

AITO announces the winners of its annual members' awards at the association's AGM



Photo caption (left to right): Winners of the AITO members' awards

Javier Pinanes (Spanish Tourist Office), Peter Sommer (Peter Sommer Travels Ltd), Heather McKinlay (McKinlay Kidd), Tara Gandhi (Jordan Tourism Board), Lindsay Garvey-Jones (Holiday Extras) and Ian Hopkinson (MB Law)

The Association of Independent Tour Operators (www.aito.com) hosted its AGM yesterday (Wednesday, 22 February 2017) at the Royal Overseas League in London.

Some 106 AITO Tour Operators, AITO Agents, Affiliated Business Partners and Tourist Offices attended. The business session featured fascinating talks, including Sir Rocco Forte, Chairman of Rocco Forte Hotels, who gave an insightful personal view on Principles in Business.

The afternoon concluded with networking over lunch and the AITO member awards.

The award categories were AITO Tour Operator of the Year, AITO Affiliate of the Year and AITO Tourist Office of the Year.

Executive Director of AITO, Kate Kenward, says:

"We are very pleased to be able to acknowledge the services and support provided by our Affiliate Business Partners and Tourist Offices, whose contribution to AITO is highly regarded by both our tour operators and travel agents.

"The Tour Operator award was a very closely-run race, as AITO members always score highly with their customer feedback. It's great to see some of AITO's smaller, specialist companies taking the top three positions amongst our 120-plus tour operators."

2016 AITO Tour Operator of the Year

This award goes to the members which have had the most exceptional reviews on AITO.com.

Gold: McKinlay Kidd

Silver: **Peter Sommer Travels**Bronze: **Casas Cantabricas**

2016 AITO Affiliate Tourist Office

This award goes to the AITO Affiliate Tourist Office which provided the best service and product in 2016 as voted by AITO tour operators and agents.

Gold: Jordan Tourism Board

Silver: Greek National Tourism Organisation

Bronze: Spanish Tourist Office

2016 AITO Affiliate Business Partner

This award goes to the AITO Business Partner which provided the best service and product in 2016 as voted by AITO tour operators and agents.

Gold: **Holiday Extras** Silver: **Wild Dog Design**

Bronze: MB Law

Ends/23 February, 2017

<u>Press</u>: For further information on AITO, please contact Travel PR on 020 8891 4440 or email Rebecca Milne (r.milne@travelpr.co.uk) or Sue Ockwell (s.ockwell@travelpr.co.uk).