Select-Service Hotel
- Select-Service Public Space
- Midscale + Select-Service Guestroom
- Restoration, Transformation + Conversions
- Resort
- Sustainable
- Wellness + Wellbeing
- Upscale Restaurant
- Casual Restaurant
- Cafes + Coffee Shops
- Lounge, Nightclub + Bar
- Event Space
- Hybrid Hospitality
- Visual Identity
- Student Project
- Open
- Hotelier of the Year (chosen by staff)
- Designer of the Year (chosen by staff)

Products:

- Accessories
- Bath
- Case goods + Furniture
- Custom Art + Installations
- Flooring
- Lighting
- Outdoor Furniture
- Seating
- Surfaces

- Technology
- Textiles + Fabrics
- Wallcoverings
- Special Judges' Award: F&B

DEADLINE: The 2021 call for submissions has not yet been announced.

**PRESENTATION
OF RESULTS:** The awards ceremony will be held virtually on June 8, 2021.

HOTELS.com

Top Guest Rated U.S. Hotels of the Year

- CONTACT:** Jennifer Dohm
jdohm@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 Pet Friendly Hotels
 - Best All-Inclusive Hotels
 - Best Ski Hotels
 - Best Homes and Apartments
 - Best Ski Hotels
 - Most Wanted Hotels
 - Best Sustainable Hotels
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** Winners are announced in February.

**Hotels Magazine
Hotelier of the World**

- CONTACT:** Mr. Jeff Weinstein
jweinstein@hotelsmag.com
312-274-2226
- 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.**
- DATE OF SUBMISSION:** April issue contains ballots which are due in July.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** 2021 presentation TBD.
- ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all, United States or foreign. Work completed after January 1, 2020 through the date of entry, is eligible for entry in 2021. Entries submitted in prior years may be resubmitted if the results of the campaign have changed significantly, or if additional elements have been added to the piece or program after January 1, 2020.

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

*Due to COVID, 2020 dates were shifted and may not reflect 2021 deadlines

- CONTACT:** Ellen Wilson
ewilson@hsmi.org
571-442-8489
- DATE OF GALA:** March 30, 2021 in Hollywood, Florida
- TYPE:** Best in Show
Platinum
Gold
Silver
Bronze
- CRITERIA:** Depending on Category, Statement of Communications may include:
- Situational Analysis
 - Project Analysis
 - Marketing Objectives
 - Goals
 - Target Audiences
 - Research, Planning and Implementation
 - Message
 - Leadership
 - Results + Impact
 - Budget
- CATEGORIES:** The 2020 Adrian Categories:
- Corporate Social Responsibility
 - Crisis Communications/Management
 - Recovery Strategies
 - Talent and Leadership Development
- Traditional Categories:
- Advertising Campaign -COMPLETE CAMPAIGN (to include Positioning) -Consumer/Group Sales/Travel Trade
 - Advertising Single Entry -Television – Consumer
 - Digital Campaign -Contest/Sweepstakes
 - Digital Campaign -Integrated Market Campaign for Consumers (B2C)
 - Digital Campaign-Search Marketing Strategy
 - Digital Campaign – Social Media Campaign
 - Digital Marketing Innovation

- Digital Marketing Series – Multimedia (Video, Flash, Animation) Series
- Digital Single Item – Social Media/Social Networking
- Digital Single Item -Video
- Digital Single Item -Web Site
- Integrated Marketing Campaign
- PR Campaign -MARKETING PROGRAM- Consumer
- PR Campaign -NEW OPENING/LAUNCH
- PR Campaign -RE-LAUNCH OF EXISTING PRODUCT
- PR Campaign -SPECIAL EVENT
- PR Campaign -Influencer Marketing
- PR Single Item -FEATURE PLACEMENT ONLINE – Consumer Media
- PR Single Item -FEATURE PLACEMENT ONLINE – Trade Media
- PR Single Item -FEATURE PLACEMENT PRINT – Consumer Magazine or Newspaper

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.

DEADLINES: 2021 dates are TBD.

