

# PATWA International Travel Awards at ITB, Berlin Announced

Category: Business

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The **Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA)** has announced the winners of the coveted **PATWA International Travel Awards 2025** at an impressive award ceremony at **ITB, Berlin** which is the world's biggest travel fair.



## **The award winners of the 2025 edition of the PATWA International Travel Awards at ITB, Berlin**

The event was graced by tourism ministers of ten countries, ambassadors, the leadership of various hotels, airlines, destinations, industry stalwarts and international media.

It was preceded by the **PATWA World Tourism & Aviation Leaders' Summit** [on](#) 'AI & Sustainable Tourism. The summit had a spectacular line up of seven speakers, more specifically tourism ministers of St. Kitts & Nevis, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Nepal, South Africa and Dr. Istvan Ujhelyi, UN Tourism Ambassador to the EU, Dr. Alain St. Ange, former tourism minister of Seychelles and candidate for the post of President, and Harry Theoharis, former tourism minister of Greece and a front runner candidate for the post of Secretary General of UN Tourism. The speakers emphasized on the role of AI in ensuring tourism is sustainable.

PATWA Secretary General, Yatan Ahluwalia opened the summit saying, 'AI-driven insights have the power to pave the way for a greener tomorrow, transforming tourism into a force for

sustainability’.

## **PATWA International [Travel](#) Awards**

The PATWA International travel awards have been instituted independently and are now in their 25<sup>th</sup> year. They have a stringent selection and nomination process and have earned a reputation as the first and foremost awards of the travel, tourism, aviation, and hospitality industry.

The [awards recognise governments](#), organisations, brands, ministers, and individuals who have excelled in the promotion of tourism. This includes airlines, hotels, travel agencies, tour operators, destinations, government bodies, tourism ministries, and other service provider(s) related directly or indirectly with the trade.

## **Quotes On The Awards**

**Yatan Ahluwalia, Secretary General** *“The jury’s focus this year has been on the Caribbean region, besides South America, Europe and India. Sustainability was a [key factor](#) for our selection.*

**Pulkit Sharma, [Director Operations](#) & Features Editor** *“Besides recognising destinations, hotels, airlines, organisations and individuals, our excellence in governance category included awards for 9 tourism ministers from around the globe who made who have made an impact with their policies and governance.”*

## **The 2025 winners:**

### **DESTINATIONS**

1. DESTINATION OF THE YEAR – ROMANCE

### **JAMAICA**

2. DESTINATION OF THE YEAR – NATURAL ATTRACTIONS

## **THE CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA**

3. DESTINATION OF THE YEAR- SCENIC BEAUTY & HISTORIC SITES

ITALY

4. DESTINATION OF THE YEAR – MARINE TOURISM

**NASSAU AND PARADISE ISLAND**

5. [DESTINATION OF THE YEAR – EXPERIENCES](#)

## **THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRASIL**

6. DESTINATION OF THE YEAR – ECO ADVENTURES

**ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

7. DESTINATION OF THE YEAR – HIDDEN TREASURES

**ST. KITTS AND NEVIS**

8. [DESTINATION OF THE YEAR – ROYAL EXPERIENCES](#)

