



TRAVELAGE WEST ANNOUNCES ITS 2011 EDITOR'S PICK RECIPIENTS

March 9, 2011 (Los Cabos, Mexico) — The Los Cabos Convention & Visitors Bureau has been honored with a *TravelAge West* 2011 Editor's Pick Award in the category of "Favorite Three-Night Destination to Sell" as part of the *TravelAge West* WAVE (Western Agents' Votes of Excellence) Awards.

Now in its sixth year, the goal of *TravelAge West's* WAVE (Western Agents' Vote of Excellence) Awards is to give travel agents in the Western U.S. the opportunity to recognize the outstanding qualities and services of their travel-supplier partners.

The Editor's Picks were chosen by Editor-in-Chief Ken Shapiro and the entire editorial team of *TravelAge West*. Review methods included product analysis, on-site visits, a survey of a select group of travel agents and online research.

"As in past years, the editorial staff undertook hours of research and looked at a wide range of factors in making our picks," said Shapiro. "The companies acknowledged with our Editor's Pick designation provide travelers with truly exceptional experiences."

In addition to this distinction, Editor's Pick honorees are also in the running for a WAVE Award, to be determined by a *TravelAge West* readers' choice poll conducted during the month of April. The voting is open to readers of the publication, as well as to all visitors to the magazine's Web site, TravelAgeWest.com.

Editor's Pick recipients will be celebrated at the WAVE Awards gala dinner on June 2 at the Four Seasons Los Angeles in Beverly Hills, Calif., where the readers' choice winners will be announced as well. *TravelAge West* will produce a special WAVE Awards Spotlight Issue, due out in June 2011, highlighting each nominated company.

"We are honored to be nominated by such a reputable travel publication and industry resource as *TravelAge West*," said Gonzalo Franyutti, President of the Los Cabos Convention & Visitors Bureau. "The Los Cabos CVB values our relationships with the very travel partners that nominated the destination for this award, and we look forward to continuing our work with agents in the Western U.S. to bring travelers the highest levels of service at an unmatched value."

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Los Cabos, located at the tip of the 1,000-mile long Baja Peninsula, is home to award-winning hotels and resorts, championship golf courses, rejuvenating spas, world-class sport fishing and much more. With a unique landscape of dramatic desert and white sand beaches, Los Cabos is an exotic escape within easy reach of most U.S. cities.

With non-stop flights or convenient connections available from Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas/Fort Worth, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Missouri; Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New York/Newark, Oakland, Phoenix, Portland, Sacramento, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, California, Seattle and more, Los Cabos is both accessible and exciting. For more information, images and videos from Los Cabos, please visit www.visitloscabos.travel, follow us on Twitter @LOSCABOSCVB and visit our Facebook and YouTube accounts.

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TravelAge West is the leading trade magazine for travel agents and the travel industry in the 14 western states. Serving its 22,000 readers for 42 years, the biweekly magazine is a main source of news and product information for the region's agents and travel executives. *TravelAge West* is a part of Northstar Travel Media LLC, a worldwide provider of information, news and data for the travel and hospitality industry. Northstar Travel Media is based in Secaucus, N.J.

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2011 Editors Picks

CRUISE

Best Onboard Dining Venue

- 150 Central Park (Oasis of the Seas, RCI)
- Murano (Celebrity Eclipse)
- Restaurant 2 (Seabourn Sojourn)
- Silk Road (Crystal Serenity)

Best Health & Wellness Program

- Celebrity Cruises
- Cunard Line
- Holland America Line
- Royal Caribbean International
- Yachts of Seabourn

Best Cruise Line for Expedition Cruising

- InnerSea Discoveries
- Lindblad Expeditions
- Orion Expedition Cruises
- Paul Gauguin Cruises
- Voyages to Antiquity

Best Cruise Line for Group Travel

- Carnival Cruise Lines
- Holland America Line
- Princess Cruises
- Royal Caribbean International

Cruise Line with the Highest Client Satisfaction (less than 1,100 passengers)

- Crystal Cruises
- Oceania Cruises
- Regent Seven Seas Cruises

- Silversea Cruises

Cruise Line with the Highest Client Satisfaction (more than 1,100 passengers)

- Celebrity Cruises
- Disney Cruise Line
- Princess Cruises
- Royal Caribbean International

Best New Ship (Ocean-going)

- Celebrity Eclipse, Celebrity Cruises
- Queen Elizabeth, Cunard Line
- Nieuw Amsterdam, Holland America Line
- Norwegian Epic, Norwegian Cruise Line
- Allure of the Seas, Royal Caribbean International

Cruise Line Providing the Best Travel Agent Support

- Celebrity Cruises
- Holland America Line
- Princess Cruises
- Royal Caribbean International

Best Overall Cruise Line for River Cruising

- AmaWaterways
- Avalon Waterways
- Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection
- Victoria Cruises
- Viking River Cruises

Best New Ship (River Cruise)

- Amabella, AmaWaterways
- Avalon Luminary, Avalon Waterways
- River Tosca, Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection

Best Cabin Features & Amenities on a River Cruise Line

- AmaWaterways
- Avalon Waterways
- Scenic Tours
- Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection
- Viking River Cruises

River Cruise Line Providing the Best Travel Agent Support

- AmaWaterways
- Avalon Waterways
- Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection
- Viking River Cruises