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

*2021 deadlines and dates have yet to be announced

CONTACT:

Kathie Stapleton
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
Possible Addition for 2021: Hospitality Student of the Year

CRITERIA:

- Frank W. Berkman Tourism Achievement Award:
The recipient of this award is selected by the HSMAIGNY Past Presidents' Council based on outstanding contributions by an organization or an individual to the hospitality and tourism industry in NYC.
- Chapter Awards of Excellence:
A member or non-member of the organization may be nominated for the HSMAIGNY Awards of Excellence, must accept the nomination, and complete a Nomination Consideration form. Awards are given in the following categories:
- 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. Have responsibility for either multiple properties or have a direct report who is a revenue manager, revenue analyst or reservations manager.
 2. 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
 - **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.

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: 2021 deadlines and dates have yet to be announced.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to domestic and international.

Insurance & Financial Meetings Management Magazine World Class Award

- CONTACT:** Mr. Harvey Grotsky
harvey.grotsky@themeetingmagazines.com
561-989-0600 ext. 106
- CATEGORIES:**
- 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
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Ballots are sent to subscribers six weeks prior to publication date.
- REQUIREMENTS:** The voter must be a qualified subscriber.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Award winners announced in October or December issue of Insurance and Financial Meetings Management.
- ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all U.S., International and offshore properties; Caribbean, Mexico and Canada.

International Travel and Tourism Awards

- CONTACT:** Nicole Collett
awards@reedexpo.co.uk
Muminah Rasul
muminah@cl-events.com
44-0-20-8432-4320
- APPLICATION:** 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:** Call for entries typically opens March and closes end of May.
- CATEGORIES:**
- Best National Tourism Board Campaign
 - Most Innovative Use of Technology Within a Destination
 - Best Tourism Marketing Agency
 - Best Destination Campaign
 - Best PR Campaign
 - Best Digital Campaign in Tourism
 - Best Digital Influencer Campaign
 - Best in Wellness
 - Best in Responsible Tourism
 - Best in Adventure
 - Best Food Destination
 - Best in LGBT
 - Best in Luxury
 - Best Attraction
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** 2021 dates are TBD, likely early November.

James Beard Foundation Awards

UPDATE:

The James Beard Foundation Awards will not be returning in 2021. This includes Chef and Restaurant Awards, Book Awards, Journalism Awards, Broadcast and New Media Awards and Restaurant Design and Graphics Awards.

CONTACT:

awards@jamesbeard.org

Luxury Travel Advisor Awards of Excellence

*Due to COVID-19, there has been no update on how these awards will be handled in 2021.

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 – 2020 award categories listed below.

- Airlines: Best First-Class Service
- Best FIT Operator
- Best Luxury Escorted Tour Operator
- Best Local Destination Management Company
- Best Chauffeured Services Worldwide
- Best Luxury Car Rental Company
- Top North American Hotel Opening 2019*
- Top Asia Hotel Opening 2019*
- Top Middle East Hotel Opening 2019*
- Top European Hotel Opening 2019*
- Top African/Indian Ocean Hotel Opening 2019*
- Top Caribbean Hotel Opening 2019*
- Top Mexico/Central America Opening 2019*
- Best Boutique Hotel in London
- Best Boutique Hotel in New York
- Top Luxury Boutique Hotel in Europe
- Top Luxury Hotel in Florida
- Top Luxury Hotel in California
- Top Luxury Hotel in Paris
- Top Luxury Hotel in Rome
- Top Luxury Honeymoon Hotel Worldwide
- Top Renovation for 2019
- Best Cruise Line for Luxury Ocean Cruises
- Best Cruise Line for Luxury Small Ships
- Best Luxury River Cruise Company
- Most Anticipated New Hotel Opening for 2020
- Top Luxury Hotel Worldwide
- Top Luxury Sales Executive Worldwide
- Top General Manager Worldwide

SLATE FINALIZED: Second week of December

VOTING DATES: Voting is typically open to Travel Advisor readers from January to March. Please note, dates are subject to change.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: Typically, results appear online in May and in print June.

Michelin Group

Michelin Restaurant Guide

*Please note the 2021 guides have been indefinitely delayed in the U.S. due to COVID-19

CONTACT NAME: Lauren McClure
lauren.mcclure@michelin.com
864-458-6871
<https://guide.michelin.com/en>

CRITERIA: Stars - The guide awards one to three stars to a small number of restaurants of outstanding quality. One star indicates a "high quality cooking, worth a stop," 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. Please note, this is not used in all Michelin country guides.

