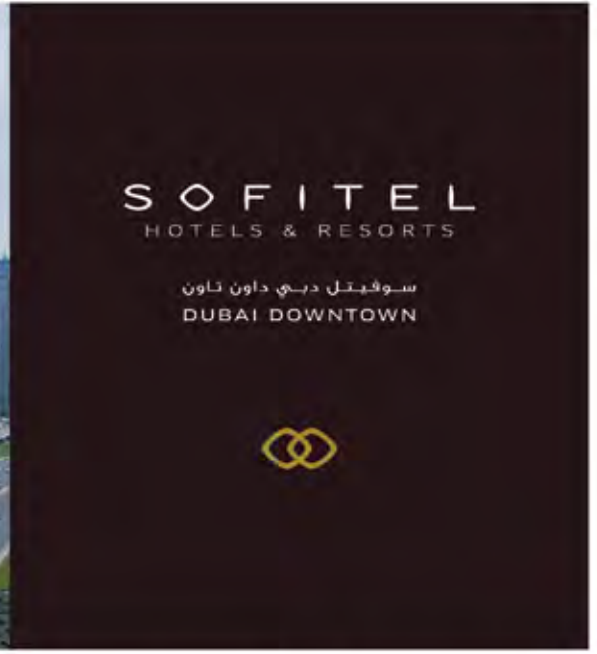


ARABIAN TRAVEL AWARDS

2023





THE FRENCH ELEGANCE IN THE HEART OF THE ICONIC DOWNTOWN DUBAI.

WELCOME TO THE FINER SIDE OF SOPHISTICATION WHERE YOU CAN STEP INTO A WORLD OF REFINED EUROPEAN HERITAGE LINKED TO A LOCAL CULTURE, ELEGANCE AND SEAMLESS LUXURY.

ROOMS & SUITES

- 270 Luxury rooms with views of the Arabian Coastline or Burj Khalifa
- 76 suites including Junior Suite, Opera Suite, 2-Bedroom Downtown Suite, Presidential Suite and Royal Suite

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

- Signature MyBed™ • Contemporary Room Designs
- An Array of Dining Experiences
- Prime Location in the heart of Downtown Dubai
- Connected to The Dubai Mall & The Metro Station
- 60-meter infinity pool overlooking Burj Khalifa & Dubai skyscrapers

FEATURES AND AMENITIES

- Complimentary Wi-Fi • Coffee machine
- Sound system • LED HD TV • Safe • Mini bar • Pillow menu
- Luxury bathroom amenities



RESTAURANTS, BARS & LOUNGES

Enjoy a culinary journey from the four corners of the globe in the heart of Downtown Dubai. Impressive venues, delicious treats and heartwarming service await at any of our gorgeous restaurants, bars or lounges:

- LES CUISINES** International Restaurant
- L'APERU - CLUB MILLESIME** VIP Lounge
- LA PATISSERIE** Café Lounge
- MOSAIC** Pool Lounge
- ABOVE** Rooftop Lounge
- INKA** Peruvian Restaurant
- WAKAME** Contemporary Asian Restaurant
- STONE** Night Club
- MOSAICA** Restaurant
- SWISS BUTTER** Restaurant

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Commending travel excellence

The 6th edition of the Arabian Travel Awards, hosted by the DDP Group, celebrated excellence, innovation and dedication in the travel, tourism and hospitality industry. **HE Datuk Seri Ahmad Fadil bin Shamsuddin**, Ambassador of Malaysia to the UAE, graced the occasion as Chief Guest.



Dr. Shehara Rizly

The invitation-only, black-tie gala evening commenced with industry stalwarts networking in the foyer, accompanied by music and canapés. **HE Datuk Seri Ahmad Fadil bin Shamsuddin**, Ambassador of Malaysia to the UAE, graced the occasion as Chief Guest and received a warm welcome from the DDP Group board of directors—**Sumeera Bahl**, **SanJeet**, and **Devika Jeet**. His Excellency was ceremoniously escorted by the board of directors and the violinist into the ballroom, where the doors opened for every invited guest to be amazed by the décor representing the awards. The evening's MC started with a special theme song dedicated to the Arabian Travel Awards, evoking emotions from the crowd.

The official ribbon ceremony was graced by **HE Datuk Seri Ahmad Fadil bin Shamsuddin**, Chief Guest and Ambassador of Malaysia

with great pleasure and immense enthusiasm that I stand before you today to welcome you to the 6th edition of the Arabian Travel Awards. This evening promises to be an unforgettable celebration of excellence, innovation and dedication in the realm of travel, tourism and hospitality. The Arabian Travel Awards have been conceived to honour and recognise the exceptional efforts of those individuals and organisations that play a pivotal role in the dynamic world of travel, tourism and hospitality. It is a platform to acknowledge the remarkable achievements, applaud the tireless endeavours, and inspire all those involved in this industry to continue reaching for new heights. I would like to stop here and want you to take a second and look around the room—you are looking at the leaders, stalwarts and innovators of the industry. Our audience contains legends, visionaries and potential leaders of tomorrow."

ATA 2023 have been conceived to recognise exceptional efforts of those individuals & organisations that play pivotal role in travel, tourism & hospitality

— SanJeet

to the UAE, **Jamal Abdunazar**, DDP Gallery of Legends, **Nasir Jamal Khan**, DDP Gamechanger 2021, **Rosnah Mustafah**, Director, Tourism Malaysia Dubai Office and **Caroline Trichet**, General Manager, Sofitel Downtown Dubai.