HOTELS & RESORTS

Hotel/Resort Chain Providing the Best Travel Agent Support

- Hilton Hotels & Resorts
- Hyatt Hotels and Resorts
- Marriott International
- Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide

Best New Property or Major Renovation, Hawaii

- Kauai Marriott Resort (Kauai)
- King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel (Big Island)
- Sheraton Waikiki (Oahu)
- St. Regis Princeville Resort (Kauai)
- Trump International Hotel & Tower Waikiki Beach Walk (Oahu)

Best New Property or Major Renovation, Mexico

- Banyan Tree Cabo Marques (Acapulco)
- The Fairmont Acapulco Princess (Acapulco)
- Zoetry Casa del Mar Los Cabos (Los Cabos)

Best New Property or Major Renovation, Caribbean

- Sandals Emerald Bay, Great Exuma (Bahamas)
- Viceroy Anguilla (British West Indies)
- Zoetry Agua Punta Cana (Dominican Republic)

Best Resort for Families, Hawaii

- Aston Kaanapali Shores (Maui)
- Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort and Spa (Kauai)
- Grand Wailea (Maui)
- Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort & Spa (Oahu)
- Hilton Waikoloa Village (Big Island)

Best All-Inclusive Resort, Mexico

- Azul Sensatori Hotel, by Karisma (Cancun)
- Grand Velas Riviera Maya (Riviera Maya)
- Royal Hideaway Playacar (Riviera Maya)
- Secrets Maroma Beach Riviera Cancun (Riviera Cancun)
- Zoetry Paraiso de la Bonita Riviera Maya (Riviera Maya)

Best All-Inclusive Resort, Caribbean

- Beaches Turks & Caicos (Turks & Caicos)
- Club Med Punta Cana (Dominican Republic)
- Dreams Punta Cana (Dominican Republic)
- Sandals Grand St. Lucian (St. Lucia)

Best Resort for a Hawaiian Cultural Vacation

- Four Seasons Resort Hualalai (Big Island)
- Kaanapali Beach Hotel (Maui)
- Kona Village Resort (Big Island)
- Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows (Big Island)
- Outrigger Waikiki on the Beach (Oahu)

DESTINATION

Destination with the Highest Client Satisfaction, Asia

- China
- India
- Japan
- Singapore
- Thailand

Destination with the Highest Client Satisfaction, Europe

- France
- Great Britain
- Ireland
- Italy
- Spain

Best Destination for a Beach Vacation

- Hawaii
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Tahiti

Best Destination for a Honeymoon/Romance Vacation

- Hawaii
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Tahiti

Best of the West: Favorite Destination for a Family Vacation

- Alaska
- Disneyland Resort (Anaheim, Calif.)
- Hawaii
- San Diego

Favorite Three-Night Weekend Destination to Sell

- Disneyland Resort (Anaheim, Calif.)
- Las Vegas
- Los Cabos
- San Francisco

TOUR OPERATOR

Best Tour Operator, Escorted

- Collette Vacations
- Globus Family of Brands
- Insight Vacations
- Tauck
- Trafalgar Tours

Best Tour Operator, FIT

- Apple Vacations
- Classic Vacations
- Gogo Vacations
- Pleasant Holidays
- Travel Impressions

Best Tour Operator, Africa

- Abercrombie & Kent
- African Travel, Inc.
- Big Five Tours & Expeditions
- Micato Safaris

Best Tour Operator, Asia

- General Tours World Traveler
- Pacific Delight Tours
- Ritz Tours
- Sita World Tours

Best Tour Operator, Australia/New Zealand/South Pacific

- Brendan Vacations
- Pleasant Holidays
- Swain Tours
- Qantas Vacations

Best Tour Operator, Central/South America

- Avanti Destinations
- Brendan Vacations
- Globus Family of Brands
- Latour

Best Tour Operator, Europe

- Brendan Vacations
- Globus Family of Brands
- Insight Vacations
- Tauck
- Trafalgar Tours

Best Tour Operator, Hawaii

- All About Hawaii
- Blue Sky Tours
- Classic Vacations
- GOGO Vacations
- Pleasant Holidays

Best Tour Operator, Mexico

- Apple Vacations
- Classic Vacations
- Gogo Vacations
- Pleasant Holidays
- Travel Impressions

Best Tour Operator, Middle East

- Abercrombie & Kent
- General Tours World Traveler
- Isramworld
- Ya'lla Tours

Best Tour Operator, USA/Canada

- Collette Vacations
- Globus Family of Brands
- Tauck
- Travel Bound
- Travel Impressions

Tour Operator Providing the Best Travel Agent Support

- Classic Vacations
- Globus Family of Brands
- Pleasant Holidays
- Tauck
- Trafalgar Tours

Most Knowledgeable Tour Operator Reservations Staff

- Classic Vacations
- Globus Family of Brands
- Insight Vacations
- Tauck
- Trafalgar Tours

AIRLINE

Best Airline, Domestic

- American Airlines
- Continental Airlines
- Delta Air Lines
- Hawaiian Airlines
- JetBlue

Best Airline, International

- British Airways
- Cathay Pacific Airways
- Lufthansa
- Singapore Airlines
- Virgin Atlantic

CAR RENTAL

Car Rental Company Providing the Best Travel Agent Support

- Alamo Rent A Car
- Avis Rent A Car
- Budget Rent A Car
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- Hertz Car Rental