Bib Gourmand - Created in 1997, the Bib Gourmand aims to extend and strengthen the link between mobility and gastronomy for everyone. This recent distinction, much appreciated by readers eager for good ideas, rewards good establishments – often hidden and only found during a detour on a trip – which serve high quality food at a reasonable price. The Michelin guide Bib Gourmand selection covers restaurants that offer a full menu of starter, main course and dessert up to a certain price limit dependent on location, thereby ensuring that everyone can access the pleasures of good restaurant food at a reasonable price. Bib (Bibendum) is the company's nickname for the Michelin Man, its corporate logo for over a century. 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.

The MICHELIN Plate - Michelin Plate or “Assiette” is the latest distinction to be included in the guide. Created in 2016, it is given to establishments serving good food and good meals. The first level of entry to the Michelin guide, the Michelin Plate is awarded to restaurants whose cuisine meets the required quality level for

inclusion. In addition, it recognizes and highlights the work of these restaurants' teams, which is crucial for their success.

Other ratings - All listed restaurants, regardless of their star, Plate 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: ex. one fork and spoon represent "quite comfortable" and five signifies "luxury in the traditional style." Forks and spoons colored red designate a restaurant that is considered "pleasant" as well. For hotels, a "house ranking" designation ranges in ranking from one house as "quite comfortable" to five houses as "luxury in the traditional style."

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.
- *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, a "notable" selection of wines, sake, or cocktails, respectively.

SELECTION PROCESS: Michelin inspectors – both in the United States and internationally – conduct anonymous visits to restaurants to award Stars, Bib Gourmands and Plates. Inspectors continue to apply five criteria defined by Michelin: quality of the ingredients, cooking skills and harmony of the flavors, the chef's personality as expressed in the cuisine, consistency over time and across the entire menu and value for money. Stars are awarded just for what is on the plate. It gives a separate ranking for restaurant's ambience and service.

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

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

The four U.S. Guides are distributed to bookstores and published online each year. They are updated annually, and all restaurants are re-inspected. Please note the 2021 guides have been indefinitely delayed in the U.S.

Preservation Magazine National Preservation Awards

CONTACT:

Lizzy Barringer
lbarringer@savingplaces.org
202-588-6315
<https://forum.savingplaces.org/act/preservation-awards>

FREQUENCY:

Annual

CRITERIA:

The National Preservation Awards, presented annually at the PastForward Conference, are bestowed on distinguished individuals, nonprofit organizations, public agencies and corporations whose skill and determination have given new meaning to their communities through preservation of our architectural and cultural heritage. These efforts include citizen attempts to save and maintain important landmarks; companies and craftsmen whose work restores the richness of the past; the vision of public officials who support preservation projects and legislation in their communities; and educators and journalists who help Americans understand the value of preservation.

CATEGORIES:

- Richard H. Driehaus Foundation National Preservation Award recognizes and celebrates the "best of the best" in preservation projects across the country—projects that highlight cutting-edge preservation approaches or technologies. This is the highest national recognition bestowed upon a preservation project by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Nominated projects must have been completed within three years of the submission deadline. Nominations may be made without the knowledge of the nominee, but nominees must be present at the award ceremony to receive recognition.
- American Express Aspire Award recognizes an emerging leader in the preservation field who has made significant achievements in preservation. The Aspire Award highlights the promise and potential of the preservation field through its talented emerging leaders. Individuals nominated for the Aspire Award must have ten or fewer years of experience in the preservation field. National Trust for Historic Preservation Trustees, Advisors, and staff are not eligible to receive a National Preservation Award for individual achievement during the period of their active service and for three years thereafter. Properties owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation will not be considered, nor will individuals or

groups of individuals for their work relative to National Trust properties.

- Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award is the National Trust for Historic Preservation's highest national recognition. The award is made with the greatest care and only when there is indisputable evidence of superlative achievement over time in the preservation and interpretation of our cultural, architectural or maritime heritage, including buildings, architecture, districts, archeology, cultural landscapes, and objects of significance in the history and culture of the United States. The nominee must be an individual or organization who has made substantial contributions to the historic preservation field. Organizational awardees are very rare. Posthumous nominations are not accepted. Self-nominations are not accepted.
- Trustees' Award for Organization Excellence recognizes a nonprofit organization, large or small, that has demonstrated sustained and superlative achievement in historic preservation. Nominees must be a non-profit organization that has historic preservation as its primary mission. Staffed and all-volunteer organizations are eligible.
- Trustees Emeritus Award for Historic Site Stewardship recognizes success and innovation in historic preservation, management, and programming at historic sites. Nominated projects/programs must have been completed within three years of the submission deadline. Nominated projects can be submitted on behalf of nonprofit or for-profit organizations.

