



Frequently Asked Questions

ABOUT THE AWARDS

What is the HotelClub Hotel Awards 2006?

The HotelClub Hotel Awards is a travel industry event to award consumer voted top travel companies in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands with a specific focus on hotels & resorts. HotelClub Hotel Awards is proudly presented by HotelClub, Getaway and ninemsn.

What Is The Format of The HotelClub Hotel Awards 2006?

The Award Winners will be announced at an Official Awards ceremony on May 10 at Doltone House, Sydney. The ceremony will be hosted by Natalie Gruzlewski from Getaway. There are 14 categories and 35 Award winners.

How many Awards are presented and What Are The Categories of Awards presented?

There will be 35 Awards present across 14 categories. There are 32 hotel winners, 1 airline winner, 1 Destination winner (to be accepted by the Tourism Board of that State/Territory) and 1 hotel chain winner. The award categories are as follows:

Hotel Categories

- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in New South Wales
- 🌐 Top 2 Hotels in Australia Capital Territory
- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in Western Australia
- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in Victoria
- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in Tasmania
- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in Northern Territory
- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in Queensland
- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in South Australia
- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in New Zealand
- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in the Pacific Islands
(Fiji, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Samoa, French Polynesia, Cook Islands and Norfolk Island)

Special Categories

- 🌐 Top 3 Hotels in Oceania
- 🌐 Best Airline
- 🌐 Best Destination
- 🌐 Best Hotel Chain



How Are The Winners & Finalists Selected?

An online consumer survey hosted by HotelClub was conducted in conjunction with Getaway and ninemsn. Consumers could also vote through other mediums including print media and postcards. Other survey partners who participated include Insight Guides, Australian Traveller, Budget, Dymocks, Gregory's, Harvey World Travel, Optus, RCI and RosesOnly.

From the 74,788 votes received, hotels nominated were segregated by geographical locations according to the award categories. The Top 3 hotels in each region were awarded based on most number of votes received.

The Top 3 Hotels in Oceania were awarded based on weighted average of number of votes recorded as well as how the hotels scored in the voting criteria.

Top Hotel Chain was awarded to the hotel chain with most number of hotel properties nominated.

Top Airline was awarded based on most number of votes received.

Top Destination was awarded to the destination/region with the most number of hotel properties nominated.

Why Conduct These Awards?

As a consumer driven site with over 5.5 million users visiting the site monthly, HotelClub recognizes the importance of the voice of the consumer. The HotelClub Hotel Awards is driven by travelers with first hand experience and lends a voice to all travel lovers and travellers to the region to applaud the hotels and resorts they feel are "The Best."

In addition, HotelClub has noticed that there is a gap in the travel industry with no specific forums dedicated to honouring outstanding companies in Oceania. As tourism in the region is deeply linked, HotelClub felt that it is important to pay tribute to outstanding travel companies across the countries making up Oceania. HotelClub Hotel Awards is the first of its kind to focus specifically on Oceania - Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

Who Voted For The Hotels?

Consumers from over 170 countries voted for their Top hotels through multiple channels including: TV (Getaway – Channel 9); online (HotelClub and ninemsn) and offline through Postcard 'Call for Entries' through retail outlets Dymocks, Harvey World Travel and Budget.

How Was The Survey Conducted?

An online consumer survey hosted by HotelClub was conducted in conjunction with Getaway and ninemsn. Consumers could also vote through other mediums including print media and postcards. Other survey partners who participated include Insight Guides, Australian Traveller, Budget, Dymocks, Gregory's, Harvey World Travel, Optus, RCI and RosesOnly.



Consumers were asked to nominate the hotels using a free text survey. Thereafter, each consumer would rate the hotel nominated, based on the following criteria: Ambience, family friendliness, rooms, restaurant facilities, cleanliness, business facilities, location, leisure facilities, staff attitude and value for money. Each criteria was rated based on a scale of 1 to 10 (with 10 equalling the best)

What Are Hotels Ranked On?

Hotels are ranked on ambience, family friendliness, rooms, restaurant facilities, cleanliness, business facilities, location, leisure facilities, staff attitude and value for money. They can be given a score out of 10 with ten being the highest possible score.

Can Hotels/Finalists Pay To Be Nominated?

Finalists cannot pay for their nomination. The only way to get nominated is by through consumer vote.

Are All Finalists and Hotels Existing HotelClub Partners?

All finalists/winners hotels are selected based on an online consumer survey hosted by HotelClub and conducted in conjunction with Getaway and ninemsn. Consumers could also vote through other mediums including print media and postcards. Other survey partners who participated include Insight Guides, Australian Traveller, Budget, Dymocks, Gregory's, Harvey World Travel, Optus, RCI and RosesOnly. This is an independent process as voted by consumers.