Convener of Arabian Travel Awards and Board of Director DDP Group **SanJeet** welcomed everyone to the 6th edition of the Arabian Travel Awards. SanJeet expressed, "It is

He further reiterated, "The Arabian Travel Awards were our way to say thank you to the industry and motivate you all to grow further. As you know the Arabian Travel awards are divided into four categories: Personal Awards: these are for the legends and leaders of today and tomorrow. These are stalwarts of the industry and even youngsters who are aiming to change the industry in the future. Business Awards: these awards are for the organisations who set a high

benchmark for their respective fields and have consistently exceeded their own expectations. Next, Trending Awards: decided by critics... these are for the individuals who have done some extraordinary work in this field and finally Partner Awards: these are for our partners who have contributed to make this event a grand success.



The awards process starts with online nomination, the form itself is very thought provoking and encourages participants to think about what sets them apart. Online voting and then our jury decides the award winners. Voting is carefully monitored to avoid duplication and ensure transparency. We have all come together and celebrate success. These awards are powered by TravTalkME, the region's leading travel trade publication. Congratulations to all of you for being part of such a growing, innovative, and successful industry. Enjoy the evening and celebrate your success."

In his opening remarks, **HE Datuk Seri Ahmad Fadil bin Shamsuddin**, Chief Guest and Ambassador of Malaysia to the UAE, expressed gratitude to the DDP Group for inviting him to join the esteemed leaders in travel, tourism, and hospitality. He acknowledged their significant contributions, which have become key drivers of the non-oil sector's GDP in the Middle East.

"It is an honour and privilege for me to be invited to join the experts in the travel, tourism, and hospitality industry this evening. I extend my appreciation and gratitude to the organizers for orchestrating the 6th edition of the Arabian Travel Awards, which recognises the contributions of the leaders in

the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors in the Middle East," the Chief Guest stated.

Following the speech, the Chief Guest, **HE Datuk Seri Ahmad Fadil bin Shamsuddin**, along with **SanJeet** and **Sumeera Bahl**, unveiled the special collector's edition book.

Fahad Kanoo, Group CEO, Kanoo Group entered Gallery of Legends. An international award-winning hotelier with over 38 years of experience, **Mohamed Awadalla**, CEO & Co-founder, TIME Hotels was honoured as DDP Trailblazer. **Saleem Shariff**, Deputy Managing Director, ATS Travel was recognised as DDP Gamechanger. The next title was awarded to the young entrepreneur **Ashiya Nazar** as the 'Face of the Future,' continuing the legacy at Akbar Travel with Ashiya spearheading GCC operations.

Extraordinary celebration





Fahad Kanoo GALLERY OF LEGENDS

“An honour to accept this esteemed award. This recognition is not just for me but for everyone who believes in the power and beauty of exploration. We are all adventurers at heart, drawn together by the magic that unfolds when we discover new places and forge new connections. A heartfelt thanks to my community, supporters and fellow explorers. This award strengthens my commitment to bridge understanding through our shared journeys. To wrap up, this moment is a testament to our collective spirit. Let’s continue to ignite coexistence and make our world a variety of shared experiences. Honoured being part of this journey and thank you very much.”

Fawad Kanoo, CEO, Kanoo Group

The award was received by **Fawad Kanoo**, CEO, Kanoo Group

Mohamed Awadalla DDP TRAILBLAZER

“The Arabian Travel Awards are renowned for their steadfast dedication to advancing excellence in the tourism and hospitality sectors throughout the Middle East and North Africa region. Being part of such an event not only spotlights the achievements of the nominees but also serves as a testament to their dedication and contributions. Earning recognition as a “Fast Growing Brand” is a moment of triumph and acknowledgment that can profoundly impact both personal and professional dimensions of one’s life. It often signifies the culmination of relentless effort, unwavering dedication, and an unyielding commitment to excellence within the travel and tourism industry. This award serves as a token of appreciation for all members of Time Hotels and acts as a motivating force for the challenging year that lies ahead.”

Mohamed Awadalla, CEO, Time Hotels

The award was received by **Mohamed Awadalla**, CEO, Time Hotels



Saleem Sharif DDP GAMECHANGER

“Today, I stand with lots of gratitude to DDP Group for having extended this honour to me. I thank my stakeholders who have always been supportive and encouraged me to do whatever I have done for my organisation and for the trade. And, of course, my excellent team, which has always been a big support. I dedicate this award to each one of you from the travel trade who has always encouraged me and helped me to reach where we have reached today.”

Saleem Sharif, Deputy Managing Director, ATS Travel

The award was received by **Saleem Sharif**, Deputy Managing Director, ATS Travel



Ashiya Nazar FACE OF THE FUTURE

“The Arabian Travel Awards was a celebration of excellence in the travel industry, and I am honoured to be part of it. Winning the Arabian Travel Awards is a testament to our commitment to exceptional travel experiences, and it is truly gratifying and encouraging for young innovators like me. This award ignites our fervour to push boundaries and introduce even more extraordinary travel services in the coming year. It is an inspiring catalyst for our entire team, propelling us towards greater success.”

Ashiya Nazar, Director, Middle East, Akbar Travels

The award was presented to **Ashiya Nazar**, Director, Middle East, Akbar Travels





◀ Samer Homsy

BEST HOSPITALITY LEADER

“I am very proud of my team, with their support I managed to win, and we managed to win best corporate hotel award and best hospitality leader award. It is an honour to win those two prestigious awards.”

— Samer Homsy, General Manager, Metropolitan Hotel Dubai

The award was received by **Samer Homsy**, General Manager, Metropolitan Hotel Dubai



Issam Slaimi ▶

BEST HOSPITALITY PROFESSIONAL

“Being recognized as Best Hospitality Professional of the Arabian Travel Awards is a tremendous honour. I am grateful for this recognition in the travel industry. It motivates me to continue delivering exceptional experiences with passion and dedication. This award serves as a reminder of the impact I can make in shaping the future of travel and tourism.”