NOMINATIONS:

Nominators must complete one nomination [form](#) and submit it before the February deadline in order for the nominee to be considered.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Nominations for the 2021 National Preservation Awards have not yet been announced. Submissions are usually due early February and winners are announced at the PastForward conference sometime in October.

Pacific Asia Travel Association PATA Gold Awards

CONTACT:

Ms. Nantharat Watthanasrimongkol

goldawards@PATA.org

+662-658-2000 ext. 131

www.PATA.org/goldawards

CATEGORIES:

- Marketing Campaign (six Gold Awards and one Grand Award)
 - Primary Government/Destination (As defined by the PATA)
 - Secondary Government/Destination (State or city tourism organization)
 - Carrier (Airline, cruise, airport, train etc.)
 - Hospitality (Individual hotel, resort hotel or management company)
 - Industry (Any other travel and tourism organization)
 - Young Travelers/Adventure Travel
- Women Empowerment Initiative
- Environment (three Gold Awards and one Grand Award)
 - Ecotourism Project
 - Corporate Environmental Program
 - 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
 - Consumer Travel Brochure
 - Travel Advertisement Broadcast Media
 - Travel Advertisement Print Media
 - Travel Poster
 - Promotional Travel Video
 - Public Relations Campaign
 - Social Media
 - Website
 - Mobile Travel Application
 - Promotional E-Newsletter
 - Travel Journalism
 - Destination Article (Consumer audience)
 - Industry Business Article (Travel trade audience)
 - Travel Photograph
 - Travel Guidebook

REQUIREMENTS: An entry fee of \$20-200 for each entry must be included.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Details to be announced in January and submissions typically open in February, with the deadline to submit in April. Award recipients will be notified in July.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: At the PATA Travel Mart, Astana, Kazakhstan, September 2021.

**Robb Report
Best of the Best**

- CONTACT:** Janice O’Leary
Executive Editor
janiceo@robbreport.com
310-589-7888
- 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 2020.
- CATEGORIES:**
- Wheels
 - Style
 - Journeys
 - Home
 - Wings & Water
 - Wine
 - Spirits
 - Cigars
 - Technology (sometimes)
- SELECTION PROCESS:** There is no official selection process. Honorees are selected by editors based on what they have experienced or brands they have worked with.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Listed in the June issue of Robb Report.

**Smart Meetings Magazine
Platinum Choice Awards**

*2021 dates are TBD

- CONTACT:** JT Long
jtlong@smartmeetings.com
415-339-9355
www.smartmeetings.com
- CATEGORIES:** Hotels & Venues
CVBs
- CRITERIA:** A prominent benchmark in the meetings industry, the premier recognition program honors hotels, venues and destinations that demonstrate exemplary standards of excellence in service and amenities including ambience, breadth of resources, facility quality, guest services, recreational activities, dining options, technical support and more.
- SELECTION PROCESS:** Readers nominate their favorite hotels, resorts and CVBs to reward those who helped make their events a success. Smart Meetings editorial team who selected the final honorees.
- DATE OF 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:** Voting begins in October and winners are announced in November. Winners are featured in the December issue.

**Smart Meetings Magazine
Smart Star Awards**

*2021 dates are TBD

CONTACT:

JT Long
Editorial Director
jtlong@smartmeetings.com
415-339-9355
www.smartmeetings.com

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 CVB/DMO
- Best Decor
- Best Desert Hotel
- Best DMC
- Best Eco/Green Hotel
- Best Executive Retreat
- Best Family-Friendly Hotel/Resort
- Best Food and Beverage
- Best Gaming/Casino Hotel
- Best Golf Resort
- Best Historic Hotel
- Best Hotel Pool
- Best Hotel Spa
- Best Incentive Hotel
- Best International Hotel CVB/DMO
- Best Island Hotel
- Best Mountain/Ski Hotel
- Best Outdoor Event Space
- Best Special Event Venue
- Best Overall Boutique/Lifestyle Hotel Brand
- Best Overall Hotel Chain
- Best Special Event Venue

CRITERIA:

One category allowed per property; online profile required.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Nominations and voting are open through March 31, and winners are announced in June issue. Participating hotels and venues receive a one quarter page profile in special section.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

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

*2021 dates are TBD

CONTACT:

JT Long
jtlong@smartmeetings.com
415-339-9355
www.smartmeetings.com

CRITERIA:

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

SELECTION PROCESS: Nominees are vetted and selected internally.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: Nominations details announced in December.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

Nominees are announced in January and results are included in the March issue.

