



CONDÉ NAST JOHANSENS ANNOUNCES ITS 28TH ANNUAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE WINNERS

9th November 2009, London; Condé Nast Johansens are delighted to announce the Winners for their 2010 Awards for Excellence, revealed at the 28th Annual Awards Dinner and 2010 Guides Launch at the Jumeirah Carlton Tower in Knightsbridge, London on the evening of 9th November 2009.

THE WINNERS FOR UK & IRELAND 2010

Most Excellent Hotel – Chewton Glen, Hampshire

"Arrive with high expectations and you certainly won't be disappointed. Chewton Glen is set in 130 acres of gardens and parkland on the edge of the New Forest, not far from the sea. Bedrooms are the ultimate in luxury, with marble bathrooms, cosy bathrobes and views over the grounds."

Most Excellent London Hotel – Jumeirah Lowndes Hotel, London

"This chic, contemporary boutique hotel, overlooking leafy Lowndes Square in Belgravia, offers 87 sumptuous bedrooms, including 14 spacious suites on the dedicated all-suite 6th floor. All rooms feature marble bathrooms with luxurious Temple Spa toiletries and other amenities including plasma-screen TVs, Internet access and iPod docks."

Most Excellent Spa - Sofitel St James, London

"Sofitel London St James is now further enhanced with a luxury spa, So SPA by Sofitel, with two highly prestigious brands from French cosmetology, Carita and Cinq Mondes. Distributed over three floors, the original grade II listed building features high ceilings and natural daylight, providing the most spectacular backdrop for a spa. So SPA by Sofitel offers a unique and personalized experience."

Most Excellent Inn – The Crown Inn Chiddingfold, Surrey

"An idyllic English pub, and now just one of 10 UK inns to be awarded 5 stars, the Crown nestles in a quiet corner of the picture perfect village green of Chiddingfold. Totally refurbished by the new owners, the olde world charm of the property has been lovingly maintained and sympathetically blended with a more sophisticated and contemporary décor."

Most Excellent Hotel Meeting Venue – Danesfield House Hotel and Spa, Marlow-on-Thames

"Built at the end of the 19th century in an imposing Victorian style, Danesfield House Hotel and Spa is set within 65 acres of stunning gardens overlooking the River Thames with panoramic views across the Chilterns. Guests may relax in the magnificent Grand Hall, with its mistrels' gallery, in the sun-lit atrium or comfortable bar before taking dinner in one of the two restaurants. The Oak Room features the delicious cuisine of award-winning and highly acclaimed chef Adam Simmonds and the Orangery Brasserie which offers a more traditional menu."

Most Excellent Dedicated Venue – Scalford Hall, Leicestershire

"This substantial Edwardian country mansion is the former home of Colonel Colman – founder of Colman's mustard – and was once frequented by Edward VIII and Mrs Simpson, for whom a private staircase was built and still exists. Over the years, Scalford Hall has built up an impressive client list who enjoy and appreciate the dedicated, professional conference and events service. As well as fully-equipped principal training suites and syndicate rooms, there is a range of team-building exercises on offer within the 12-acre grounds and you can liaise with staff to organise activities such as clay-pigeon shooting and golf."

Best Value for Money – Cashel House, Ireland

"Surrounded by exotic flowering gardens and woodland walks at the head of Cashel Bay, this pretty hotel exudes tranquillity. Built by the owners' great great grandfather for Captain Thomas Hazel, an English landowner, you will be welcomed today by proprietors the McEvelly family for whom nothing is too much trouble."

Most Excellent Small Hotel (under 15 rooms) – Kilham Hall, East Yorkshire

"A picture-perfect country house approached by a shingle driveway, Kilham Hall is the ideal if you like attention to detail without the fuss of a full service hotel. Joanne Long delights in personality welcoming her guests and for those arriving between 4pm-6pm there is a sumptuous complimentary home-made tea in the elegant drawing room."

Most Excellent City Hotel – Old Bank Hotel, Oxfordshire

"Located on The High with space to park and nestled between the city's most famous colleges, Merton, University, All Souls and Oriel, lies Oxford's most outstanding boutique hotel. Step out of the Old Bank onto one of the world's most beautiful streets and you are amongst the best of Oxford's shopping, theatres, libraries and gardens."

Most Excellent Waterside Hotel – The Atlantic Hotel and Ocean Restaurant, Jersey

"This stunning hotel is the object of continuous and thoughtful investment by its owner who places the needs of his guests first. Be spoiled by superb service and contemporary interiors that are decorated with vibrant island art."

Most Outstanding Service – Summer Lodge Country House Hotel, Restaurant & Spa, Dorset

"Set in four acres amid picturesque Dorsetshire countryside in the pretty village of Evershot, this charming twenty-four-bedroom Relais and Chateaux property ranks amongst the finest country house hotels in England."

Most Excellent Family Hotel – Calcot Manor Hotel & Spa, Gloucestershire

“For excellent family facilities look no further! The delightful family suites feature bunk beds and baby listening device, while a play area to keep older children entertained has Playstations, Xboxes and a small cinema. A farmhouse until 1983, the Manor’s stone barns and stables include one of the oldest tithe barns in England.”

Condé Nast Johansens Reader’s Award – Bodysgallen Hall & Spa, Wales

“Just a short drive from the historic towns of Conwy and Llandudno, Bodysgallen feels like a magical world of its own. You simply can’t help but be inspired in this self-contained oasis of elegance.”

Most Excellent Innovation in Sustainable Hospitality – Combe House, Devon

“This Grade 1 Elizabethan Manor has a beautiful natural setting, great food and is “green”. Over the past two years the owners, in addition to creating a bat house, have restored the extensive Victorian kitchen gardens, greenhouses and potting sheds to the highest standards. This home grown produce ensures that their 2 Master Chefs of Great Britain talk in food metres rather than food kilometres.”

Most Excellent Country House Hotel – Bishopstrow House, Wiltshire

“The rejuvenation of Bishopstrow House continues following the opening of the Halcyon Spa in April 2009 as a haven of tranquillity. The new conservatory and terrace augments The Mulberry Restaurant to give you the option of all-day dining, from delicious cooked breakfasts, daytime snacks, teas and gourmet dinners. Styled in fresh contemporary tones, its floor-to-ceiling windows seem to invite the outside in.”

Most Excellent Restaurant – Le Manoir Aux Quat’ Saisons, Oxfordshire

“This beautiful 15th-century golden stone house is the culmination of Chef Patron Raymond Blanc’s vision to create a hotel and restaurant where guests find perfection in food, comfort and service, and it’s the only country house to have retained 2 Michelin Stars for 26 years. Set in 7 acres of stunning grounds, with its own organic herb and vegetable gardens, there are 32 beautifully designed suites and bedrooms.”

NOTES FOR EDITORS: The Awards are based on responses from guest nomination forms, guest survey reports, and our regional inspector reports drawn from the hotels featured in our most recent guides.

Condé Nast Johansens is now in its 28th year. The 2010 Condé Nast Johansens Guides, published October 2009, appear for the third time in a new compact size, with easy to use entries, clearer maps, greater portability, and with less paper so more environmentally friendly. The guides are supported by www.johansens.com, which meet the demands of those preferring to search and make booking enquiries online.

Condé Nast Johansens remains the most comprehensive illustrated reference to annually inspected, independently owned hotels. With dedicated and highly trained Inspectors almost ten times as many properties have been assessed as appear in the Guides, in order to narrow the final selection down to, quite simply, the best selection of accommodation for independent travellers.

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