RAJASTHAN

9. DESTINATION OF THE YEAR – ADVENTURE TOURISM

**REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

10. DESTINATION OF THE [YEAR – INDIA](#)

GOA

## **AIRLINES**

1. BEST REGIONAL AIRLINE- ITALY

AEROITALIA

2. AIRLINE OF THE YEAR – INDIAN OCEAN REGION

**AIR SEYCHELLES**

## **HOSPITALITY**

1. BEST HOTEL CHAIN [BUSINESS](#) – NEW DELHI

**LE MERIDIEN, NEW DELHI**

2. BEST [NATURE RESORTS – INDIA](#)

**AYATANA RESORTS**

3. BEST EMERGING [HOTEL CHAIN- INDIA](#)

**GRT [HOTELS & RESORTS](#)**

4. BEST VENUE MEETINGS & CONFERENCES – CARIBBEAN

**MONTEGO BAY CONVENTION CENTRE, JAMAICA**

5. BEST HOTEL CHAIN- LUXURY EXPERIENCES

**TAJ HOTELS**

## **ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

1. BEST ORGANISATION REGIONAL TOURISM

**CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANISATION**

## **INDIVIDUAL EXCELLENCE**

1. BEST [PROFESSIONAL HOSPITALITY – INDIA](#)

**ABHINASH MANGHANI**

2. BEST PROFESSIONAL- HOSPITALITY GROWTH – INDIA

**VIKRAM COTAH**

3. BEST PROFESSIONAL- HOSPITALITY OPERATIONS – INDIA

**ASHOK RATHORE**

4. BEST PROFESSIONAL HOSPITALITY OPERATIONS – DUBAI

**SAURABH TIWARI**

5. PATWA [GOLD AWARD](#) HOSPITALITY INNOVATION – INDIA

**VISHAL VINCENT TONY**

6. PATWA GOLD AWARD [WOMEN IN HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT – INDIA](#)

**MEENA BHATIA**

7. PATWA GOLD AWARD HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT – INDIA

**ROHIT KHOSLA**

8. PATWA GOLD AWARD HOSPITALITY DEVELOPMENT – INDIA

**PRABHAT VERMA**

9. PATWA GOLD AWARD MICE & DESTINATION MANAGEMENT- SOUTHEAST ASIA

**NOREDHA OTHMAN**

10. PATWA GOLD AWARD HOSPITALITY OPERATIONS – CARIBBEAN

**MUREEN JAMES**

11. PATWA GOLD AWARD – DESTINATION MANAGEMENT – CARIBBEAN

**JOY JIBRILU**

12. PATWA GOLD AWARD TOURISM DEVELOPMENT – CARIBBEAN

**DONA REGIS – PROSPER**

13. PATWA GOLD [AWARD – EXCELLENCE IN AVIATION LEADERSHIP](#) – EUROPE

**GAETANO INTRIERI**

14. PATWA GOLD [AWARD- EXCELLENCE IN AVIATION LEADERSHIP](#) – INDIAN OCEAN REGION

**SANDY BENOITON**

15. PATWA GOLD AWARD- TOURISM

**DR. ISTVN UJHELYI**

16. PATWA GOLD [AWARD – LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT](#) – TOURISM

**DR. ALAIN ST. ANGE**

17. PERSON OF THE YEAR – TOURISM

**HARRY THEOHARIS**

### **EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNANCE**

This exclusive [award category recognises the work](#) done by countries, states, provinces, regions, districts and cities through and by their elected representatives to promote sustainable travel with policies, guidelines, and incentives for their destinations and the hospitality, aviation, and tourism sectors.

The awards are given to governments including, but not limited to, ministers, governors, parliamentarians, and mayors. PATWA is the first organisation to have [awards dedicated to excellence](#) in governance on a regional, national and international level.

**The winners in this category included:**

1. TOURISM [MINISTER OF THE YEAR](#)

**H.E. CELSO SABINO DE OLIVEIRA, BRASIL**

2. TOURISM MINISTER OF THE YEAR – HIMALAYAN REGION

**H.E. BADRI PRASAD PANDEY, NEPAL**

3. WOMAN TOURISM MINISTER OF THE YEAR – CARIBBEAN

**H.E. MARSHA T. HENDERSON, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS**

4. WOMAN TOURISM [MINISTER OF THE YEAR – INDIA](#)

**H.E. DIYA KUMARI, RAJASTHAN**

5. TOURISM MINISTER OF THE [YEAR – INDIA](#)

**H.E. ROHAN KHAUNTE, GOA**

6. TOURISM [MINISTER OF THE YEAR – INNOVATION](#)

**H.E. EDMUND BARTLETT, JAMAICA**

7. TOURISM MINISTER OF THE YEAR – ECOLOGICAL TOURISM

**H.E ONEIDGE WALROND, CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA**

8. TOURISM MINISTER OF THE YEAR – SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

**H.E. CARLOS JAMES, SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

9. TOURISM MINISTER OF THE YEAR – INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

**H.E. PATRICIA DE LILLE, SOUTH AFRICA**

### **About PATWA**

The Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) is a non-profit, non-government, professional, international media organisation founded in 1999. Our founding philosophy is to support the [sustainable development and growth](#) of destinations, travel, tourism, hospitality, aviation (airlines and airports), transportation (cruise liners and rail), online travel platforms, travel technology, and allied service providers, worldwide. PATWA has over 5,000 members globally.

PATWA works with governments, organisations and companies in both the [public and private sectors](#). PATWA adheres to the fundamental principles of the [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization \(UNESCO\)](#), the United Nations (UN), and UN Tourism.

**PATWA is an Affiliate Member of UN Tourism.**