Southeast Tourism Society (STS) Shining Example Awards

- CONTACT:** Tonja Ray-Smith
Tonja@SoutheastTourism.org
770-542-1523
<https://www.southeasttourism.org/meetings/shining-example>
- 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; however, 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 (3 categories)
 - Category 1: Annual advertising/marketing budget < \$100,000
 - Category 2: Annual advertising/marketing budget of \$100,000 - \$499,999
 - Category 3: Annual advertising/marketing budget of \$500,000 or more
 - Best Niche Marketing Campaign
 - Partnership Award
 - Chairman of the Board Award (not open to nomination)
 - Dorothy Hardman Spirit of STS Award (not open to nomination)
 - Best Epicurean Partner
 - Best Lodging Partner
- SELECTION PROCESS:** The 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.
- ELIGIBILITY:** Available to STS Members & Non-Members.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners will be announced at the STS Annual Meeting in 2022.

**Southern Living
South's Best Awards**

CONTACT: Valerie Luesse
Valerie.Luesse@timeinc.com

CRITERIA: Editors compile nominees for each category before the public votes on their favorites. LHG will 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.

AWARDS: Winners announced in the April issue of Southern Living Magazine and online.

StarChefs.com **Rising Stars Awards**

CONTACT: Amelia Schwartz
aschwartz@starchefinc.com
212-966-3775 ext. 119
<https://www.starchefs.com/>

LOCATIONS: Los Angeles - March 2021
South Florida - June 2021
Chicago - August 2021
Dallas - December 2021

CATEGORIES:

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

SELECTION PROCESS: Rising Stars are nominated by the StarChefs Advisory Board, by previous Rising Stars Award Winners, by local food media, by StarChefs' editorial research and via the [Rising Stars Nomination Form](#) on Starchefs.com. Rising Stars are chosen by the StarChefs editorial team via in-person tastings and interviews. In each city, the editorial team tastes and interviews with 80 to 120 chefs, pastry chefs, bartenders, sommeliers, and artisans, ultimately selecting a group of 18-20 that we feel best embody the vanguard of that city's dining scene. 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: The deadline for nominations is three months prior to review. Exact review dates TBD.

Successful Meetings + Meetings & Conventions Stella Awards

- CONTACT:** Loren Edelstein
ledelstein@ntmlc.com
201-902-1978
<https://bit.ly/2JwdKTQ>
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- RESPONDENTS:** The 2021 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 17 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:** 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*](#).

Early Bird Deadline: February 19, 2021

Final Entry Deadline: March 19, 2021

Public voting will be open from April 7 through May 14. Finalists will be notified via email on May 26. Judging will be finalized on July 12, 2021.

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

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

Winners will be announced November 4, 2021.

Travel + Leisure It List

- CONTACT:** John Wogan
john.wogan@gmail.com
- 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.
- 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:** Delayed until May, due to COVID-19.

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

*2021 deadlines are TBD

CONTACT: customerservice@travelweeklyawards.com
212-675-3555 or 606-326-9326
<https://www.travelweeklyawards.com/>

FREQUENCY: Annual

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

CATEGORIES:

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

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: 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

DEADLINES: 2021 deadlines are TBD

**PRESENTATION
OF RESULTS:**

Judging for the Travel Weekly Magellan Awards will be completed in August. Entrants will also be notified of their entry's status by email or post in early September. Winners will be featured in an issue of Travel Weekly in October that will include a special section dedicated to the winners.

TravelMole

UK TravelMole Web Awards

*2021 deadlines are TBD

CONTACT:

Graham McKenzie

graham@travelmoleinc.com

+44-776-446-9992

<https://www.travelmole.com/awards.php>

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. 2021 dates are 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. The date yet to be set.

**USA Today
10 Best Awards**

CONTACT:

Travis Seward
tseward@usatoday.com
<https://www.10best.com/about/>

**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
eshields@usnews.com
202-955-2103
<http://travel.usnews.com/Rankings/>

OVERVIEW:

U.S. News & World Report is known for its ranking system and annual reports on American colleges, graduate schools and hospitals, but entered the travel ranking game 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.

