



The 4th Annual **Condé Nast Traveler**

WORLD SAVERS AWARDS



The Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru, in the Maldives, has all the creature comforts Banyan Tree (Overall Winner, Large Hotel Chains) is renowned for, plus a sea turtle program and a marine research facility.

..... *Honoring the ...*



AIRLINES



CRUISE
LINES



CITY
HOTELS



RESORTS



HOTEL
CHAINS

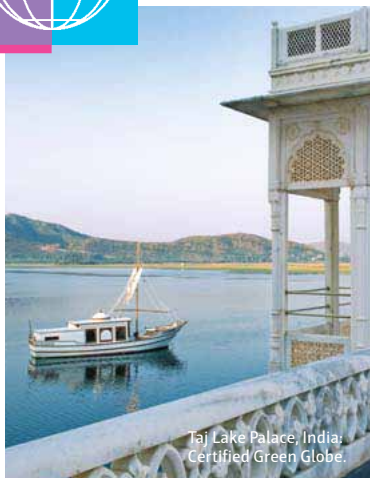


TOUR
OPERATORS

*...that are dedicated to saving their
communities and our world*

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HERE IS A CORNUCOPIA OF WONDERFUL TRAVEL EXPERIENCES on the following pages—but they have another quality. Increasingly, we are looking for authenticity, connection, and, most important, the chance to help (or at least not to harm) the places that give us pleasure. This is what global citizenship is all about. The companies recognized in these, our annual World Savers Awards, have been creative in protecting, conserving, and supporting natural environments and local communities. The **winners, runners-up, and honorable mentions** are bolded; use these pages to plan the most memorable trips you'll ever have. ➤



THE BACKSTORY The winners of our awards have to meet exacting standards. There were 164 applicants this year, a record. They had to give detailed responses to more than 20 questions. It took 22 expert judges (academics, CEOs, philanthropists) and 7 passionate *Condé Nast Traveler* editors (see page 152) to pick the 32 honorees in five categories: education, environmental and/or cultural preservation, health, poverty relief, and wildlife conservation. We also recognized companies with achievements in all five areas; you can find them under the heading “Doing It All” in the chart below.

BUT THERE’S MORE All the great destinations and skilled services behind the awards are on the following pages, region by region.

AND THE WINNERS ARE . . .

The 2010 World Savers Award winners help us travel in style—and do good too

	EDUCATION PROGRAMS	HEALTH INITIATIVES	POVERTY RELIEF	PRESERVATION—ENVIRONMENTAL AND/OR CULTURAL	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION	DOING IT ALL
AIRLINES	Nature Air	Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air	Qantas	TIE: Continental; Qantas	Nature Air	Nature Air
CITY HOTELS	Hôtel de la Paix, Siem Reap	Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok	Hôtel de la Paix, Siem Reap	—WINNER— Alto Hotel on Bourke	Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok	Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok
CRUISE LINES	Orion Expedition Cruises	Crystal Cruises	Metropolitan Touring	Royal Caribbean	—RUNNER-UP— Royal Caribbean	Royal Caribbean
LARGE HOTEL CHAINS	TIE: Banyan Tree; Taj Hotels	—RUNNER-UP— Banyan Tree	Loews Hotels	TIE: Accor; Banyan Tree	Banyan Tree	Banyan Tree
LARGE RESORTS/ LODGES	Rancho La Puerta	Evason Phuket	Tabacón Grand Spa Thermal Resort	TIE: Evason Phuket; Heritance Kandalama, Sri Lanka	Heritance Kandalama, Sri Lanka	Evason Phuket
SMALL HOTEL CHAINS	—RUNNER-UP— Cayuga Sustainable Hospitality	TIE: Cayuga Sustainable Hospitality; Six Senses	Cayuga Sustainable Hospitality	—RUNNER-UP— Cayuga Sustainable Hospitality	Cayuga Sustainable Hospitality	Cayuga Sustainable Hospitality
SMALL RESORTS/ LODGES	TIE: Guludo Beach Lodge; Nkwichi Lodge	—RUNNER-UP— &Beyond Kwandwe Private Game Reserve	—WINNER— Guludo Beach Lodge	Pacuare Lodge	—WINNER— Camp Jabulani, South Africa	Guludo Beach Lodge
TOUR OPERATORS	—WINNER— Micato Safaris	—WINNER— Wilderness Safaris	—RUNNERS-UP— TIE: Abercrombie & Kent; Gap Adventures	Abercrombie & Kent	Wilderness Safaris	Micato Safaris

Each company listed here won or tied in its own industry category. Winners are highlighted in red, runners-up in blue; all others are honorable mentions.