ABOUT THE DATA

How Many Hotels Were Nominated? How Many Hotels Were Short-listed as Finalists?

2,200 hotels were nominated. Of which, 300 hotels made the shortlist based on the highest total number of votes received.

How Many Votes Were Received?

74,788 votes were received from consumers in 170 countries

How Was Data Tabulated?

An online consumer survey hosted by HotelClub was conducted in conjunction with Getaway and ninemsn. Consumers could also vote through other mediums including print media and postcards. Other survey partners who participated include Insight Guides, Australian Traveller, Budget, Dymocks, Gregory's, Harvey World Travel, Optus, RCI and RosesOnly.

Consumers were asked to nominate the hotels using a free text survey. 2200 hotels made the initial short list. The top 300 hotels /resorts with the highest votes made up the eventual set of finalists for the HotelClub Hotel Awards. Each hotel was further



ranked by consumers across 10 criteria: Ambience, family friendliness, rooms, restaurant facilities, cleanliness, business facilities, location, leisure facilities, staff attitude and value for money.

The Top 3 hotels in each region were awarded based on most number of votes received.

The Top 3 Hotels in Oceania were awarded based on weighted average of number of votes recorded as well as how the hotels scored in the voting criteria.

Top Hotel Chain was awarded to the hotel chain with most number of hotel properties nominated.

Top Airline was awarded based on most number of voted received.

Top Destination was awarded to the destination/region with the most number of hotel properties nominated.

ABOUT PARTNERS

Who Are The Other Survey Partners?

The survey was conducted online hosted by HotelClub, in conjunction with Getaway and ninemsn. Other survey partners include Insight Guides, Australian Traveller, Budget, Dymocks, Gregory's, Harvey World Travel, Optus, RCI and RosesOnly.

Why Did HotelClub Choose To Work With Getaway And ninemsn?

In order to reflect true consumer choice and real insight, HotelClub felt it was critical to conduct a multi channel, multi country survey with leading players in the respective space.

Getaway and ninemsn are each established leader in the broadcast and online space. Getaway is Australia's longest running and most popular TV travel show with around 1.5 million viewers every week. ninemsn is Australia's number-one interactive media company with over 7.2 million people visiting each month. Together, HotelClub, Getaway and ninemsn are able to tap into different cross sections of consumers and travellers to gain real insight on consumer choice and preferences.

More significantly, HotelClub, Getaway and ninemsn also shares the same vision for HotelClub Hotel Awards – to deliver a set of most popular hotels and resorts in the region as voted by the most important panel of all – The Consumers.

NEXT STEPS

Are You Planning to Extend HotelClub Hotel Awards to other regions?

As an extension of HotelClub Hotel Awards 2006 and a further tribute to the outstanding quality of the hotel and resort finalists, HotelClub will be publishing, in association with Insight Guides, Australia & New Zealand (including Pacific islands) Best Hotel & Resorts Guide book in October 2006 this year. HotelClub will also be looking to extend the HotelClub Hotel Awards ceremony to other countries/regions next year.



BACKGROUND ON PARTNERS

About HotelClub

HotelClub (www.HotelClub.com.au) is a global accommodation specialist website offering hotel bookings for up to 12 months in advance. It offers users the choice of over 21,000 hotels – at savings of up to 60% – in 102 countries and 2,500 cities worldwide.

HotelClub.com is available in nine languages – Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese and Spanish. HotelClub is a truly global website offering its customers access through country specific sites in 10 countries including HotelClub.com, HotelClub.com.au, HotelClub.de, HotelClub.fr, HotelClub.it, HotelClub.es and HotelClub.co.uk. HotelClub is operated by Flairview Travel, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cendant Corporation's (NYSE: CD) Travel Distribution Services Division, that is one of the world's largest and most geographically diverse collections of travel brands and distribution businesses.

About Getaway

Getaway is Australia's longest running and most popular TV travel show with around 1.5 million viewers every week. It screens on the Nine Network every Thursday night at 7.30pm.

About ninemsn

Australia's number-one interactive media company has the largest online audience in Australia, with over 7.2 million people visiting each month, representing over 75 percent reach to all Australian Internet users. Formed in 1997, ninemsn is a 50:50 joint venture between the Microsoft Corporation and PBL.

About Insight Guides

Insight Guides and HotelClub, partnered together in 2003 to produce the first consumer review driven 'Asia's Best Hotels & Resorts' Guidebook. The partnership has continued to have a 2nd edition published in 2005. Insight Guides will continue its successful partnership with HotelClub by producing the 'Australia and New Zealand's Best Hotels and Resorts (including Pacific Islands)', due for release in October 2006.