

25TH ANNIVERSARY **COLLECTOR'S EDITION**

# Condé Nast Traveler

**THE VISIONARIES**  
12 REMARKABLE  
GLOBAL CITIZENS

TRUTH IN TRAVEL SEPTEMBER 2012

**26**  
TRAVEL APPS  
THAT WILL  
CHANGE  
YOUR LIFE

**EXCLUSIVE!**

OUR TEAM OF TOP TRAVEL  
EXPERTS PRESENT...

## 32 BEST TRIPS IN THE WORLD

ITALY  
TURKEY  
AUSTRALIA  
PERU  
ARGENTINA  
FRANCE  
INDIA  
ENGLAND  
DUBAI  
MALDIVES  
AND MANY MORE

PLUS

**EUROPE'S** SECRET EDEN  
**CARIBBEAN'S** BIG ADVENTURE  
**ASIA'S** NEXT WONDER

SPECIAL

7 MOST COMMON TRAVEL TRAPS  
AND HOW TO AVOID THEM



**HILLARY CLINTON**  
19,000 MILES WITH THE  
MOST TRAVELED SECRETARY  
OF STATE IN HISTORY

CONDENASTTRAVELER.COM  
YOUR DAILY  
TRAVEL INTELLIGENCE



PRISAGROUP®



25 YEARS OF TRUTH IN TRAVEL

HONOR ROLL THE COMPANIES

The 6th Annual

# World Savers Awards

## The Judges

**DAVID ALPORT**, vice president, GBHealth  
**DAVID BARBER**, president and co-owner, Blue Hill Farm  
**SIMON BARLOW**, president, Asia Pacific, Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group  
**PAUL BROWN**, president, brands & commercial services, Hilton Worldwide  
**JON PAUL BUCHMEYER**, writer  
**LAURIE DAVID**, co-producer, *An Inconvenient Truth*; board member, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)  
**RICHARD EDWARDS**, CEO, Ecoism  
**DORINDA ELLIOTT**, global affairs editor, *Condé Nast Traveler*  
**JIB ELLISON**, CEO, BlueSkye  
**BJORN HANSON**, divisional dean, NYU-SCPS Tisch Center  
**ERIKA HARMS**, executive director, Global Sustainable Tourism Council  
**MARTHA HONEY**, co-director, Center for Responsible Travel  
**KARA HARTNETT HURST**, vice president, BSR  
**ALEXI KHAJAVI**, vice president of global strategy, MercuryCSC  
**STEWART MOORE**, CEO, EC3 Global  
**BRIAN T. MULLIS**, president and CEO, Sustainable Travel International  
**KATE ROBERTS**, vice president, corporate marketing and communications, PSI  
**DEIRDRE SHURLAND**, coordinator, Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism  
**JAMIE SWEETING**, global chief environmental officer, Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.  
**JEANNE VARNEY**, lecturer, Cornell University School of Hotel Administration

## PRESENTING . . . THE 15 TRAVEL COMPANIES THAT ARE GIVING BACK TO THEIR COMMUNITIES AND HELPING TO PROTECT THE PLANET

THEY HAVE PLANTED 366,100 TREES in 2011 alone, from Australia to Thailand and South Africa. They have helped educate 96,298 students in Kenya, India, and the United States and provided health care to 116,900 people in the Maldives, Mozambique, and Nigeria. In the past two years, they have helped bring safe drinking water to almost 580,000 people in Ethiopia and 50 other countries. No, they are not UN agencies or NGOs.

### EDUCATION

Building schools, opening minds

### HEALTH

Funding clinics, fighting disease

### POVERTY

Enriching local communities

### PRESERVATION

Championing heritage, greening the planet

### WILDLIFE

Protecting habitats, saving species

### DOING IT ALL

Enough said

They are the 15 winners and runners-up in our 2012 World Savers Awards—and their achievements reflect one of the core beliefs of this magazine: the power of travel to do good. This year we received a record 111 applications. A panel of independent judges (see far left) chose the honorees—visionary companies that are making a difference in six areas of social responsibility (see left).

*Condé Nast Traveler* has been encouraging and supporting the travel industry's do-the-right-things initiatives since its launch 25 years ago. This is no hair-shirt enterprise: The resorts, hotels, cruise lines, airlines, and tour operators on the pages that follow prove that when you give your travel dollars to environmentally and socially responsible companies, you're not called upon to give up your creature comforts in exchange. Yes, you can have superb trips, at the same time knowing you have helped the planet and its people. How good is that?! (To see winners from years past, check out the World Savers Hall of Fame at [condenasttraveler.com/worldsavers](http://condenasttraveler.com/worldsavers).)

