

World's Top Destinations Named In TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Awards Sydney named number 1 in the South Pacific; Hundreds of the Best Getaways Globally Recognised Based on Millions of Traveller Reviews and Opinions on TripAdvisor

Sydney, Australia, April 8, 2014 – TripAdvisor® the world's largest travel site*, today announced the winners of its Travellers' Choice™ awards for Destinations. The sixth annual awards honour nearly 500 destinations including the winners for the top spots in the world, and individual lists for Australia, New Zealand, Africa, Asia, Canada, the U.K, the U.S and more.

Australia has much to celebrate, securing five of the top ten spots in the South Pacific list. Sydney is the star of the southern hemisphere, with the iconic harbour city taking top honours in the South Pacific (#1), in Australia (#1), and placing respectably in the World list (#22).

Melbourne and Brisbane placed #3 and #4 respectively in the South Pacific list, making it a clean sweep for the Australian Eastern Seaboard, while New Zealand's Queenstown scooped #2 in the South Pacific, a stellar result for the resort town.

"If you're looking for trip inspiration, look no further than the Travellers' Choice Destinations," said Barbara Messing, chief marketing officer for TripAdvisor. "Our global travellers are the tastemakers for uncovering the best places to visit around the world."

Travellers' Choice Destinations honour top travel spots worldwide based on the millions of valuable reviews and opinions from TripAdvisor travellers. Award winners were determined using an algorithm that took into account the quantity and quality of reviews and ratings for hotels, attractions and restaurants in destinations worldwide, gathered over a 12-month period.

Minister for Tourism and Major Events, George Souris, said he was delighted with the news that Sydney had won TripAdvisor's Travellers' Choice Awards for the top Australian and South Pacific destination and the only Australian city to make the top 25 best destinations in the world.

"Sydney has so much to offer, from our golden beaches for surfing and world class dining and shopping, to the diverse, scenic regional areas such as the magnificent Blue Mountains and Hunter wineries. New South Wales is blessed with a range of natural wonders and urban attractions which entices 28.5 million international and domestic overnight visitors each year," Mr. Souris continued.

Top 10 Travellers' Choice South Pacific Destinations:

1. Sydney, Australia
2. Queenstown, New Zealand
3. Melbourne, Australia
4. Brisbane, Australia
5. Rotorua, New Zealand
6. Port Douglas, Australia
7. Taupo, New Zealand
8. Blenheim, New Zealand
9. Nelson, New Zealand
10. Hobart, Australia
11. Port Vila, Vanuatu
12. Cessnock, Australia
13. Wanaka, New Zealand
14. Savusavu, Fiji
15. Tauranga, New Zealand
16. Christchurch, New Zealand
17. Paihia, New Zealand
18. Napier, New Zealand
19. Luganville, Vanuatu
20. Russell, New Zealand
21. Dunedin, New Zealand
22. Airlie Beach, Australia
23. Kaikoura, New Zealand
24. New Plymouth, New Zealand
25. Byron Bay, Australia

Top 10 Travellers' Choice Australia Destinations:

1. Sydney, NSW
2. Melbourne, VIC
3. Brisbane, QLD
4. Port Douglas, QLD

5. Hobart, TAS
6. Cessnock, NSW
7. Airlie Beach, QLD
8. Byron Bay, NSW
9. Canberra, ACT
10. Darwin, NT

Top 25 Travellers' Choice World Destinations:

1. Istanbul, Turkey
2. Rome, Italy
3. London, England
4. Beijing, China
5. Prague, Czech Republic
6. Marrakech, Morocco
7. Paris, France
8. Hanoi, Vietnam (New)
9. Siem Reap, Cambodia
10. Shanghai, China
11. Berlin, Germany
12. New York City, New York
13. Florence, Italy
14. Buenos Aires, Argentina
15. Barcelona, Spain
16. St. Petersburg, Russia
17. Dubai, United Arab Emirates (New)
18. Chicago, Illinois
19. Cape Town, South Africa
20. Bangkok, Thailand
21. Budapest, Hungary (New)
22. Sydney, Australia
23. Lisbon, Portugal (New)
24. Chiang Mai, Thailand
25. San Francisco, California

Asian Destinations Climb World List of Top Spots

Six of the top 25 world spots are from Asia and four Asian cities saw a climb of at least 10 places in the world top 25 list year-over-year. Beijing jumped 17 spots to #4 in the world, Hanoi is new to the list this year at #8, Siem Reap rose 14 spots to #9, and Shanghai climbed 12 places to #10.

For the complete list of winners from the 2014 Travellers' Choice Destinations, as well as reviews and candid traveller photos, go to <http://www.tripadvisor.com.au/TravellersChoice-Destinations>.

To see the best hotels for luxury, bargain, and more, as honoured in TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Awards for Hotels from January, go to www.tripadvisor.com.au/TravellersChoice-Hotels.

<https://tripadvisor.mediaroom.com/2014-04-08-World-s-Top-Destinations-Named-In-TripAdvisor-Travellers-Choice-Awards>