— Issam Slaimi, General Manager, Golden Tulip Media Hotel

The award was received by **Issam Slaimi**, General Manager, Golden Tulip Media Hotel



◀ Amro Nagah

MOST PROMISING GENERAL MANAGER

“These two awards not only fill me with immense pride but also instill the confidence to return to my team and celebrate this achievement together. It reinforces our commitment to delivering superior service to everyone.”

— Amro Nagah, General Manager, Swissotel Al Murooj

The award was received by **Amro Nagah**, General Manager, Swissotel Al Murooj



Travelport ▶

BEST TRAVEL TECHNOLOGY PROVIDER

“It was an honour to join so many visionaries in travel, tourism and hospitality, as we celebrated the significant contributions that enable travel to be a key driver for our economy and GDP. While our mission to simplify and modernise travel is far from over, this award confirms that we are making real progress to empower agents to become true modern retailers of travel.”

— Kathryn Wallington, Head, MEA, UK & IE, Central & Eastern EU, Travelport

The award was received by **Kathryn Wallington**, Head, Middle East, Africa, UK & Ireland, Travelport and **Mervat Alfy**, Head, Middle East, UAE, Egypt and Bahrain, Travelport



◀ Tourism Malaysia Dubai Office

BEST NTO – SOUTH EAST ASIA

“Thanks to the organisers of DDP Group and the jury for this prestigious award, it is a great responsibility as now we need to work to ensure that we maintain and excel even further. Tourism Malaysia Dubai has actively participated in travel conferences and exhibitions, destinations seminar presentation with airlines and agents and familiarisation trips for agents and media.”

— Rosnah Mustafah, Director, Tourism Malaysia Dubai office

The award was received by **Rosnah Mustafah**, Director, Tourism Malaysia Dubai office



Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi Hotel and Residences Emirates Pearl ▶

BEST WEDDING AND MICE HOTEL

“We are truly honoured to receive the prestigious Arabian Travel Award. We are honored to receive this recognition, which stands as a testament to our team's unwavering dedication.”

— Diksha Singh, GM, Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi Hotel and Residences Emirates Pearl

The award was received by **Kunal Salooja**, Director, MICE, Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi Hotel and Residences Emirates Pearl



◀ Rezlive.com

BEST TRAVEL BOOKING PLATFORM

“The event was well organized, engaging with pleasant ambiance and positive interactions which created a memorable and delightful experience for me. Winning an Arabian Travel Award is exhilarating. It signifies recognition and hard work. It gives deep sense of accomplishment and pride. Awards will motivate me to be resilient in facing challenges and encourage me to work harder and excel.”

— Jaal Shah, Founder & Managing Director, Rezlive.com

The award was received by **Jaal Shah**, Founder & Managing Director, Rezlive.com



dusitD2 kenz Hotel ▶

BEST BUSINESS HOTEL

“Our winning streak for two consecutive years in Arabian Travel Awards reflects our unwavering commitment to excellence at both our properties. This year's awards night was exceptional, filled with entertainment and served as a grand celebration of the hard work of all hoteliers and industry partners throughout this year. We are honoured to bring Dusit's signature Thai-inspired hospitality to Dubai.”

— Bassam Zakaria, Cluster General Manager, dusitD2 kenz Hotel & Dusit Princess Residences, Dubai Marina

The award was received by **Bassam Zakaria**, Cluster General Manager, dusitD2 kenz Hotel & Dusit Princess Residences, Dubai Marina & **Ahmed Reda**, Front Office Manager, dusitD2 kenz Hotel & Dusit Princess Residences, Dubai Marina



The Tower Plaza Hotel ▶

BEST LEISURE AND BUSINESS HOTEL

“The event was amazing, gathering leaders from the hospitality and travel industry, creating a valuable platform for recognition, networking and collaboration. It offered a platform to celebrate excellence and innovation in the hospitality and tourism field. Winning an Arabian Travel Award is an immense honour, validating our dedication to enhancing business and leisure travel experiences for our guests.”

— Haitham Gala, General Manager, The Tower Plaza Hotel

The award was received by **Haitham Hala**, General Manager, The Tower Plaza Hotel Dubai



Swissotel Al Ghurair Dubai ▶

BEST FAMILY FRIENDLY HOTEL

“Swissotel Al Ghurair and the team are extremely thrilled to win the Best Family-Friendly Hotel for the third year in a row. This achievement highlights the hotel’s continuous efforts to become Dubai’s premier family-friendly destination.”

— Amal El Ansari, General Manager, Swissotel Al Ghurair Dubai

The award was received by **Mrinaliny Mitra**, Assistant Director, Marketing and Communications, Swissôtel Al Ghurair Dubai, **Amal El Ansari**, General Manager, Swissôtel Al Ghurair Dubai and **Natalia Zubareva**, Director, Sales and Marketing, Swissôtel Al Ghurair Dubai

◀ Kanoo Travel

BEST TRAVEL MANAGEMENT COMPANY – MIDDLE EAST

“It is an honour to accept this esteemed award. This recognition is not just for me but for everyone who believes in the power and beauty of exploration. We are all adventurers at heart, drawn together by the magic that unfolds when we discover new places and forge new connections. A heartfelt thanks to my community, supporters and fellow explorers.”

— Fawad Kanoo, CEO, Kanoo Group

The award was received by **Zaeem Gama**, Divisional CEO, Travel, Kanoo Travel and **Aubrey Heldt**, Divisional General Manager, Travel Operations, Kanoo Travel



◀ Tawfeeq Holidays

FASTEST GROWING DMC QATAR

“The event was very well planned and organised. The overall setup was very lively and gave a good opportunity to network and connect with industry leaders across the region. Travel awards can help acknowledge and promote businesses and individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the travel and tourism sector.”