If You're Going to . . .

AFRICA

PEOPLE POWER

"We ask travelers before they go what they hope to see," says Dennis Pinto, managing director of African safari specialist Micato. "Everyone talks about the wildlife. When they return and we ask what the highlight was, they always say it's the kids and the people they met."



DEADLY SPRINT

Cheetahs—there are now fewer than 12,000, down from 100,000 at the turn of the twentieth century—are back on the Endangered Species list. Their 70-mile-per-hour hunts lead them onto unprotected ranchland.



THE BIG NEWS For decades, conservationists focused on solving the crisis faced by Africa's wildlife while largely ignoring the plight of people in poverty. Today, some of the most sustainable travel companies are African, and they swept the awards this year because they understand that saving animals must go hand in hand with community projects. At last year's Condé Nast Traveler World Savers Congress, a confab of travel execs and nonprofits to discuss social responsibility, TOMS Shoes founder Blake Mycoskie explained how he gives away a pair of shoes for every pair he sells. This inspired Dennis Pinto, managing director of **Micato Safaris (Overall Winner, Tour Operators; Winner, Education)**, and One for One was born: The tour operator pays for one African child's education for every safari booked (800-642-2861; from \$6,900 per person for ten days).

THE PLACE Book with **Wilderness Safaris (Winner, Health)** and part of your money helps animals *and* people: With tented camps across southern Africa, Wilderness Safaris supports 55 wildlife projects and runs an AIDS program in Malawi, South Africa, and Zambia. "We take our guests on 'warts and all' experiences, from visits to village witch doctors to walks with the San people," says Chris Roche (27-11-807-1800; custom safaris from \$650 per person per day). **Abercrombie & Kent (Co-Runner-Up, Poverty Relief)** invested \$400,000, plus more than \$600,000 in guest donations, in 50 conservation and community projects in 27 countries. At Sanctuary Swala Camp in Tanzania, buy the honey made by a Masai beekeeping co-op started with A&K's help (800-554-7016; from \$450 per person per day). Spot black rhinos or aardvarks at South Africa's **&Beyond Kwandwe Private Game Reserve (Honorable Mention, Health)**, which runs community health programs (888-882-3742; from \$435 per person per day). In Mozambique, **Nkwichi Lodge (Honorable Mention, Education)** runs entirely on solar power, generating no carbon footprint (44-203-286-3181; doubles, \$290).

THE ANIMAL "There's not enough space in South Africa for cheetahs," says Adine Roode, managing director of **Camp Jabulani (Winner, Wildlife)**, which runs the Hoedspruit Endangered Species Center. Over 21 years, Jabulani has bred some 280 cheetahs, plus wild dogs, blue cranes, and more. Guests stay in six decadent suites or the villa and can track wildlife while riding on elephants the camp saved from being slaughtered for meat (27-12-460-5605; from \$635 per person).

THE VISIONARIES Eight years ago, Amy and Neal Carter-James, a marine biologist and her former ad-exec husband, had a cheeky idea: Work with Mozambique's fishing community to relieve poverty. The result: **Guludo Beach Lodge (Overall Winner, Small Resorts; Winner, Poverty Relief)**, with nine bungalows on a blisteringly white beach. After snorkeling and exploring islands, guests can meet fishermen or join a match with the soccer team. Guludo has helped 15,000 people, digging 30 wells and feeding 650 school kids. "This was never just about Guludo," Amy says. "It was our dream to realize tourism's potential to address pressing issues" (44-207-127-4727; doubles, \$510-\$590).



LOW-TECH FIX

A decade ago, Abercrombie & Kent introduced wood-saving stoves to the Masai. "Total rejection," says A&K co-owner Jorie Butler Kent. Only when the Masai learned that the stoves would conserve resources *and* reduce wood-collection by 70 percent did they become interested. Moral: "Education is the key to alleviating poverty," says Kent.



BAREFOOT LUXURY

Guludo Beach Lodge, on seven miles of untouched beach in Mozambique, is built entirely of local materials, with floor tiles made by village potters. Picnic on a deserted beach by day, then learn traditional dances with villagers by night.

