

OFFICIAL BOUTIQUE HOTEL
AWARDS GALA PRESS KIT
9th November 2017
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THE BOUTIQUE HOTEL AWARDS GALA DINNER 2017
WAS HELD ON THE EVENING OF THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2017
AT THE MERCHANT TAYLORS' HALL, LONDON

Honouring the **WORLD'S FINEST BOUTIQUE HOTELS**
&
bringing together members of

THE MASTER KEY SOCIETY

THE WORLD'S BEST BOUTIQUE HOTELS ARE REVEALED

The winners of the **Boutique Hotel Awards 2017** were announced last night at the glittering Awards ceremony held at the **Merchant Taylors' Hall**, London. The ceremony brought together an array of boutique hotel owners, travel and lifestyle press and travel industry influencers from all four corners of the world, including representatives from **CNN Travel, Elite Traveler, The Telegraph, The Sunday Times, Boat International, Time Out and The Financial Times**.

This year's keynote speech was delivered by **Wladimir Klitschko**, two-time world heavyweight champion boxer and newly turned boutique hotelier. Other esteemed guest presenters and speakers included **Juliet Kinsman, founder of BOUTECO, the only independent authority for eco boutique hotels, Elisabeth Visoanska, founder of VISOANSKA PARIS and Paolo Macchiaroli, founder of My Private Villas**.

INFORMATION ON THE AWARDS

The Boutique Hotel Awards is the first and only international awards organisation exclusively dedicated to recognising unique excellence among boutique hotels. The Awards, now in its 7th year, honours the people behind these outstanding properties and bringing together members of **The Master Key Society**; where relationships are built exclusively among the Award Winners by facilitating hotel exchange visits between them.

AWARDS PROCESS

What makes a Boutique Hotel Award meaningful? Simply put, the hotels and private villas are actually *visited*. It is the only independent awards organisation in hospitality where each and every property is visited personally by an experienced hotel judge which specialises in each category and too where decisions on winners depend on true first-hand guest experience at the property.

The winners were selected from over 600 Nominees in over 80 countries. Each entrant was nominated by a member of the Awards Nomination Committee, comprised of 70 leading trailblazing travel experts whose business it is to be in the know on the extraordinary boutique hotels. The Awards then coordinate hundreds of judge evaluation visits to each shortlisted nominee. The judges document all aspects of the guest experience covering five categories; dining and entertainment, design, facilities, location and most importantly staff service and overall emotional impact. These extensive hand-written evaluations are finally pored over by our Awards Panel who decide our regional and World's Best Award winners.

QUOTES FROM THE NIGHT

‘It’s difficult to be different’ ‘We need a team, we need allies with whom we share our experience and learn from each other. I’m proud to be part of this family’

- Wladimir Klitschko, Owner of 11 Mirrors, keynote speaker 2017

‘We believe that luxury hospitality can be a force for good and that we can have a positive effect on the future.

‘It’s not just about where we stay - it’s about how those hotels make us feel and the people, the visionaries, the individuals behind those hotels their attention to detail and the passion that creates extraordinary experience honour and privilege to be here with the heavyweights of our industry’

- Juliet Kinsman, Founder of BOUTECO

Presenting this years awards has been an absolute joy. Just to witness the warmth and camaraderie of the all these eccentric hotel owners who have come from all over the globe for this annual gathering is amazing.

- Christabel Milbanke, Travel Writer and Editor of The London Journalist

I’m humbled to accept this award and want to congratulate everyone in the room for their achievements. On behalf of all our team in South Africa, we’re honoured to be here and are inspired to be different and unique as you all are.

- Paul Kinney, Owner of Akademie Street Boutique Hotel, World’s Best Boutique Hotel 2017

The 2017 Best in Region and World’s Best Category Winners are listed below.