Best Vacations

U.S. News Travel ranks travel destinations against one another in specific categories (e.g., Best Romantic Getaways in the USA). All destination rankings are updated once per year on a rolling basis.

Categories include:

- Best Family Vacations
- Best Cheap Vacations
- Best Beach Vacations
- Vacations by Season
- Vacations by Month
- Romantic & Honeymoon Vacations

Best Hotels

U.S. News & World Report identifies the best hotels using a comprehensive methodology centered on three components: reputation among professional travel experts, guest reviews and hotel class ratings. U.S. News & World Report releases annual rankings of the:

- Best Hotels in the USA
- Best Resorts in the USA
- Best Hotels in the Caribbean
- Best All-Inclusive Resorts in the Caribbean
- Best Hotels in Mexico
- Best Hotels in Bermuda
- Best Hotels in Europe

- Best All-Inclusive Resorts in Mexico
- Best Hotels in Canada
- Best Resorts in Canada

Best Cruises

U.S. News ranks cruise lines 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
- Best Cruise Lines in the Mediterranean

The highest-ranking cruise line on each of the six rankings have been identified with a Gold badge as the "Best." The No. 2- and No. 3-ranked cruise lines qualified as "finalists" in a category and are identified by Silver badges.

Best Rewards Programs

U.S. News & World Report ranks travel rewards programs in two categories:

- Airline Frequent Flyer Programs
- Hotel Loyalty Programs

U.S. News identifies the best airline and hotel rewards programs; programs that score in the top 30% receive a U.S. News Best Travel Rewards Program Award.

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
estoawards@ustravel.org
202-218-3604
<https://ustravel.secure-platform.com/a/page/about/categories>

CATEGORIES:

- Branding and Integrated Marketing: Destination Marketing Budget < \$500,000
- Branding and Integrated Marketing Campaign: Destination Marketing Budget \$500,000 to \$1 Million
- 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
- Branding and Integrated Marketing Campaign: Destination Marketing Budget >\$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

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 is TBA.

ELIGIBILITY:

The Destiny Awards are open to local and regional destination marketing organizations or convention and visitors bureaus that are members of the U.S. Travel Association. There is a \$125 entry fee per submission.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

The winner will be announced at the U.S. Travel Association Educational Seminar for Tourism Organizations (ESTO). 2021 dates are TBA.

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

CONTACT: Norah Thomas
estoawards@ustravel.org
nthomas@ustravel.org
202-218-3638
<https://www.ustravel.org/programs/national-council-state-tourism-directors-ncstd>

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.

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 spring and is judged mid-summer.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: The winner will be announced at the U.S. Travel Association Educational Seminar for Tourism Organizations (ESTO). 2021 dates are TBA.

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

*2021 nomination dates are TBA

- 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.
- ELIGIBILITY:** The ideal candidate for the Destinations Council Rising Star is a professional who works within a DMO, has three or more years 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 the U.S. Travel Association Educational Seminar for Tourism Organizations (ESTO). 2021 dates are TBA.

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

*2021 dates are TBD

- 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. 2021 nomination dates are TBA.
- 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 the U.S. Travel Association Educational Seminar for Tourism Organizations (ESTO). 2021 dates are TBA.

VIBE
Vista Awards
*Postponed for 2021

CONTACT: Michelle Osborne
mosborne@questex.com

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 Program
- Best Spirits Program
- 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: VIBE Vista Awards are postponed for 2021.

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

VIRTUOSO LIFE Magazine
Best of the Best Virtuoso Awards

*This award is TBD due to COVID-19

CONTACT:

Virtuoso Hotels & Resorts
hotelsandresorts@virtuoso.com
817-870-0300

FREQUENCY:

Annual

SELECTION PROCESS:

Editors of VIRTUOSO LIFE Magazine review submissions from members of the Virtuoso network and research hundreds of properties to select award nominees, who are announced in June. Virtuoso's travel advisors lend their experience and first-hand accounts to the voting process, as they determine the winners in each category. To be considered, properties 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.

*Awards were not handed out in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

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

VISIT FLORIDA The Flagler Awards

CONTACT:

Leslie Pearsall
lpearsall@visitflorida.org
850-205-3865
<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 May. Winners will be notified in July.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Awards will be presented at the Florida Governor’s Conference on Tourism held the first week of September in 2021.

