

Free: A SPECIAL 52-PAGE CULINARY GUIDE TO DUBAI

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LUXURY

Travel

The
GOLD
LIST
2016



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SWISS BLISS

THE 10 BEST PLACES TO
STAY IN SWITZERLAND

THE GOLD LIST 2016

Here are the winners and finalists of our annual Gold List Awards for 2016 where you, our readers, vote for the best luxury travel operators and destinations. Now in its 12th year, the awards recognise the ultimate in luxury travel in Australia and around the world.

This year, we have included a select group of specialist luxury travel agents who send their clients daily to discover the world's most exciting and luxurious properties and travel experiences. Here, they share their nominated preferences across several categories. Our editorial team has also chosen a wider selection of editor's picks based on our expert knowledge and travels to new luxury properties and operators around the world – as well as the timeless classics that continue to excel in luxury hospitality.

Thank you to the thousands of readers and Virtuoso clients who took the time to vote online at our new website, luxurytravelmag.com.au

Congratulations to all of this year's winners.

Introducing our specialist luxury travel agent Gold List panel



STEPHEN WHITE
DIRECTOR –
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
THE EXCLUSIVE TRAVEL
GROUP,
TAURANGA NZ



FAY COHEN
OWNER
TRAVEL PHASE,
SYDNEY



MELINDA GREGOR
MANAGING DIRECTOR
GREGOR & LEWIS,
SYDNEY



YVONNE VERSTANDIG
DIRECTOR
EXECUTIVE EDGE
TRAVEL + EVENTS,
MELBOURNE



This icon signifies that the award winner has made the Gold List every year for the past

five years or more. They are our Hall of Fame members and deserve special recognition.



Best Australian Hotel

1. **PARK HYATT SYDNEY**

Congratulations to Park Hyatt Sydney, back on top this year as your favourite Australian Hotel. The hotel previously won in this category in 2012, as well as in our first ever Gold List in 2005.

2. Crown Towers, Melbourne
3. Four Seasons Hotel Sydney
4. Shangri-La Hotel, Sydney
5. Hotel Hotel (Canberra)
6. The Langham, Sydney
7. The Langham, Melbourne
8. Sheraton on the Park, Sydney
9. Park Hyatt Melbourne
10. InterContinental Sydney
11. Mansion Hotel & Spa at Werribee Park (VIC)
12. QT Sydney
13. Sofitel Melbourne on Collins
14. Palazzo Versace, Gold Coast
15. The Westin Sydney
16. Pier One Sydney Harbour
17. Ovolo 1888 Darling Harbour
18. Grand Hyatt Melbourne
19. The Hotel Windsor, Melbourne

GOLD LIST PANELIST PICK:

Park Hyatt Sydney
"Consistently fabulous."
 Stephen White, The Exclusive Travel Group

EDITOR'S PICKS:

Park Hyatt Sydney has an unsurpassed harbour-front location. We also like Hotel Hotel in Canberra for its innovative approach to hospitality; and COMO The Treasury Perth for its thoughtful redevelopment of mid-19th Century heritage buildings and bringing a new level of luxury to Perth.



PARK HYATT SYDNEY

Best Overseas Hotel

1. **THE PENINSULA HONG KONG** (Hall of Fame winner)

Perennial favourite The Peninsula Hong Kong continues its reign as the leading overseas luxury hotel in a pool of luxurious finalists including the quirky Ham Yard Hotel in London and ultra-luxurious Villa d'Este in Lake Como.



2. Ham Yard Hotel (London)
3. Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise (Alberta, Canada)
4. Raffles Singapore
5. Le Bristol Paris
6. Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore
7. Fairmont Banff Springs (Alberta, Canada)
8. Four Seasons George V (Paris)
9. Halekulani (Hawaii)
10. Villa d'Este (Lake Como)
11. The Fullerton Hotel, Singapore
12. Hotel Adlon Kempinski (Berlin)
13. Bellagio Las Vegas
14. Beverly Wilshire, Beverly Hills (A Four Seasons Hotel)
15. Claridge's (London)
16. Crosby Street Hotel (New York)
17. Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong
18. The Langham, London
19. Shangri-La Hotel, Bangkok
20. Shangri-La Hotel, Paris
21. Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi
22. The Ritz London
23. The Dorchester (London)
24. The Beverly Hills Hotel
25. The Langham, Auckland
26. Burj Al Arab Jumeirah (Dubai)
27. The Plaza (New York)
28. The Savoy (London)

GOLD LIST PANELIST PICK:

Claridges London
"Delivers every time."
 Stephen White, The Exclusive Travel Group

EDITOR'S PICKS:

We like Aman's first city hotel, the recently opened Aman Tokyo; the beautifully-designed and appointed Mandarin Oriental Marrakech, overlooking the Atlas Mountains; the new, flamboyantly renovated former palace, the Rajmahal Palace Hotel in Jaipur, India; the cutting-edge and classic crystal-accented Baccarat Hotel & Residences, New York; the lavish new **The Reverie Saigon in the heart of Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh**; and The Ritz London for its refined and elegant luxury.

Best Australian Resort

1. **QUALIA** (Hamilton Island, QLD)

We congratulate all of our luxurious Australian resort finalists, especially qualia, the winner of this category for the fourth year running.

2. One&Only Hayman Island (QLD)
3. Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa (WA)
4. The Byron at Byron (NSW)
5. Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast (QLD)
6. Peppers Beach Club (Port Douglas, QLD)
7. Pullman Bunker Bay Resort & Spa (WA)
8. Peppers Beach Club & Spa (Palm Cove, QLD)
9. QT Port Douglas (QLD)
10. Sheraton Mirage Port Douglas Resort (QLD)

GOLD LIST PANELIST PICK:

qualia
"A fabulous option with direct scheduled flights into Hamilton island and a private scenic buggy transfer for a special check-in with champagne at hand. Go for the Windward Pavilion with private plunge pool and views over the Whitsundays."
 Yvonne Verstandig, Executive Edge Travel + Events

EDITOR'S PICK:

One&Only Hayman Island for taking Australian beachside chic and glamour to new levels.