

**MEDIA RELEASE**



## **HotelClub Hotel Awards 2006 – Winners Announced**

**SYDNEY 11 May 2006** – Leading online accommodation provider, HotelClub ([www.HotelClub.com.au](http://www.HotelClub.com.au)) in conjunction with Getaway and ninemsn, have announced today the winners for the Inaugural HotelClub Australia and New Zealand (including Pacific Islands) Hotel Awards. The HotelClub Hotel Awards 2006 were presented at a gala award ceremony, hosted by Natalie Gruzlewski from Getaway last night. Over 300 hotels from Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands were nominated through a global consumer survey, undertaken throughout November 2005 through till January 2006.

A total of 35 Awards were presented in 14 categories. And the winners are:

### ***Top 3 Hotels in New Zealand***

Hilton Auckland Hotel  
Heritage Queenstown  
SKYCITY Hotel Auckland

### ***Top 3 Hotels in Northern Territory***

Sails in the Desert Hotel Ayers Rock  
SKYCITY Darwin  
Novotel Atrium Darwin

### ***Top 3 Hotels in Pacific Islands***

Shangri-La Fijian Resort and Spa Yanuca  
Warwick Fiji Hotel  
Outrigger on the Lagoon Fiji

### ***Top 2 Hotels in Australian Capital Territory***

Hyatt Hotel Canberra  
Rydges Capital Hill Canberra

### ***Top 3 Hotels in Tasmania***

Cradle Mountain Lodge Tasmania  
Wrest Point Casino Hotel Hobart  
Grand Chancellor Hotel Hobart

### ***Top 3 Hotels in Victoria***

Crown Towers Hotel Melbourne  
Sofitel Melbourne  
Park Hyatt Melbourne

### ***Top 3 Hotels in South Australia***

Stamford Grand Hotel Adelaide  
Hyatt Regency Adelaide  
Radisson Playford Hotel and Suites  
Adelaide

### ***Top 3 Hotels in Queensland***

Palazzo Versace Gold Coast  
Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort  
Sea World Nara Resort Gold Coast

### ***Top 3 Hotels in Western Australia***

Intercontinental Burswood Resort Perth  
Cable Beach Club Resort  
Rendezvous Hotel Observation City Perth

### ***Top 3 Hotels in New South Wales***

Shangri-la Hotel Sydney  
Star City Hotel Casino Sydney  
Hilton Hotel Sydney

Four special Award categories were also presented to recognize the “best in show” in the travel industry as voted by consumers. These were:

### **Top 3 Hotels Overall (Oceania)**

Palazzo Versace Gold Coast  
Hayman Island Resort  
Crown Towers Hotel Melbourne

### **Best Airline**

QANTAS

### **Best Hotel Chain**

Accor

### **Best Destination**

Queensland

“The HotelClub Hotel Awards 2006 is unique as its covers Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands and are true consumers’ choice Awards. Over 74,000 votes were gathered from consumer worldwide through an online survey conducted on

www.HotelClub.com.au, in association with key partners Getaway and ninemsn," said Chloe Lim, Director of Global Marketing, HotelClub.

"The Awards have brought together the leaders in their respective industries: HotelClub – Leading Global Accommodation Specialist, Getaway – Australia's Number 1 TV Travel Program and ninemsn - Australia's leading online publisher, culminating in an Awards program to recognise the leading hotels in the Oceanic region as voted by consumers," said Ms Lim.

All hotels nominated are eligible for inclusion in 'Australia and New Zealand's Best Hotels and Resorts Guidebook to be released in October 2006 in association with Insight Publications. HotelClub offers over 21,000 hotel accommodation choices in 2,500 cities and 102 countries worldwide. HotelClub has over 500,000 consumer reviews that provide independent advice on each hotel.

The HotelClub Hotel Awards 2006 are proudly presented by HotelClub, Getaway and ninemsn. Partners involved in the global online consumer survey include: Insight Guides, Australian Traveller, Budget, Dymocks, Gregory's, Harvey World Travel, Optus, RCI and RosesOnly.

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#### Fact sheet

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<b>Number of votes:</b>	74,788 votes from consumers in 170 countries
<b>Voting period:</b>	November 2005 – 31 January 2006
<b>Voting criteria:</b>	Ambience (Rating 1 to 10 with 10 best) Value for money Staff attitude Cleanliness Family friendliness Location Restaurants Facilities
<b>Total hotels nominated:</b>	2,200 hotels across Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands
<b>Survey Mechanics:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consumers allowed free text to submit their top 3 hotel nominations</li><li>• Score each hotel on voting criteria (out of 10)</li><li>• Conducted through online portals HotelClub and ninemsn</li></ul>

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#### About HotelClub.com

HotelClub ([www.HotelClub.com.au](http://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 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**

ninemsn is Australia's number-one online publisher capturing the largest online audience in Australia, with over 7.2 million people visiting each month. Formed in 1997, it is a 50:50 joint venture between the Microsoft Corporation and PBL. ninemsn is currently ranked as Australia's leading online publisher with over 74 percent reach to all Australian Internet users.

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