— Rehan Ali, CEO, Tawfeeq Holidays

The award was received by **Rehan Ali**, CEO, Tawfeeq Holidays and **Mathew Sebastian**, Head, Retail & DMC, Tawfeeq Holidays





◀ Al Rostamani Travel and Holidays

BEST NEW TRAVEL BOOKING PLATFORM

“The Arabian Travel Awards were timely, relevant and engaging, uniting the travel community in a well-planned event that honoured contributions across the industry. We appreciate the inclusion of all segments of the travel industry.”

— Bimal Jain, General Manager, Al Rostamani Travel and Holidays

The award was received by **Bimal Jain**, General Manager, Al Rostamani Travel and Holidays, **Sanjay Thamby**, Business Development Manager, Corporate & MICE, Al Rostamani Travel & Holidays and **Amit Chopra**, Head, Marketing & Corporate Communications, Al Rostamani Group



Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism Agencies ▶

BEST GSA

Al Naboodah Travel marks 50 years of GSA partnership in 1973. Al Naboodah Travel embarked on a journey that has spanned half a century, starting with its ground-breaking GSA collaboration with Air France.”

— Nasir Jamal Khan, CEO, Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism Agencies

The award was received by **Asim Waheed**, Business Development Manager, Al Naboodah Travel, **Nasir Jamal Khan**, CEO, Al Naboodah Travel, **Alishah Bhimani**, Assistant Manager, Finance, Al Naboodah Travel and **Rayomand Sam Kasad**, Retail Manager, Al Naboodah Travel



◀ Jannah Burj Al Sarab Hotel

BEST LUXURY HALAL HOTEL

“From the warm welcome to the meticulously planned programme, every detail was handled with care and professionalism. It was evident that a tremendous amount of effort went into organising such a successful event. Winning an Arabian Travel Award is a significant achievement. It reflects recognition for the hard work, dedication and excellence of service performed by Jannah Burj Al Sarab Team.”

— Philistine Kharbouch, General Manager, Jannah Burj Al Sarab Hotel

The award was received by **Philistine Kharbouch**, General Manager, Jannah Burj Al Sarab Hotel and **Ossama Charrouf**, Corporate Director, Commercial and Development, Jannah Burj Al Sarab Hotel



Akbar Travels ▶

BEST B2B TRAVEL PORTAL

“The Arabian Travel Awards event was a fantastic celebration of the travel industry, bringing together top players. It was an honour to be a part of it. Being an Arabian Travel Award winner is truly exhilarating; it is a validation of our dedication to excellence in travel services. This award serves as a powerful motivator for us in 2024.”

— Ashiya Nazar, Director, Middle East, Akbar Travels

The award was received by **Ahmed Kasim**, General Manager, Online Business ME, **Ashiya Nazar**, Director, Middle East, Akbar Travels, **Shahid Khan**, Global Sales Head, Akbar Travels and **Ranjit Rajan**, Sales Manager, B2B, Akbar Travels



Sofitel Dubai Downtown ▶

BEST LUXURY HOTEL

“Massive applause to the DDP Group team for flawlessly orchestrating the Arabian Travel Awards celebrating excellence in travel. To be awarded the Best Luxury Hotel is a humbling testament to our commitment to the art de recevoir, exceeding expectations and embodying the essence of “The French Way” hospitality excellence.”

— Caroline Trichet, General Manager, Sofitel Downtown Dubai

The award was received by **Oosha Chowdhury**, Director, T&C, Sofitel Dubai Downtown, **Ruby Pande**, Director, Rooms, Sofitel Dubai Downtown, **Siraj Memon**, Director, Sales & Marketing, Sofitel Dubai Downtown, **Caroline Trichet**, General Manager, Sofitel Dubai Downtown and **Mohamed Oughdoud**, Director, Finance, Sofitel Dubai Downtown



Philippine Airlines ▶

BEST AIRLINE SOUTHEAST ASIA

“Arabian Travel Awards 2023 indeed had another successful run which was well attended by movers and shakers of the travel industry. Philippine Airlines is proud to have received the Best Airlines-Southeast Asia Award. This is a testament of our continuous efforts of delivering not only safe but pleasant travel experience. This award motivates us to grow amid a more competitive and challenging aviation industry.”

— Josh M Vasquez, Regional Head, EMEA, International Passenger Sales, Philippine Airlines

The award was received by **Josh M Vasquez**, Regional Head, EMEA, International Passenger Sales, Philippine Airlines

◀ Satguru Travel and Tourism

BEST CORPORATE TMC

“A prestigious platform to nominate, appreciate and honour the top performers in the travel sector and an opportunity for experts to network. Winning an ATA award is a testimony of being one of the best in the nominated category considering validation from the customers and jury. It elevates and validates the efforts of our teams who strive hard for excellence.”

— Dinkar Dasaur, General Manager UAE, Satguru Travel and Tourism

The award was received by **Dinkar Dasaur**, General Manager UAE, Satguru Travel and Tourism, **Srinivasu Kolla**, Chief Investment Officer, Satguru Travel and Tourism and **Ashish Tahiliani**, Branch Manager, Satguru Travel and Tourism



◀ Spain Tourism

MOST DYNAMIC INTERNATIONAL TOURISM BOARD

“ATA is a very well organized and meticulously planned awards event with engaging hosts, amazing performances and well-deserved winners. It is always a pleasure to attend this prestigious event. Being an Arabian Travel Award Winner is immensely gratifying as it recognises dedication and excellence in the travel industry, opening new horizons for success and recognition.”

