



Please reply to: Jamie Cash
Direct telephone: (020) 7735 5169
e-mail: jamie@grouptavelorganiser.com

London Hilton, Park Lane
Thursday 31st May 2001

RESULTS

- 1) Best Large Attraction for Group Visits (*half-day visit or more*)
 - Winner Alton Towers, Staffordshire
 - Runner-Up Beamish – The North of England Open Air Museum, Co Durham
 - Finalists The Historic Dockyard, Chatham; The Historic Dockyard Portsmouth; Drayton Manor Family Theme Park and Longleat

- 2) Best Small Attraction for Group Visits (*less than half-day visit*)
 - Winner British Airways London Eye
 - Runner-Up Eden Camp Modern History Theme Museum, North Yorkshire
 - Finalists A Day at The Wells, Tunbridge Wells; BBC Experience, London; The Cabinet War Rooms and Vinopolis – London’s Wine Tasting Attraction

- 3) Best New Attraction for Group Visits (*opened during 2000*)
 - Winner British Airways London Eye
 - Runner-Up At Bristol
 - Finalists National Botanic Gardens of Wales; Rheged – The Village in the Hill, ; Tate Modern, London; Somerset House, London; Dewar’s World of Whisky, Aberfeldy and Life Interactive World, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

- 4) Best Overseas Attraction for Group Visits
 - Winner Disneyland Paris
 - Runner-Up Phantasialand, Germany
 - Finalists Futuroscope, Fance; Keukenhof Gardens, Netherlands and Efteling Netherlands

- 5) Best Guided Tour Experience
 - Winner Vinopolis – London’s Wine Tasting Attraction
 - Runner-Up Lancashire Welcome Days Out
 - Finalists Bosworth Battlefield Tours; Durham Cathedral; Hampton Court Palace; Shakespeare’s Globe and Windsor Castle

- 6) Most Group-Friendly UK Destination
 - Winner Blackpool
 - Runner-Up Yorkshire
 - Finalists Eastbourne; Kent; Lancashire; Leeds and Torquay

- 7) Most Group-Friendly Overseas Destination
 - Winner Netherlands
 - Runner-Up Austria
 - Finalists Belgium; Canada and France

- 8) Best Provision of Group Facilities
 - Winner Rochester, Medway
 - Runner-Up TLH Resort, Torquay
 - Finalists Leonardslee Gardens, Sussex; Wigan Pier, Lancashire; Welcome Break, Oswaldtwistle Mills, Lancashire and WWT Wetland Centre London

- 9) Best Group Catering Facilities
 - Winner Harry Ramsden’s
 - Runner-Up The Medieval Banquet
 - Finalists DFDS Seaways; Hatfield House and Westmorland Motorway Services

- 10) Best Hotel Chain or Group
 Winner Best Western
 Runner-Up Grand Hotels
 Finalists Corus and Regal; De Vere; Holiday Inn and Thistle
- 11) Best Individual Hotel for Groups
 Winner St Kilda Hotel, Llandudno
 Runner-Up The Auckland Hotel, Morecambe
 Finalists Newport Hilton; Monk Bar Hotel, York; The Rembrandt, London; Grand Burstin, Folkestone and Hanover, Hinckley
- 12) Best All-Inclusive Group Holiday Venue
 Winner Bodelwyddan Castle (Warner)
 Runner-Up Sand Bay Holiday Village
 Finalists Bembridge Coast Hotel (Warner) and Butlins Skegness
- 13) a) Best Large Coach Operator (*25 coaches or more*)
 Winner The Kings Ferry, Gillingham
 Runner-Up Shearings, Wigan
 Finalists Harry Shaw, Coventry; Lucketts Travel, Portsmouth and Wallace Arnold Tours
- b) Best Small Coach Operator (*less than 25 coaches*)
 Winner Solent Coaches, Hampshire
 Runner-Up Diamond Holidays, South Wales
 Finalists Scotland and Bates, Kent and Harris Coaches, Essex
- 14) Best UK Rail Operator
 Winner Virgin Trains
 Runner-Up GNER
 Finalists Arriva Trains Northern (formerly Northern Spirit); Midland Mainline and First Great Western
- 15) Best International Transport Operator
 Winner P&O Stena Line
 Runner-Up P&O North Sea Ferries
 Finalists Eurostar; Eurotunnel; P&O Portsmouth; Sea France; Stena Line; and Virgin Atlantic
- 16) Best Inland Canal / Riverboat Operator
 Winner City Cruises, London
 Runner-Up French Brothers, Windsor
 Finalists Kennet Horse Boat Company, Berkshire; Catamaran Cruises, London and Yorkboat, York
- 17) Best Off-shore Cruise Line Operator
 Winner Fred Olson
 Runner-Up P&O Cruises
 Finalists Royal Caribbean International and Saga Cruises
- 18) Best Group Guide / Brochure / Information Pack
 Winner The National Trust
 Runners-Up Irish Tourist Board
 Finalists English Heritage; Essex Tourism; Exeter City Council and Travelsphere
- 19) Best Live Stage / Theatrical Production
 Winner Mamma Mia!
 Runner-Up Disney's The Lion King
 Finalists Witches of Eastwick, Chicago, King and I and Whistle Down the Wind

20) Best Event for Groups

Winner Holiday on Ice
Runner-Up RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show
Finalists Air Fete 2000 (USAF Mildenhall); BBC Gardener's World Live and Edinburgh Tattoo

21) Best Ticketing Agency

Winner Group Line
Runners-Up First Call and Ticketmaster
Finalists London Hotels and Travel Services; Shows Box Office and Stollmoss

22) Best Shopping Venue for Groups

Winner Lakeside, Essex
Runner-Up McArthur Glen Designer Outlet Great Western, Swindon
Finalists Bluewater, Kent; Freeport Braintree, Essex; Leeds Kirkgate Market and Trafford Centre, Manchester

23) Best Group Tour Operator / Wholesaler

Winner Airedale Tours, West Yorkshire
Runner-Up City Cruiser Holidays, Medway
Finalists Dunwood Travel, Dudley; Grand UK Holidays, Norwich; Greatdays Travel Group, Cheshire; Greencastle Travel, Hereford; Travelscope, Gloucestershire and Travelsphere, Market Harborough

24) Best Overall Group Supplier

Winner Airedale Tours, West Yorkshire
Runner-Up City Cruiser Holidays, Medway
Finalists Greatdays Travel Group, Cheshire; Norman Allen Group Travel, Hereford and Page and Moy, Leicester