

## India Travel Awards- North winners revealed



### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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December 22, 2014

The maiden edition of the India Travel Awards- North held at Crowne Plaza, Greater Noida on December 20, 2014. This glorious award function was attended by distinguished personalities who came together to acknowledge the contribution of the best in the travel and tourism industry by recognizing and awarding them. Earlier this year, The India Travel Awards hosted their regional editions in South, West and East India.

The chief guest for this evening, S. Sohan Singh Thandal, Minister of Tourism & Cultural Affairs, Printing & Stationary and Jails, Government of Punjab, congratulated Mr. SanJeet, Director, DDP Publications, for this

initiative and stated, "Tourism is a very important industry and the people who are working for the growth of this sector need to be recognized and encouraged. India Travel Awards is an ideal platform for this."

Dr. Lalit K. Panwar, Secretary Tourism, Govt. of India, was the Guest of Honour for this evening. He said, "This platform encourages the talent that has worked hard for the growth of the tourism industry. I want to congratulate Mr SanJeet and his team who have organised such a brilliant function and I want to assure you all that under the leadership of our Prime Minister, Tourism will be an integral part of the socio-economic development."

Dr. Jyotsna Suri, Chairperson & MD, Bharat Hotels and President, FICCI, was recognised with the most prestigious award 'Gallery of Legends', and she said, "It's a proud moment and I am glad that I am part of this event, I must mention that after all our efforts, tourism is ready to fly."

Dr. Subhash Goyal, President, IATO & Chairman, STIC Travel Group, was awarded the 'DDP Trailblazer'. He said, "I would like to express my deep gratitude and sincere appreciation to the organisers who have come up with this novel concept of travel awards, rewarding regional players in the Indian tourism industry."

The awards were presented to achievers from different segments of the industry which included travel agents, tour operators, hotels, airlines, and state & international tourism boards.

The winners of the awards were defined by a fair and unbiased selection process done through online voting and judged by a panel of jury consisting of the travel industry's luminaries. The total score of the judges and the number of votes received by each nominee determined the winners.

- Gallery of Legends-Dr. Jyotsna Suri, Chairperson & Managing Director, Bharat Hotels and President, FICCI.
- DDP TrailBlazer-Dr. Subhash Goyal, President IAT) & Chairman, STIC Travel Group.
- DDP Game changer- Mr. Ajay Bakaya, Executive Director, Sarovar Hotels & resorts.
- Face of the future award- Mr. Ankush Nijhawan, Managing Director, Travel Boutique Online.

#### **And the winners for India Travel Awards – North are**

- **Entrepreneur of the Year- Meenu Sachdeva**
- Outstanding Contribution to CSR-Kuoni India
- Most Innovative Hospitality Marketing Campaign-Accor Hotels
- Most Popular General Manager-Greesh Bindra
- Mentoring Hotels into Renowned Brands-Sunil Ghadiok
- Best Hotel Middle East-J W Marriott, Deira, Dubai
- Best European Airline-Lufthansa
- Best Emerging Travel Portal-www.GRNconnect.com
- Most Progressive Trade Marketing-Punjab Heritage and Tourism Promotion Board
- Pioneering New Concepts in Hospitality-Tree of Life Resorts & Hotels
- Best Global Distribution System (GDS)-ABACUS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS INDIA PVT. LTD
- Best Visa Facilitation Company -Udaan India Private Limited
- Best Business Hotel-Radisson Blu Hotel, New Delhi, Paschim Vihar
- Best GSA -STIC TRAVEL GROUP
- Best Innovative Product-Forerez.com

- Fastest Growing Hotel Brand-BRYS Hotels Pvt Ltd
- Best Inbound Tour Operator- Western Europe-Travel Spirit International Pvt. Ltd
- Best Heritage Hotel-Vivaana Culture Hotel
- Best Travel Portal-Travel Boutique Online
- Best Debut Business Hotel-Hyatt Place Gurgaon,Udyog Vihar
- Best Foreign Exchange Provider-Centrum Direct
- Best Global Consolidation Services-Mystifly Consulting (India) Private Limited
- Best Leisure Hotel – Clarks Shiraz
- Best Online Travel Product- B2B-RezLive.com
- Best Debut Hotel- Holiday Inn New Delhi International Airport
- Best Corporate Incentive Tours Operator-Wish Bone India
- Best Luxury Wedding & Mice Resort-Ramada Udaipur Resort & Spa
- Best Airport Hotel-ibis Delhi Airport Hotel
- Best Travel Technology Provider-ZILLIOUS SOLUTIONS PVT.LTD.
- Best Debut Mid-Market Hotel-R K Sarovar Portico, Srinagar
- Best Clean and Green Destination-Chandigarh Tourism
- Best Boutique Resort-Welcom Heritage Ranjit's Svaasa
- Best Inbound Tour Operator-Minar Travels
- Best International Tourism Board-Tourism Authority of Thailand
- Best Tourist Attraction-Kingdom of Dreams
- Best Luxury and MICE Hotel-Crowne Plaza Greater Noida
- Best Travel Insurance Provider-TrawellTag Cover-More
- Best Travel Management Company-Travstarz Holidays & Destinations Private Limited
- Best Mid-Market Hotel Brand-Clarks Inn Group of Hotels
- Best Airline Representation Company-Concorde Group
- Best inbound Experiential Tour Operator-Vasco Travel
- Best Mid-Market Hotel-Holiday Inn Amritsar Ranjit Avenue
- Best Emerging MICE Operator -Global Connect Travels Pvt. Ltd.
- Best Outbound Experiential Tour Operator-The Experience Factory
- Best Hospitality Marketing Franchise Company-Alliance Hotels & Resorts
- Best City Hotel-The Metropolitan Hotel & Spa
- Best Wedding Hotel- Punjab -Radisson Blu, Amritsar
- Best B2B Luxury Travel Event-VKONNECT
- Best Luxury Tour Operator-Terra Ignota Tours
- Best International Airline – Asia-Thai Airways
- Best Boutique Tour Operator-GO EXPLORE PVT LTD

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## **About India Travel Awards**

India Travel Awards supports, promotes and develops the Indian travel and tourism industry by identifying and rewarding excellence, and inspiring its practitioners to continuously raise the standards of their product, and

service offerings. Based on a unique system of jury judgment and voting, these awards will be fair and unbiased, finally culminating in a formal Black-Tie ceremony that is glitzy, glamorous and graced by the who's who of the travel industry.

India Travel Awards is supported by Government of India, Ministry of Tourism and is now hailed as one of the most esteemed awards in the tourism industry in India.

These awards are also braced by esteemed trade bodies like Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI), Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO), World Travel & Tourism Council, India Initiative (WTTCCII), Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI), Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India (ADTOI), Adventure Tour Operators' Association of India (ATOAI) and the Outbound Tour Operators Association of India (OTOAI).

India Travel Awards runs and governs a comprehensive programme across a range of awards developed to recognize the industry's most vital sectors and product offerings. Awards are presented across four tiers: South, East, West, and North. All awardees will be recognized throughout the year. Our travel media partners will feature them in all their publications regularly.

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