— Daniel Rosado, Director, Spain Tourism

The award was received by **Namratha Rose**, Manager, Marketing & Trade Relations, Spain Tourism





◀ Copthorne Hotel Dubai

BEST 4 STAR HOTEL

“The Arabian Travel Awards is a fascinating assembly of innovators in the hospitality industry. Being consistently named the Best 4-Star Hotel is an incredible experience. This demonstrates our dedication to providing excellent guest service.”

— Shady Dawad, General Manager, Copthorne Hotel Dubai

The award was received by **Shady Dawad**, General Manager, Copthorne Hotel Dubai, **Noushad Abdulrahim**, Cluster Director, Sales & Marketing, Copthorne Hotel Dubai, **Ahmed Maher El Gazzar**, Assistant Director, Sales, Copthorne Hotel Dubai and **Tohamy Gad**, Front Office Manager, Copthorne Hotel Dubai



Smartzett.com ▶

FASTEST GROWING B2B TRAVEL PORTAL IN UAE

“It was a meticulously planned event. Special reference to the anchor who kept the audience glued and entertained. We are proud to get this prestigious award. We express our gratitude to our trade partners who have placed their trust in www.smarzett.com.”

— Afi Ahmed, Chairman, Smart Travel

The award was received by **Rajil Sudhakaran**, Commercial Head, Smart Travel Group, **Afi Ahmed**, Founder & Chairman, Smart Travel Group, **Safeer Mahmood**, General Manager, Smart Travel Group



◀ Swissotel Al Murooj Dubai

BEST 5 STAR BUSINESS HOTEL

“Receiving these two awards not only brings immense pride but also instills the confidence to reunite with my team and celebrate this accomplishment jointly, reinforcing our dedication to providing superior service to all.”

— Amro Nagah, General Manager, Swissotel Al Murooj

The award was received by **Amro Nagah**, General Manager, Swissôtel Al Murooj Dubai, **Mouna Ouni**, Director, Marketing, Swissôtel Al Murooj Dubai and **Ahmed Ghaleb**, Director, Talent & Culture, Swissôtel Al Murooj Dubai



Time Hotels ▶

FASTEST GROWING HOTEL BRAND

“Arabian Travel Awards are known for promoting tourism and hospitality excellence in the Middle East and North Africa region. Participating in such an event not only highlights the nominee’s achievements but also helps in networking and building valuable connections within the industry. Being recognized among the Gallery of Legends winners is a moment of triumph and recognition.”

— Mohamed Awadalla, CEO, Time Hotels

The award was received by **Shymaa Fahim**, Corporate Director, Marketing & Communications, Time Hotels and **Mohamed Awadalla**, CEO, TIME Hotels



◀ Mercure Dubai Barsha Heights – Hotel Suites and Apartments

BEST LUXURY SUITE HOTEL

“Mirroring the privacy of a home and offering the conveniences of a hotel, Mercure Dubai Hotel offers a unique hospitality experience for short and long stays. Enjoy diverse dining options, including the Day & Night Restaurant and The Exit Sports Bar.”

The award was received by **Dariya Bushmakina**, Director, Market Strategy & E-commerce, Mercure Dubai Barsha Heights - Hotel Suites and Apartments and **Levents Tasbas**, General Manager, Mercure Dubai Barsha Heights - Hotel Suites and Apartments

ATS Travel ▶

BEST TRAVEL MANAGEMENT COMPANY UAE

“Today, I stand with lots of gratitude to DDP for bestowing this honour to me. I express my gratitude to the stakeholders who have consistently been supportive, encouraging me in all my endeavours for both my organization and the trade. And of course, my excellent team, who has always been of big support. I dedicate this award to all from the travel trade.”

— Saleem Sharif, Deputy Managing Director, ATS Travel

The award was received by **Saleem Sharif**, Deputy Managing Director, ATS Travel and **Habeeb Rahman**, Manager, Operations and Airline Affairs, ATS Travel



◀ TravTips Travel and Tourism

BEST LEISURE TOUR OPERATOR

“The success of Arabian Travel Awards is a testament to the dedication and hard work put in by everyone involved and, especially attendance from travel and tourism industry veterans. We were honoured to receive the award for Best Leisure Tour Operator in the region. We strongly believe in our tagline trust us to make your dream holiday reliable, safe and value for money.”

— Suraj Mainat, Founder & CEO, TravTips Travel and Tourism

The award was received by **Suraj Mainat**, Founder, CEO, TravTips Travel and Tourism and **Ravi Chugh**, Senior Manager, TravTips Travel and Tourism and **Srinivasu Kolla**, Chief Investment Officer, TravTips Travel and Tourism



Metropolitan Hotel Dubai ▶

BEST CORPORATE HOTEL

“I take great pride in my team’s support, which played a pivotal role in our collective success. We clinched the awards for Best Corporate Hotel and Best Hospitality Leader, and winning these prestigious accolades is a truly honorable achievement.”

— Samer Homsy, General Manager, Metropolitan Hotel Dubai

The award was received by **Diana Penas**, Multi Property Marketing Manager, Metropolitan Hotel Dubai, **Samer Homsy**, General Manager, Metropolitan Hotel Dubai and **Raja Aamir Ali**, Director, Sales & Marketing, Metropolitan Hotel Dubai





Millennium Place Barsha Heights Hotel

BEST CITY HOTEL

“The Millennium Place Barsha Heights Hotel is meticulously designed for maximum comfort, offering a range of accommodations, including premium rooms and deluxe suites, among others.”

