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London Hilton, Park Lane
Thursday 6th June 2002

2002 GROUP TRAVEL AWARDS FULL RESULTS LIST

- 1) Best Attraction for Group Visits – Long Visit: (*more than two hour stay*)
 - Winner Beamish – The North of England Open Air Museum, Co Durham
 - Runner-Up Eden Project, Cornwall
 - Finalists Alton Towers, Staffordshire; Bletchley Park, Buckinghamshire; Hampton Court Palace, Surrey; Ironbridge Gorge Museums, Shropshire; Portsmouth Historic Dockyard

- 2) Best Attraction for Group Visits – Short Visit: (*less than two hour stay*)
 - Winner British Airways London Eye
 - Runner-Up Vinopolis – London’s Wine Tasting Attraction
 - Finalists Althorp House, Northamptonshire; Buckingham Palace, London; Cadbury World, West Midlands; Leeds Castle, Kent

- 3) Best New Attraction for Group Visits (*opened during 2001*)
 - Winner Eden Project, Cornwall
 - Runner-Up National Space Centre, Leicester
 - Finalists Firepower, Woolwich, London ; Magna, Rotherham; Wedgwood Visitor Centre, Staffordshire

- 4) Best Overseas Attraction for Group Visits
 - Winner Disneyland Paris
 - Runner-Up Keukenhof Gardens, Netherlands
 - Finalists La Coupole, St Omer; Phantasialand, Germany; Universal Studios Port Aventura, Spain

- 5) Best Guided Tour Experience
 - Winner Eltham Palace, London
 - Runner-Up York City Tour
 - Finalists Chester Blue Badge Guides; Hampton Court Palace, Surrey; Kensington Palace, London; Penshurst Place, Kent; Shakespeare’s Globe, Southwark, London

- 6) Most Group-Friendly UK Destination
 - Winner Eastbourne
 - Runner-Up York
 - Finalists Blackpool; Bournemouth; Isle of Wight; Llandudno; Morecambe

- 7) Most Group-Friendly Overseas Destination
 - Winner Belgium
 - Runners-Up Netherlands; Ireland
 - Finalists Iceland; New York; Rhineland, Germany

- 8) Best Provision of Group Facilities
 - Winner Rochester, Medway
 - Runner-Up White Rose Shopping Centre, Leeds
 - Finalists Alton Towers, Staffordshire; At Bristol; Salisbury Cathedral; Southport, Merseyside; Thorpe Park, Surrey; Vinopolis – London’s Wine Tasting Attraction

- 9) Best Group Catering Facilities
 - Winner Harry Ramsden’s
 - Runner-Up Central Hall Westminster
 - Finalists The Medieval Banquet, London; Welcome Break

- 10) Best Hotel Chain or Group
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| Winner | Thistle |
| Runner-Up | Six Continents |
| Finalists | Best Western; Choice Hotels Europe; Grand Hotels; Hilton Hotels Worldwide |
- 11) Best Individual Hotel for Groups
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|-----------|---|
| Winner | The Auckland Hotel, Morecambe |
| Runner-Up | St Kilda Hotel, Llandudno |
| Finalists | Oulton Hall, Leeds (De Vere); Royal Victoria Hotel, Llanberis; The Carlton Hotel, Torquay (TLH Resort); Tower Thistle, London |
- 12) Best All-Inclusive Group Holiday Venue
- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Winner | Bodelwyddan Castle, North Wales (Warner) |
| Runner-Up | Sinah Warren, Hayling Island (Warner) |
| Finalists | Butlins, Skegness; Mill Rythe Holiday Village, Hayling Island (Renowned Holidays); Sand Bay Holiday Village, Weston-Super-Mare (Hollybush Hotels); Sandford Holiday Park, Poole (Weststar Holiday Parks) |
- 13) a) Best Large Coach Operator (*25 coaches or more*)
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|-----------|--|
| Winner | The Kings Ferry, Gillingham |
| Runner-Up | Harry Shaw City Cruiser Holidays, Coventry |
| Finalists | Bowen Travel, Birmingham; Fraser Eagle, Accrington; Shearings, Wigan |
- b) Best Small Coach Operator (*less than 25 coaches*)
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|-----------|--|
| Winner | Chapel End Coaches, Nuneaton |
| Runner-Up | Solent Coaches, New Milton |
| Finalists | Diamond Holidays, South Wales; Kirbys Coaches, Rayleigh; Skinners of Oxted, Surrey |
- 14) Best UK Rail Operator
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| Winner | Virgin Trains |
| Runner-Up | GNER |
| Finalists | Connex South Eastern; First Great Western; Midland Mainline |
- 15) Best International Transport Operator
- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Winner | P&O Stena Line |
| Runner-Up | Eurostar |
| Finalists | British Airways; P&O North Sea Ferries; SeaFrance; Stena Line; Virgin Atlantic |
- 16) Best Inland Canal / Riverboat Operator
- | | |
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| Winner | French Brothers, Windsor |
| Runner-Up | City Cruises, London |
| Finalists | Catamaran Cruises, London; Foulridge Canal Cruises, Accrington; Kennet Horse Boat Company, Berkshire |
- 17) Best Off-shore Cruise Line Operator
- | | |
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| Winner | Fred.Olsen Cruise Lines |
| Runner-Up | P&O Cruises |
| Finalists | Cunard Line; Mediterranean Shipping Cruises; Royal Caribbean International |
- 18) Best Information for Groups
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| Winner | English Heritage Group Visits Guide |
| Runners-Up | The National Trust Travel Trade Directory |
| Finalists | Group Travel Guide to Lancashire; Northumbria Travel Trade Directory; Portsmouth The Official Group Travel Guide; Southport Group Information Pack; York Groups Guide |

19) Best Live Stage / Theatrical Production

Winner My Fair Lady
Runner-Up Mamma Mia!
Finalists Blood Brothers; Chicago; Kiss Me Kate; The Lion King

20) Best Event for Groups

Winner RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show
Runner-Up Clotheshow Live
Finalists BBC Gardeners' World Live; Birmingham International Tattoo; Chatham Navy Days; Holiday on Ice; Spalding Flower Parade

21) Best Group Ticketing Agency

Winner Group Line
Runner-Up Ticketmaster
Finalists First Call; London Hotels and Travel Services; Really Useful Theatres
GroupBookings

22) Best Shopping Venue for Groups

Winner Bluewater, Kent
Runner-Up Lakeside, Essex
Finalists Gunwharf Quays, Portsmouth; McArthurGlen Designer Outlets Cheshire Oaks, Ellesmere Port; Meadowhall, Sheffield; Oswaldtwistle Mills, Lancashire; Trafford Centre, Manchester

23) Best Group Tour Operator / Wholesaler

Winner Airedale Tours, West Yorkshire
Runner-Up City Cruiser Holidays, Medway
Finalists Jag Leisure Services, Surrey; Norman Allen Group Travel, Herefordshire; Success Tours, Trowbridge; Travel Editions, London; Travelsphere, Market Harborough

24) Best Overall Group Supplier

Winner City Cruiser Holidays, Medway
Runner-Up Airedale Tours, West Yorkshire
Finalists Bowen Travel, Birmingham; DFDS Seaways, Harwich; Grand UK Holidays, Norwich; Greatdays Travel Group, Cheshire; Newmarket Travel Service, Surrey

Outstanding Contribution to Group Travel by an Individual – Peter Rogers