



2012

The Gold List.

The votes are in! Each year we ask you, our readers, to tell us about your favourite things in luxury travel. From hotels and resorts to cruises, airlines, rail journeys, travel professionals and much more, we've asked you to choose the best of the best for 2012. It's been an exciting year for the Gold List Awards - records have



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This icon signifies that the award winner has made the Gold List every year for the past five years or more. They are our Hall of Fame members and deserve special recognition.

been broken, old favourites are back on top and there have been some surprise upsets in the most popular categories. We've also introduced a new category for best Australian luxury travel experience, and you'll be seeing a lot more of these experiences in the magazine. So read on and see how your favourites fared this year. Welcome to the Gold List 2012.

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Best luxury eco-tourism property

1 ● Jean-Michel Cousteau Fiji Islands Resort, Fiji

Jean-Michel Cousteau takes out another category with its impressive eco-credentials – there is a full-time marine biologist onsite, an organic garden and clever waste management. You are also eco-focused when holidaying at home with seven Australian properties on the list.

- 2 Lizard Island, Great Barrier Reef, QLD
- 3 Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa, Blue Mountains, NSW
- 4 Daintree Eco Lodge & Spa, Daintree, QLD
- 5 Longitude 131°, Uluru, NT
- 6 Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef, WA
- 7 Spicers Canopy, Scenic Rim, QLD
- 8 Al Maha Resort & Spa, Dubai
- 9 Bamurru Plains, NT

The beachfront swimming pool at the Jean-Michel Cousteau Fiji Islands Resort.

Best luxury travel agency

1 ● Mary Rossi Travel

It's always a close race in this category and 2012 was no different. Mary Rossi narrowly beat out last year's winner Concierge Traveller. Third-placed Executive Edge emerged as a new contender this year.

- 2 Concierge Traveller
- 3 Executive Edge Travel + Events
- 4 World Travel Professionals
- 5 Goldman Travel Corporation
- 6 Travelcall
- 7 Gregor & Lewis
- 8 Oasis Travel
- 9 Travel Phase
- 10 Spencer Travel
- 11 Clean Cruising
- 12 Bicton Travel
- 13 Wentworth Travel

Best luxury tour operator

1 ● Abercrombie & Kent

They'll take you from Antarctica to the Arctic and everywhere in between, which is why Abercrombie & Kent is your pick for best luxury tour operator again this year. Tauck has moved up from fourth in 2011 to claim second place in 2012.

- 2 Tauck
- 3 The Captain's Choice Tour
- 4 APT
- 5 Scenic Tours

Luxe luggage from Louis Vuitton.



Best Australian luxury travel experience

1 ● Orion Expedition Cruises

This is a new category for 2012 and we loved finding out about your favourite travel experiences. Luxury expedition cruising, wilderness properties and guided walks make up the finalists. Look out for these to feature in our new Experience Travel section in the magazine.

- 2 North Star Cruises
- 3 Longitude 131°, Uluru, NT
- 4 Arkaba Station, Flinders Ranges, SA
- 5 Kimberley Quest
- 6 Saffire Freycinet, Coles Bay, TAS
- 7 Spicers Canopy, Scenic Rim, QLD
- 8 The Maria Island Walk, TAS



Best luxury fashion brand

1 ● Louis Vuitton

We brought the fashion categories back this year after a short hiatus. Louis Vuitton and Chanel ran a close race for first place and it's great to see Australian label Sass & Bide make the cut.

- 2 Chanel
- 3 Prada
- 4 Hermes
- 5 Gucci
- 6 Versace
- 7 Hugo Boss
- 8 Christian Dior
- 9 Armani
- 10 Orotan
- 11 Burberry
- 12 Bulgari
- 13 Tiffany & Co.
- 14 Sass & Bide
- 15 Rolex
- 16 Coach
- 17 Cartier
- 18 Bally