

The GOLD LIST

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR again! The 2013 Gold List Awards were the biggest we've ever had with thousands of votes coming in. There have been big upsets this year in some of the most stable categories, which tells us that luxury travel is evolving and your preferences are changing. It was great to see so many new properties, destinations and experi-



This icon signifies that the award winner has made the Gold List every year for the past five years or more. They are our Hall of Fame members and deserve special recognition.

ences making the list in 2013. We added a new category this year, asking about the best food and wine experiences in Australia and the response was overwhelming – our readers certainly love to eat and drink. A special thanks must also go to the Virtuoso clients who voted alongside our readers. So read on and see who made the cut and who's been cut off. Welcome to the Gold List 2013.

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SPECIALISTS IN THE ART OF TRAVEL

Best Australian property within three hours of the city

1 Lake House, Daylesford, VIC

The Lake House is back on top this year, relegating 2012 winner the Mansion Hotel & Spa to second place.

- 2 Mansion Hotel & Spa at Werribee Park, Werribee Park, VIC
- 3 Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa, Wolgan Valley, NSW
- 4 Gwinganna Lifestyle Retreat, Gold Coast, QLD
- 5 Lilianfels, Resort & Spa, Blue Mountains, NSW
- 6 Cape Lodge, Margaret River, WA
- 7 Spicers Peak Lodge, Maryvale, QLD
- 8 Tower Lodge, Hunter Valley, NSW
- 9 Saffire Freycinet, Coles Bay, TAS
- 10 Jonah's, Whale Beach, NSW
- 11 Lindenwarrah at Milawa, Milawa, VIC
- 12 Makepeace Island, Noosa, QLD
- 13 Peppers Mineral Springs Retreat, Hepburn Springs, VIC
- 14 Mount Lofty House, Crafers, SA
- 15 Lindenderry at Red Hill, Red Hill, VIC
- 16 Bells at Killcare, Killcare, NSW
- 17 The Byron at Byron Resort and Spa, Byron Bay, NSW
- 18 Kims Beach Hideaway, Toowoomb Bay, NSW
- 19 Paperbark Camp, Jervis Bay, NSW



Best overseas health and wellness property

1 Chiva-Som, Hua Hin, Thailand



Seven years in a row for the seemingly unbeatable Chiva-Som. Kamalaya has jumped another spot this year to second place – could 2014 be its year?

- 2 Kamalaya, Koh Samui, Thailand
- 3 COMO Shambhala Estate, Gianyar, Bali
- 4 Ananda in the Himalayas, Uttarakhand, India
- 5 Fusion Maia, Da Nang, Vietnam
- 6 Miraval, Arizona, USA
- 7 Six Senses Laamu, Maldives
- 8 Six Senses Yao Noi Beyond Phuket, Thailand

Right: Hall of Fame member Chiva-Som.

Below: Your favourite short break, Lake House.



Best New Zealand property within three hours of the city

1 Huka Lodge, Taupo

Huka Lodge wins again making it three from three since this category was introduced in 2011. Kauri Cliffs makes an impressive debut in second place.

- 2 Kauri Cliffs, Matakuri Bay
- 3 Cape Kidnappers, Hawke's Bay
- 4 Millbrook Resort, Queenstown
- 5 Blanket Bay, Glenorchy
- 6 Matakauri Lodge, Lake Wakatipu
- 7 Azur Lodge, Queenstown
- 8 Eagles Nest, Bay of Islands
- 9 Otahuna Lodge, Christchurch
- 10 Whare Kea Lodge & Chalet, Wanaka
- 11 Wharekauhau Country Estate, Wairarapa

Best Australian health and wellness property

1 Gwinganna Lifestyle Retreat, Gold Coast, QLD

Gwinganna has come out on top in this category again this year. Peppers Mineral Springs Retreat is a new entry, bringing some Victorian flavour to the New South Wales and Queensland favourites that regularly make the list.

- 2 The Golden Door Health Retreat Elysia, Hunter Valley, NSW
- 3 Gaia Retreat & Spa, Byron Bay, NSW
- 4 Peppers Mineral Springs Retreat, Hepburn Springs, VIC
- 5 The Golden Door Health Retreat Queensland, Gold Coast, QLD
- 6 Camp Eden Health Retreat, Currumbin Valley, QLD