



Virtuoso Hotels & Resorts and *Virtuoso Life* magazine are pleased to introduce the first annual *Best of the Best Awards*. With nominations in ten distinct categories, from best renovation of a historic landmark to the most environmentally-friendly hotel, the best concierge, and seven others, the *BoB* awards recognize the excellence of Virtuoso properties and their most innovative people, programs, and services to date. The nominees in each category have been selected by the Virtuoso travel agent membership in collaboration with the *Virtuoso Life* editorial staff, based on extensive research, first-hand experiences, and industry standards.

Please join us at our inaugural Hotels and Resorts Dinner Wednesday, August 22, at 7 p.m. in the Tower Ballroom of The Bellagio, where we will announce the winners and toast their collective success.

#### **Best Restoration of a Historic Landmark**

1. Eichardt's Private Hotel; Queenstown, New Zealand
2. Hotel Schloss Fuschl; Hof Bei Salzburg, Austria
3. Palacio Duhau - Park Hyatt Buenos Aires; Buenos Aires, Argentina
4. Mandarin Oriental Hong Kong; Hong Kong, China S.A.R.
5. Raffles Beijing Hotel; Beijing, China

#### **Best Concierge**

1. Colin Short, The Lanesborough; London, England
2. Francesco Santini, Hotel Gritti Palace; Venice, Italy
3. Frank Laino, The Stafford; London, England
4. Gerard Ravel, Cour des Loges; Lyon, France
5. Harry Fred Bigler IV, The Ritz-Carlton New York, Central Park; New York City, USA

#### **Best Dining Experience**

1. Bernard Loiseau's Relais in Burgundy; Burgundy, France
2. Chateau de la Chèvre d'Or; Eze, France
3. Le Meurice, one of the Dorchester Collection; Paris, France
4. Le Quartier Français; Franschhoek, South Africa
5. Park Hyatt Washington; Washington, DC, USA

### **Best Bar Experience**

1. Blue Bar at The Berkeley Hotel; London, England
2. Cloud 9 at Grand Hyatt Shanghai; Shanghai, China
3. Il Gabbiano at Hotel Cipriani; Venice, Italy
4. Le Bar at Hôtel Plaza Athénée, one of the Dorchester Collection; Paris, France
5. The Piano Bar at Hotel Bel-Air; Los Angeles, California, USA

### **Best Children's Program**

1. Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea; Maui, Hawaii, USA
2. Grace Bay Club; Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands
3. Hôtel Plaza Athénée, New York; New York City, USA
4. The Resort at Paws Up; Greenough, Montana, USA
5. The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman; Cayman Islands

### **Best Pet Program**

1. The Benjamin; New York City, USA
2. Las Ventanas al Paraíso, A Rosewood Resort; Los Cabos, Mexico
3. Peninsula Beverly Hills; Beverly Hills, California, USA
4. St. Regis Resort, Monarch Beach; Dana Point, California, USA
5. W Hotel New York Union Square; New York City, USA

### **Best Community Service Program**

1. Amansara; Siem Reap, Cambodia
2. Camp Jabulani; Hoedspruit, South Africa
3. The Imperial, New Delhi; New Delhi
4. Phinda Private Game Reserve, CC Africa; South Africa
5. W New Orleans French Quarter; New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

### **Most Environmentally Friendly**

1. Hotel Punta Islita; Guanacaste, Costa Rica
2. Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth; Montreal, Quebec
3. Inkaterra Macchu Pichu; Macchu Pichu, Peru
4. Soneva Fushi; Male Atoll, Maldives
5. Treetops Lodge; Rotorua, New Zealand

### **Most Innovative Hotel**

1. Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle, Thailand; Chiang Rai, Thailand
2. Hotel Marqués de Riscal; Elciego, Spain
3. Lion Sands Ivory Lodge; Greater Kruger National Park, South Africa
4. Mandarin Oriental Prague; Prague, Czech Republic
5. One&Only Palmilla; Los Cabos, Mexico

### **Hotelier of the Year**

1. François Delahaye, General Manager, Hôtel Plaza Athénée; Paris, France
2. Geoffrey Gelardi, Managing Director, The Lanesborough; London, England
3. Hervé Houdré, General Manager, Willard InterContinental Washington; Washington DC, USA
4. John Stauss, Regional Vice President & General Manager, Four Seasons Hotel London; London, England
5. Peter French, Managing Director, Mandarin Oriental Hong Kong; Hong Kong, China S.A.R.