WORLD’S BEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Akademie Street Boutique Hotel, South Africa

World’s Best Beach or Coastal Hotel

Qualia, Whitsundays, Australia

World’s Best City Hotel

The Serras Hotel, Barcelona, Spain

World’s Best Classic Hotel

The Chester Grosvenor, England

World’s Best Culinary Hotel

Vila Joya, Algarve, Portugal

World’s Most Inspired Design Hotel

Ca Maria Adele, Venice, Italy

World's Best Honeymoon

Carpe Diem, Santorini, Greece

Hideaway

World’s Best New Hotel

Kensho, Mykonos, Greece

World's Best Relaxation Retreat

Castello Di Guarene, Italy

World's Most Romantic Hotel	<u>Aenaon Villa, Greece</u>
World's Most Sustainable Hotel	<u>Cottar's Safari Lodge, Kenya</u>
World's Best Wellness Spa	<u>Lefay Resort & Spa, Gargnano, Italy</u>
World's Best Private Villa	<u>Over Yonder Cay, The Bahamas</u> <u>Coco Prive, Kuda Hithi Island, Maldives</u>

REGIONAL CATEGORY WINNERS

Africa's Best Design Boutique Hotel	<u>Desert Luxury Camp, Merzouga, Morocco</u>
Asia's Best Design Boutique Hotel	<u>Hotel Stage, Jordan, Hong Kong</u>
Europe's Best Design Boutique Hotel	<u>Ca Maria Adele, Venice, Italy</u>
Southeast Asia's Best Design Boutique Hotel	<u>Buri Rasa Village Phangan, Thailand</u>
The Americas' Best Design Boutique Hotel	<u>Hotel Boutique Don Pepe, Santa Marta, Colombia</u>
Africa's Best City Boutique Hotel	<u>Riad Kheirredine, Marrakech, Morocco</u>
Asia's Best City Boutique Hotel	<u>Fer Hotel, Istanbul, Turkey</u>
Australasia's Best City Boutique Hotel	<u>Adge Apartment Hotel, Sydney, Australia</u>
Europe's Best City Boutique Hotel	<u>TwentySeven Hotel, Amsterdam</u>
Southeast Asia's Best City Boutique Hotel	<u>Shanghai Mansion Bangkok, Thailand</u>
The Americas' Best City Boutique Hotel	<u>Home Hotel, Buenos Aries, Argentina</u>
Africa's Best Classic Boutique Hotel	<u>Grand Dédale Country House, South Africa</u>
Asia's Best Classic Boutique Hotel	<u>Umaid Bhawan, Jodhpur, India</u>
Europe's Best Classic Boutique Hotel	<u>The Chester Grosvenor, Chester, England</u>
Southeast Asia's Best Classic Boutique Hotel	<u>Kayumanis Sanur, Bali, Indonesia</u>
The Americas' Best Classic Boutique Hotel	<u>Hotel Quadrifolio, Bolivar, Colombia</u>
Africa's Best Culinary Boutique Hotel	<u>Royal Mansour, Marrakech, Morocco</u>

Asia's Best Culinary Boutique Hotel
Europe's Best Culinary Boutique Hotel
The Americas' Best Culinary Boutique Hotel

[Abba Resorts Izu, Ito, Japan](#)
[Vila Joya, Albufeira, Portugal](#)
[Drake Bay Getaway Resort, Costa Rica](#)

Africa's Best Beach or Coastal Boutique Hotel
Asia's Best Beach or Coastal Boutique Hotel
Australasia's Best Beach or Coastal Boutique Hotel
Europe's Best Beach or Coastal Boutique Hotel
Southeast Asia's Best Beach or Coastal Boutique Hotel
The Americas' Best Beach or Coastal Boutique Hotel

[Sea Star Rocks Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa](#)
[Hyakuna Garan, Nanjo, Japan](#)
[Qualia, Whitsundays, Australia](#)
[Bela Vista Hotel & Spa, Portimão Algarve, Portugal](#)
[Buri Rasa Village Samui, Koh Phangan, Thailand](#)
[Fernandez Bay Village, Cat Island, Bahamas](#)