The award was received by **Glenn Nobbs**, General Manager, Millennium Place Barsha Heights Hotel and **Shrikant Trivedi**, Asst. Marketing Manager, Millennium Place Barsha Heights Hotel



VFS Global

BEST VISA OUTSOURCING COMPANY

“We are honoured to have been felicitated by the Arabian Travel Awards at a glittering ceremony in Dubai. This accolade encourages us to continue providing best-in-class services and seamless customer experiences in the Middle East. On behalf of VFS Global, I congratulate all the winners of the ATA 2023, and wish the team continued success in the years to come.”

— Atul Marwah, COO, MENA, VFS Global

The award was received by **Rashmi Chandanani**, Manager Tourism, Services, Operations and Business Development, VFS Global and **Maansi Sharma**, DGM, Corporate Communication, VFS Global

Turning Point Tourism

FASTEST GROWING DMC UAE

“The event was meticulously organised and radiated a highly positive atmosphere. From the moment we arrived, SanJeet, an exceptional host, personally welcomed and attended to every guest, ensuring that each of us felt truly cherished. We express our sincere gratitude to him for his exceptional hospitality.”

— Ali Asgar Hussain, Managing Director, Turning Point Tourism

The award was received by **Ali Asgar Hussain**, Managing Director, Turning Point Tourism



Tawfeeq Travel

BEST TMC-QATAR

“The event was very well organised. The overall setup was very lively and gave a good opportunity to network and connect with industry leaders across the region. Travel awards can help acknowledge and promote businesses and individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the travel and tourism sector.”

— Rehan Ali Syed, CEO, Tawfeeq Travel

The award was received by **Nadeem Ulde**, Sr Manager Corporate Sales and Strategic Alliance, Tawfeeq Travel, **Rehan Ali**, CEO, Tawfeeq Travel and **Hiloor Muhiyadeen**, CFO, Tawfeeq Travel





◀ WingsWay Training Institute

BEST TRAINING INSTITUTE AVIATION, TRAVEL AND TOURISM

“The splendid event gets better every year. The impeccable hosting and vibrant atmosphere amid so many dignitaries and industry stalwarts made it an unforgettable experience. This is an incredible honour for the second year in succession provides a sense of fulfilment.”

— Shakir Kantawala, Co-founder & Managing Partner, WingsWay Training Institute

The award was received by **Michelle Rodrigues**, Manager, Training Solutions, WingsWay Training Institute, **Aazmin Binti Mustan**, Director, Operations, WingsWay Training Institute and **Shakir Kantawala**, Co-founder & Managing Partner, WingsWay Training Institute

Millennium Place Hotel Mirdif ▶

BEST 4 STAR LIFESTYLE HOTEL

“The Arabian Travel Awards is a fascinating assembly of innovators in the hospitality industry. Being consistently named the Best 4-Star Hotel is an incredible experience. This demonstrates our dedication to providing excellent guest service.”

— Shady Dawad, General Manager, Millennium Place Hotel Mirdif

The award was received by **Rahul Sivan**, Assistant Marketing Manager, Millennium Place Hotel Mirdif, **Bassam Bou Sleiman**, General Manager, Millennium Place Hotel Mirdif and **Noushad Abdul Rahim**, Cluster Director, Sales & Marketing, Millennium Place Hotel Mirdif



◀ Cozmo Travel

MOST TRUSTED TRAVEL PARTNER IN THE MIDDLE EAST

“Participating in the Arabian Travel Awards year after year is truly an enriching experience, fostering industry connections and celebrating excellence in travel. Grateful for the recognition! Being recognised as Most Trusted Travel Partner is an immense honour.”

— Jamal Abdulnazar, CEO, Cozmo Travel

The award was received by **Jamal Abdulnazar**, CEO, Cozmo Travel and **Deepa Rajesh**, Director, Sales & Business Development, Cozmo Travel



Air Astana ▶

BEST AIRLINE—CENTRAL ASIA

“The recognition bestowed a profound sense of achievement, affirming the hard work and passion invested. The accolade from the Arabian Travel Awards serves as a catalyst, inspiring greater dedication and innovation in 2024, driving me to set new benchmarks.”

— Sudhip Valiyara, Marketing and Sales Manager, UAE, Air Astana

The award was received by **Sudhip Valiyara**, Marketing & Sales Manager, UAE, Air Astana and **Asher Adam**, Key Account Manager, Air Astana





▶ Malta Tourism Authority

BEST MARKET ENGAGEMENT BY A TOURISM BOARD

“The Arabian Travel Awards 2023 held special significance, recognising the achievements of our clients, Mauritius and Malta. The event’s organization and entertainment were of top-notch quality! Congrats to ATA team. Securing an Arabian Travel Award 2023 is a significant emotional milestone.”

— Faraz Ahmed Khan, General Manager, Aviareps

The award was received by **Faraz Ahmed Khan**, Deputy General Manager, Aviareps and **Ali Muzaffar**, Marketing Manager, Aviareps



▶ Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism Agencies

BEST CORPORATE TRAVEL AGENCY

“The travel and tourism industry’s excellence takes centre stage as Arabian Travel Awards recognizes Al Naboodah Travel as the Best Corporate Travel Agency.”

— Nasir Jamal Khan, CEO, Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism Agencies

The award was received by **Rayomand Sam Kasad**, Retail Manager, Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism Agencies, **Nasir Jamal Khan**, CEO, Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism Agencies, **Asim Waheed**, Business Development Manager, Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism Agencies and **Alishah Bhimani**, Assistant Manager, Finance, Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism Agencies



▶ Golden Sands Hotel Apartments

BEST FAMILY FRIENDLY HOTEL APARTMENTS

“Golden Sands is the pioneering hotel apartments brand in the region. With a comprehensive range of room types to cater to individuals and families visiting Dubai for leisure or business, Golden Sands Hotel Apartments offer the perfect home away from home.”