**Wine Enthusiast
America's 100 Best Wine Restaurants**

*Details are TBD due to COVID-19

CONTACT:

Lauren Buzzeo
lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net
914-345-9463 ext. 4613

FREQUENCY:

Annual

SELECTION PROCESS:

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

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

2021 information not yet available. 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19.

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

CONTACT:	Lauren Buzzeo Managing Editor lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net 914-345-9463 ext. 4613
FREQUENCY:	Annual
RESPONDENTS:	Voting is done by an internal panel of judges chosen by Wine Enthusiast.
PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:	Results are published in the December (or “Best of the Year”) issue.

**Wine Enthusiast
Top 100 Best Buys**

CONTACT:

Lauren Buzzeo
Managing Editor
914-345-9463 ext. 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
914-345-9463 ext. 4613
lbuzzeo@wineenthusiast.net
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- RESPONDENTS:** Voting is done by an internal panel of judges chosen by Wine Enthusiast.
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Individuals can be submitted to Lauren Buzzeo by April 1, 2021 for consideration in the 2021 edition. Results are published in the October issue.

**Wine Enthusiast
Top 10 Wine Travel Destinations**

CONTACT:

Lauren Buzzeo
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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 the 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
2,431 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 enough choice to satisfy discerning wine lovers.
- Best of Award of Excellence
1,245 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
100 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:** The application for 2021 has not yet opened. If you would like to receive email reminders, you may sign up [here](#).
- ELIGIBILITY:** Entrant details can be found [here](#).

Working Mother Magazine Working Mother 100 Best Companies

CONTACT:

Crystal Vagnier
crystal.vagnier@workingmother.com
surveysupport@workingmother.com
212-219-7411
www.workingmother.com

CATEGORIES:

Five areas are assessed: representation, parental leave, family support, advancement and flexibility.

SELECTION PROCESS:

The online registration form to receive an application can be found [here](#). The application includes 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 2021 Working Mother 100 Best Companies is available December 9, 2020 and is due March 12, 2021. The 2021 Working Mother 100 Best Companies list will be announced in the October/November 2021 issue of Working Mother Magazine and online. Winning companies will also be celebrated at the WorkBeyond Summit in October 2021, to be held in New York City.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Your company must have a minimum of 500 employees in the United States.
- Your company must offer at least TWO weeks of fully paid maternity (this includes disability pay, but does not include any type of accrued or banked time off) or parental (family) leave to all female full-time exempt or non-exempt employees who have been with the company for one year or more.
- Your company must offer some type of flex benefits.
- The following organizations are NOT eligible to apply: Government agencies (taxation and revenue departments, motor vehicle bureaus, military, legislatures, executive branches, judiciaries, prosecutorial offices, etc.). Public or private companies

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

World Travel Awards

CONTACT: awards@worldtravelawards.com
+44-0-20-7925-0000
www.worldtravelawards.com

SELECTION PROCESS: 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: 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:

- Country/Sub-Region Categories: 399 GBP
- Regional Categories: 499 GBP
- Travel Technology Awards: 499 GBP

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 2021 dates and information will be released in January.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:

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

CONTACT:

Lucy Matthews

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.
- **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.
- **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
- **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.

- **Changemakers Award Criteria**
This award aims to celebrate the force for good tourism can be to help combat the illegal trade in wildlife and while the following list is not exhaustive, it is anticipated that organizations be able to demonstrate exceptional practices in activities aimed at preventing the illegal trade in wildlife, Board-level commitment to eliminate the illegal trade in wildlife, Policies for protecting wildlife embedded across the organization, Evidence of significant investment in communities affected by illegal wildlife trade/poaching and The development of capacity to allow for the more effective future protection of wildlife

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

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/2r12KGE>

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 Annual Global Summit.

Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Survey

*2021 dates are TBD

- CONTACT:** David Jefferys
Editor, Service & Surveys
david_jefferys@condenast.com
212-286-2397
- FREQUENCY:** Annual
- RESPONDENTS:** The Reader's Choice Survey is typically open from April 1 to June 30. 2021 dates are still TBD.
- CATEGORIES:** Subject to change
- Golf Resorts
 - Properties
 - Cities
 - Islands
 - Cruise Lines
 - Transportation – Airlines, Cruise Lines
 - Hotels
- CRITERIA:** 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.
- 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.
- RESULTS:** Typically appear in November print issue and online in October.
- NOTE:** CNT now charges for use of the CNT World's Reader's Choice Seal, 2020 rates were as follows:
- 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.)