Africa's Best Honeymoon Hideaway
Australasia's Best Honeymoon Hideaway
Asia's Best Honeymoon Hideaway
Europe's Best Honeymoon Hideaway
Southeast Asia's Best Honeymoon Hideaway
The Americas' Best Honeymoon Hideaway

[Pondoro Game Lodge, South Africa](#)
[Emaho Sekawa Luxury Resort, Fiji](#)
[Dusit Thani Maldives, Mudhdhoo Island, Maldives](#)
[Carpe Diem, Santorini, Greece](#)
[Kayumanis Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia](#)
[Calala Island, Nicarribbean, Nicaragua](#)

Africa's Best New Boutique Hotel
Europe's Best New Boutique Hotel
Southeast Asia's Best New Boutique Hotel

[Spirit of the Masai Mara, Kenya, Africa](#)
[Kensho Boutique Hotel & Suites, Mykonos, Greece](#)
[The Edison George Town, Penang, Malaysia](#)

The Americas' Best New Boutique Hotel

[Calala Island, Nicarribbean, Nicaragua](#)

Africa's Best Private Villa

[Villa Anahita, Morocco, Africa](#)

Asia's Best Private Villa

[Coco Prive, Kuda Hithe Island, Maldives](#)

Australasia's Best Private Villa

[Raiwasa Private Resort, Fiji](#)

Europe's Best Private Villa

[Villa Astor, Amalfi Coast, Italy](#)

Southeast Asia's Best Private Villa

[Villa Sungai Platinum Residence, Bali, Indonesia](#)

The Americas' Best Private Villa

[Over Yonder Cay, The Bahamas](#)

Africa's Best Relaxation Retreat

[Rhulani Safari Lodge, South Africa](#)

Asia's Best Relaxation Retreat

[Kalundewa Retreat, Dambulla, Sri Lanka](#)

Australasia's Best Relaxation Retreat

[Aga Reef Resort, Lalomanu, Samoa](#)

Europe's Best Relaxation Retreat

[Castello Di Guarene, Guarene, Italy](#)

Southeast Asia's Best Relaxation Retreat

[The Chedi Club Tanah Gajah, Ubud, Bali](#)

The Americas' Best Relaxation Retreat

[Reserva One Love, La Guajira, Colombia](#)

Africa's Best Romantic Retreat

[Akademie Street Boutique Hotel, South Africa](#)

Asia's Best Romantic Retreat

[The Norman, Tel Aviv, Israel](#)

Australasia's Best Romantic Retreat

[Taveuni Palms Luxury Resort, Fiji](#)

Europe's Best Romantic Retreat

[Castello di Vicarello](#)

Southeast Asia's Best Romantic Retreat

[The Farm at San Benito, Lipa City, Philippines](#)

The Americas' Best Romantic Retreat

[Echo Valley Ranch & Spa, Canada](#)

Africa's Best Sustainable Boutique Hotel

[Cottar's 1920's Safari Camp, Kenya, Africa](#)

Europe's Best Sustainable Boutique Hotel

[Agalia Luxury Suites, Greece](#)

The Americas' Best Sustainable Boutique Hotel

[Napo Wildlife Center Ecolodge, Ecuador](#)

Africa's Best Wellness Spa

Asia's Best Wellness Spa

Australasia's Best Wellness Spa

Europe's Best Wellness Spa

Southeast Asia's Best Wellness Spa

The Americas' Best Wellness Spa

Royal Mansour, Marrakech, Morocco

Umaid Bhawan, Jodhpur, India

Rumours Luxury Villas & Spa, Cook Islands

Lefay Resort & Spa, Gargnano, Italy

Burasari Heritage, Luang Prabang, Laos

The Retreat Costa Rica, Atenas, Costa Rica

FOR FULL INFORMATION, AWARDS CEREMONY PHOTOS AND PHOTOS OF THE WINNING PROPERTIES PLEASE SEE [THIS DOWNLOAD FOLDER](#).

The 2018 Boutique Hotel Awards are now open.
To nominate your favourite boutique hotels, find out about participating in the Awards, and read the reviews of all the winners go to:

<http://www.boutiquehotelawards.com/>



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