— Saleem Sharif, Deputy Managing Director, ATS Travel

The award was received by **Pavel Berezin**, Front Office Manager, Golden Sands Hotel Apartments, **Fazal Muhammed**, Cluster Reservation Manager, Golden Sands Hotel Apartments and **Maheshan Premanathan**, Cluster Senior Revenue Manager, Golden Sands Hotel Apartments



▶ Travelclub

MOST INNOVATIVE START UP B2B TRAVEL PORTAL

“Today, I stand with lot of gratitude to DDP Group for having extended this honour to me. I thank my industry stakeholders who have always been supportive and encouraged me to do whatever I have done for my organisation and for the trade. And of course, my excellent team, who has always been a big support.”

— Saleem Sharif, Deputy Managing Director, ATS Travel

The award was received by **Suresh Unny**, Head, Sales and Operations, Travelclub, ATS Travel



Hyatt Place Dubai Al Wasl District

BEST 4-STAR BUSINESS HOTEL

“The Arabian Travel Awards was a splendid celebration of excellence in the hospitality industry, fostering connections and recognising outstanding contributions. It highlights our dedication to outstanding service, motivating us to achieve new levels of excellence in the hospitality industry.”

— Kishor Sonawane, Cluster Director, Sales & Marketing, Hyatt Place Dubai Hotels and Residences

The award was received by **Kishor Sonawane**, Cluster Director, Sales & Marketing, Hyatt Place Dubai Hotels and Residences and **Tarun Kumar**, Executive Chef, Hyatt Place Dubai Hotels and Residences



Al Rostamani Travel and Holidays

BEST TOUR OPERATOR – OUTBOUND

“The Arabian Travel Awards were timely, relevant and engaging, uniting the travel community in a well-planned event that honoured contributions across the industry. We appreciate the inclusion of all segments of the travel industry. Winning two awards at the ceremony was truly special. It is a testament to our team’s innovation and hard work, affirming our position as a top travel company in the region.”

— Bimal Jain, General Manager, Al Rostamani Travel and Holidays

The award was received by **Bimal Jain**, General Manager, Al Rostamani Travel and Holidays and **Sanjay Thamby**, Business Development Manager, Corporate & MICE, Al Rostamani Travel and Holidays

German National Tourist Office Gulf Countries

MOST ACTIVE IN PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TRAVEL

“It is always an incredible experience to attend the Arabian Travel Awards event, and winning an award, second year in a row, makes it even more special.”

— Yamina Sofu, Director, German National Tourist Office Gulf Countries

The award was received by **Yamina Sofu**, Director, German National Tourist Office Gulf Countries



Dusit Princess Residences Dubai Marina

BEST HOLIDAY HOMES

“Our winning streak for two consecutive years in Arabian Travel Awards reflects our unwavering commitment to excellence at both our properties. This year’s awards night was exceptional, filled with entertainment and served as a grand celebration of the hard work of all hoteliers and industry partners throughout this year.”

— Bassam Zakaria, Cluster General Manager, dusitD2 kenz Hotel & Dusit Princess Residences, Dubai Marina

The award was received by **Bassam Zakaria**, Cluster General Manager, dusitD2 kenz Hotel & Dusit Princess Residences, Dubai Marina and **Evita Melne**, Residence Manager, Best Holiday Homes





◀ Tilal Liwa Hotel

BEST DESERT RESORT

“The team of Arabian Travel Awards did an amazing job, the planning and execution of the event was spotless. Winning the Arabian Travel Award is a validation of hard work, dedication and excellence in the travel industry. It is a pride to be recognised and appreciated by peers and industry experts. Winning an award is a motivation to continuously strive for excellence.”

— Diana Kornilakis, General Manager, Tilal Liwa Hotel

The award was received by **Diana Kornilakis**, General Manager, Tilal Liwa Hotel



Itvar ▶

FASTEST GROWING GSA

“A prestigious platform to nominate, appreciate and honour the top performers in the travel sector and an opportunity for experts to network. Winning an award with ATA is a testimony of being one of the best in the nominated category considering validation from the customers and jury. It elevates and validates the efforts of our teams who strive hard for excellence.”

— Dinkar Dasaur, General Manager, UAE, Satguru Travel & Tourism

The award was received by **Dinkar Dasaur**, General Manager, UAE, Satguru Travel & Tourism, **Pier Angeli Astano**, Head of Representations - Non Air, Itvar and **Srinivasu Kolla**, Chief Investment Officer, Satguru Travel and Tourism



◀ Golden Tulip Media Hotel

BEST 4-STAR EXECUTIVE HOTEL

“On behalf of our entire team at Golden Tulip Media Hotel, we are thrilled to win the “Best 4 star Executive Hotel” from Arabian Travel Awards. It is a testament to the unwavering commitment and hard work of our dedicated staff who constantly go above and beyond to deliver exceptional experiences, this recognition inspires us to strive for excellence and continuously improve our services.”

— Issam Slaimi, General Manager, Golden Tulip Media Hotel

The award was received by **Issam Slaimi**, General Manager, Golden Tulip Media Hotel and **Peter Luke**, Security Manager, Golden Tulip Media Hotel



Bahi Ajman Palace Hotel ▶

BEST DESTINATION WEDDING HOTEL

“I am grateful for the Arabian Travel Awards as they continue to celebrate and inspire the excellence in hospitality, tourism and travel industry. Winning an award in the Arabian Travel Awards such as the “Best Destination Wedding Hotel” is an exciting and fulfilling experience for us.”