**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.

Gayot
Top 40 Restaurants in the US

- CONTACT:** Sophie Gayot
Sophie.Gayot@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.
- To submit a restaurant for consideration, email Sophie Gayot and she will review for inclusion.
- CATEGORIES:** Sample categories include:
Top 40 Restaurants in the U.S.
Best New Restaurants
Best Restaurateur
Top Five Restaurants with Striking Décor
- PRESENTATION OF RESULTS:** Winners announced in December 2021, official date TBD.

Hemispheres Readers' Choice Awards

CONTACT: Ellen Carpenter
Editor in Chief
347-294-1220
Ellen.carpenter@ink-global.com

FREQUENCY: Annual

CRITERIA: There are two rounds of voting. You have until June 1, 2021 to write in your own personal responses for each category. Then the team at Hemispheres will compile all of the ballots, determine the finalists, and send out the final ballot on June 10, 2021 when you will then have until July 10, 2021 to vote – these dates are what was utilized in 2020 and will likely be used for 2021 but not officially announced.

CATEGORIES:

- Favorite American City
- Favorite International City
- Best American City for Kids
- Best International City for Kids
- Best American Hotel for Families
- Best International Hotel for Families
- Most Romantic American Destination
- Most Romantic International Destination
- Best American Wine Region
- Best International Wine Region
- Best American Beach
- Best International Beach
- Best American Beach Resort
- Best international Beach Resort
- Best American All-Inclusive Resort
- Best International All-Inclusive Resort
- Best American Urban Hotel
- Best International Urban Hotel
- Best American Museum
- Best International Museum
- Best State of Adventure Travel
- Best International Country for Adventure Travel
- Best American Ski Resort
- Best International Ski Resort
- Best American Spa
- Best International Spa

- Coolest Up-and-Coming City
- Best City for Arts
- Best City for Beer Lovers
- Best City for Fine Dining
- Best City for Street Food
- Best City for Sports Lovers
- Most Beautiful National Park
- Best Place to See Wildlife
- Best Theme Park
- Best Cultural Festival
- Best Ocean Cruise Line
- Best River or Small Ship Cruise Line
- Best Zoo
- Best Aquarium

SELECTION PROCESS: Readers' choice – encouraged to promote get out the vote tactics.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS: September print issue and online.

**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:

Sarah Bruning
Senior editor and WBA editorial lead
sarah.bruning@travelandleisure.com
https://wba.m-rr.com/WBA_Launch_Notice.html

VOTING:

Voting is conducted via the survey platform found at <https://wba.m-rr.com/>. Voting takes place January 11, 2021 through May 10, 2021. Each person/email can only vote once. Travel + Leisure requests that all nominees follow its promotional guidelines when getting out the vote.

For example, in your outreach, do not use phrases “VOTE FOR US” or “VOTE FOR <COMPANY NAME>” or anything similar; instead use more generic messaging, like “VOTE NOW IN THE TRAVEL + LEISURE 2021 WORLD’S BEST AWARDS SURVEY.” These and other considerations can be found in the linked above Promotional Guidelines.

CATEGORIES:

Airlines; Airports; Cities; Cruises; Destination Spas; Hotel Brands; Hotels; Islands; Rental Cars; Tours & Safaris
For more information, please visit:
<https://www.travelandleisure.com/worlds-best/frequently-asked-questions>

**PRESENTATION OF
RESULTS:**

Online in September 2021; in print October 2021.

Travel Weekly Readers' Choice Awards

CONTACT:

Anthony Carnevale
ACarnevale@NTMLLC.com
<https://www.travelweekly.com/readers-choice-finalists>

RESPONDENTS:

Travel Weekly readers are invited to cast their votes to determine finalists. The open ballot phase of the voting will be conducted in July 2021. Readers were invited to write in the names of any company they believed best exemplified that particular category. The leading vote recipients will be identified as finalists and voting is expected to take place from Sept. through Nov. 2021. The exact 2021 dates for voting have not yet been determined.

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 are featured in the Dec. issue of Travel Weekly. Winners are revealed at an event mid-December and featured in the upcoming January issue.