



Celebrating Achievement in 2018

Forty businesses and individuals were recognised this week for their high standards, innovative products and outstanding achievements at the 2018 British Youth Travel Awards.

The awards are co-ordinated by the British Educational Travel Association (BETA) and truly highlight the fun, creative and diverse products and opportunities that are on offer to young travellers.

These awards recognise excellence and set a benchmark for the sector. For many they represent something special, something to work towards and this is demonstrated each year by the volume of high quality entries that are received.

Emma English, BETA's Executive Director said *"Each year we bring together a distinguished panel of judges covering a wide range of expertise from marketing, education, technology, sustainability and more to enable them to review and score each competition entry.*

We are proud of the many members and stakeholders that come together to enter and support these awards. This year we added a Dragons Den feature to allow entrants to share with our judging panel why they deserve to win in their chosen category and we were thrilled with the results."

Speaking at the event Steve Lowy, BETA's Chairman said *"Over the past 11 years the British Youth Travel Award winners have exemplified leadership in the UK youth, student and educational travel sector, setting a benchmark for their industry peers.*

On behalf of BETA and our members I encourage other organisations operating within the sector to enter the awards program, which serves to further educate government, the public and other influencers through their outstanding accomplishments".

Continue reading for a full list of winners



British Youth Travel Awards 2018

The winners in each category are shown here

Best Accommodation

Gold: Cohort Hostel

Sliver: The Quads, University of Bath

Bronze: YHA Cardiff Central

Best Youth Destination

Gold: Scotland

Sliver: Australia

Bronze: Canada

Best Use of Social/Mobile Media

Gold: Topdeck Travel

Sliver: World Nomads

Bronze: Smaller Earth – Camp Leaders

Best Schools Programme

Gold: The Emmerdale Studio Experience

Sliver: YHA Castleton Losehill Hall

Bronze: Warner Bros. Studio Tour London

Best Volunteering Organisation

Gold: African Adventures

Sliver: Operation Wallacea

Bronze: Kaya Responsible Travel

Best Innovation

Gold: Vagaband

Sliver: St Christopher's Inns

Bronze: Capital School of English

People's Choice

Gold: YHA England & Wales

Sliver: Kingswood

Bronze: Yummy Jobs

Best Educational Product

Gold: Medical Projects

Sliver: Embassy Summer

Bronze: Immerse Education

Best Leisure Product

Gold: Theatre Workout

Sliver: The Original Tour

Bronze: Global Trails

Best Support Service

Gold: Vagaband

Sliver: International Education Connect

Bronze: Smaller Earth – Adventure China

Best Marketing

Gold: St Christopher's Inns

Sliver: Euro Hostels

Bronze: Busabout

Best Customer Service

Gold: Warner Bros Studio Tour London

Sliver: Euroventure Travel

Bronze: StudyLink Tours

Rising Star

Gold: Kirsty McLaren, Immerse Education

Sliver: Sarah Archer, STA Travel Education

Bronze: Philip Cooke, STA Travel Education

Outstanding Achievement

Gold: Peter Duncan, Edinburgh Tourism Action Group

For a photo gallery from the night, quotes from our winners or more information visit:

www.britishyouthtravelawards.com

NOTES:

The British Educational Travel Association (BETA) represents some of the biggest and best-known businesses in the UK youth, student and educational travel industry.

Did you know?

- Youth travellers contributed £27 billion to the UK economy in 2017 which is more than the combined tourist spend of Poland and Sweden
- 15.2 million young travellers visited the UK in 2017 to work, study and tour – enough to fill Wembley Stadium 166 times over!
- In 2017 38% of all international arrivals were from youth travellers

Our members cover the whole spectrum of inbound, outbound and domestic youth, student and educational travel including work exchange, gap years, school visits, language schools, activity holidays, adventure travel, as well as a whole host of specialist agents and operators.

Contact: Emma English, Executive Director, 0208 669 1444 (eenglish@betauk.com)