— Iftikhar Hamdani, Area General Manager, Northern Emirates, Bahi Ajman Palace Hotel and Coral Beach Resort Sharjah

The award was received by **Kaoutar Smamri**, Events Manager, Bahi Ajman Palace Hotel and Coral Beach Resort Sharjah and **Iftikhar Hamdani**, Area General Manager, Northern Emirates, Bahi Ajman Palace Hotel and Coral Beach Resort Sharjah



◀ Dreamdays

BEST CORPORATE GIFT EXPERIENCE

“Dreamdays offers remarkable experiences that are thrilling and approachable. With over 300 activities to choose from, they have something for every occasion. Find the perfect gift for every event, whether it is a romantic getaway or an adrenaline-fuelled adventure with Dreamdays.”

The award was received by **Kevin Fernandes**, Managing Partner, Dreamdays



Ezytrip ▶

FASTEST GROWING B2B ONLINE TRAVEL PORTAL - QATAR

“Winning an Arabian Travel Award is a thrilling achievement. This award works as a powerful motivator to excel in 2024 and maintain or surpass the award categories. This will help us to provide better travel experiences to our travellers.”

— Rehan Ali Syed, CEO, Tawfeeq Travel

The award was received by **Rehan Ali**, CEO, Tawfeeq Travel and **Hiloor Muhiyadeen**, CFO, Tawfeeq Travel



◀ Mercure Dubai Barsha Heights Hotel Suites and Apartments

BEST HOTEL APARTMENTS

“Mirroring the privacy of a home and offering the conveniences of a hotel, Mercure Dubai Hotel offers a unique hospitality experience for short and long stays. Enjoy diverse dining options, including the Day & Night Restaurant and The Exit Sports Bar.”

The award was received by **Dariya Bushmakina**, Director, Market Strategy & E-commerce, Mercure Dubai Barsha Heights - Hotel Suites and Apartments and **Levents Tasbas**, General Manager, Mercure Dubai Barsha Heights - Hotel Suites and Apartments



Kanoo Travel ▶

BEST MICE TOUR OPERATOR - MIDDLE EAST

“It is an honour to accept this esteemed award. This recognition is not just for me but for everyone who believes in the power and beauty of exploration. We are all adventurers at heart, drawn together by the magic that unfolds when we discover new places and forge new connections. A heartfelt thanks to my community, supporters and fellow explorers.”

— Fawad Kanoo, CEO, Kanoo Group

The award was received by **Aamit Gupta**, Divisional Head, MICE & Holidays, Kanoo Travel and **Aubrey Heldt**, Divisional General Manager, Travel Operations, Kanoo Travel



◀ Siyam World

BEST LUXURY RESORT – MALDIVES

“Being part of the Arabian Travel Awards was an enriching experience. It allowed me to connect with industry professionals, celebrate excellence, and provided an excellent networking platform. Winning an award at the Arabian Travel Awards is a genuine honour, signifying the collective hard work of our entire team. It is a strong motivator to continually deliver exceptional services to our valued guests.”

— Husain Mansur, Managing Director, Hype Communications

The award was received by **Husain Mansur**, Managing Director, Hype Communications



Edge Creekside Hotel ▶

BEST 4-STAR CONTEMPORARY HOTEL

“It was a great event and well-organised by the Arabian Travel Awards team. We enjoyed the lovely entertainment and set up. I and the whole edge team are grateful to be recognised as one of the industry’s bests. This recognition serves as a vital reminder to never settle for less and to consistently pursue our objectives in the coming year.”

— Jawad Saade, General Manager, Edge Creekside Hotel

The award was received by **Jawad Saade**, General Manager, Edge Creekside Hotel, Edge Creekside Hotel and **Ossama Charrouf**, Corporate Director, Commercial and Development, Edge Creekside Hotel



◀ Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority

BEST HONEYMOON DESTINATION

“The Arabian Travel Awards 2023 held special significance, recognising the achievements of our clients, Mauritius and Malta. The event’s organization and entertainment were of top-notch quality! Congrats to ATA team. Securing an Arabian Travel Award 2023 is a significant emotional milestone.”

— Faraz Ahmed Khan, General Manager, Aviareps

The award was received by **Faraz Ahmed Khan**, Deputy General Manager, Aviareps, **Manisha Chandarana**, Account Manager, Aviareps and **Ramon Bernardo**, PR Account Manager, Aviareps

Convergence of titans





Chief Guest

HE DATUK SERI AHMAD FADIL BIN SHAMSUDDIN

“It is an honour and privilege for me to be invited to join the experts in the travel, tourism, and hospitality industry this evening. I extend my appreciation and gratitude to the organizers for orchestrating the 6th edition of the Arabian Travel Awards, which recognises the contributions of the leaders in the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors in the Middle East.”

— HE Datuk Seri Ahmad Fadil bin Shamsuddin

The award presented to **HE Datuk Seri Ahmad Fadil bin Shamsuddin**, Chief Guest & Ambassador of Malaysia to the UAE



Sofitel Dubai Downtown

HOSPITALITY PARTNER

“Massive applause to the DDP Group team for flawlessly orchestrating the Arabian Travel Awards celebrating excellence in travel. It was a remarkable event! To be awarded the Best Luxury Hotel accolade is a humbling testament to our commitment to the art de recevoir, exceeding expectations and embodying the essence of “The French Way” hospitality excellence. It is a moment of immense honour for the entire team.”

— Caroline Trichet, General Manager, Sofitel Downtown Dubai

The award was received by **Caroline Trichet**, General Manager, Sofitel Downtown Dubai and **Mohamed Hawwam**, Director, Operations, Sofitel Downtown Dubai

Milestone moments



Congratulating all our winners!



ARABIAN
TRAVEL
AWARDS
2023

Thank You

for your
overwhelming response

See you soon in 2024

sonia.butalia@arabiantravelawards.ae,
devika@ddppl.com

www.arabiantravelawards.ae

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