TEXT BY  
**JON PAUL BUCHMEYER**

For more on our awards methodology, see page 150.

FOR MORE PHOTOS OF WINNERS, PLUS TIPS ON WHEN TO GO AND WHAT TO DO, VISIT [CONDENASTTRAVELER.COM/WORLDSAVERS](http://CONDENASTTRAVELER.COM/WORLDSAVERS).

**PLUS:** READ ABOUT ALL 48 FINALISTS—AND CHECK OUT THE ENTIRE WORLD SAVERS HALL OF FAME—FOR MORE GREAT VACATION IDEAS.



# World Savers Awards 2012



Puerto Rico's Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve, opening in December, oozes colonial charm. It will also adopt a local school.

**DOING IT ALL**  
LARGE  
HOTEL CHAINS  
WINNER

## Ritz-Carlton

**What:** Luxury hotel chain with 79 properties.

**Where:** In 25 countries in the Americas, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, and Asia.

**Why:** It is reducing its carbon footprint and supporting schools around the world.

You can kayak in the Gulf of Mexico, hit the links on a Greg Norman-designed course, or succumb to a hot-stone massage in a private poolside cabana. And you can do it all knowing that as a guest at the Ritz-Carlton in Naples, Florida, such hedonism is contributing to the community. At nearby Immokalee Middle School, where 95 percent of the students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches, hotel employees are mentoring kids: Chefs preach the importance of healthy eating; the banquet team teach etiquette; front desk staff demonstrate social skills like eye contact and a firm handshake; and, since many of the students have never seen the beach, the hotel brings them to the property to learn about conservation and sea turtles from the staff naturalist. "This program gave me a look into my future and the different things I could do



### IF YOU GO

Through the Give Back Getaways program, while staying at the Ritz-Carlton Berlin you can volunteer to serve food to needy children at the Berliner Tafel Kids' Restaurant.

with my life," says Marilyn Gelacio, 14. Adds Dyan Konicek, head of the Immokalee Middle School social studies department, "It has instilled in our students the drive to keep working hard in school to be successful career people one day. It opened their eyes to a new world."

It's all part of Ritz-Carlton's Succeed Through Service program, which helps train disadvantaged youth worldwide. Each of the company's 79 hotels adopts a school and works to prevent children from dropping out. More than 9,000 students have participated since 2010, and employees put in 87,653 hours of mentoring time in 2011 alone.

Ritz-Carlton is also reducing its environmental impact, cutting energy use by 12 percent and water use by 13 percent from 2007 to 2010. In keeping with sustainability targets, when it opens in December, the ultra-luxe Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve, in Puerto Rico, which was one of Laurence Rockefeller's original RockResorts, will be built to LEED standards, have a solar facility, eschew plastic bottles, and of course adopt a local school.

Guests at all the properties can join Ritz-Carlton's community efforts through Give Back Getaways, half-day voluntourism programs. In Naples, you can help biologists at the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge save endangered cats.

**DOING IT ALL**  
AIRLINES  
WINNER

## Lufthansa

**What:** World's third-largest carrier, with almost 700 aircraft.

**Where:** Flying to 210 destinations around the globe.

**Why:** It is pioneering new fuels and giving back on the ground.

An aerospace engineer scouring slaughterhouses for animal fat to use in alternative fuels? "There's no farm-to-aircraft infrastructure to support the production of biofuels, so we had to get creative," says Karlheinz Haag, head of Lufthansa's environmental group, which is trying to reduce the company's carbon footprint by developing biofuels. "One crucial issue in using biofuel is the potential effect it can have on food prices—if we use corn or palm oil in the fuel, for instance." Instead, the airline sourced organic material from animal by-products from northern Europe, succulent jatropha plants from Asia, and carmelina from the United States. The resulting fuel had to be tested rigorously—it must not freeze at cruising altitude, for example. In 2011 the carrier ran its first flight powered in part by a 50/50 blend of regular and biosynthetic fuels (Hamburg-Frankfurt); this past January, it made the world's first biofuel-powered transatlantic commercial flight (Frankfurt-Dulles). The latter flight had an emissions reduction of 38 tons, the equivalent of six flights between Frankfurt and Berlin. Lufthansa aims to cut emissions 25 percent by 2020. Its preservation efforts on the ground are also impressive: It supports a program that grows tea trees to replace opium, providing revenue for a rural Chinese population; aids a malnutrition center in Kenya and a medical treatment program in rural India; and in 2009 gave emergency aid to hurricane-ravaged El Salvador.

Lufthansa is testing fuels made from jatropha, growing here in India.

