



## 2019 'HOSCARS': BEST HOSTELS FROM AROUND THE WORLD REVEALED

- Based on 1.2 million customer reviews submitted in the past 12 months, Hostelworld announces this year's winners with 310 hostels honoured across 29 categories
- With a 42% increase in solo travel bookings between 2015 and 2017, Hostelworld adds Best for Solo Travel category to celebrate hostels catering for solo travellers' needs
- Other new categories for 2019 include Best for Pre-Uni Gap-Yearers, Graduate Gap-Yearers and Career Breakers
- Brits are loyal to South-East Asia, crowning Cozy Nook Hostel in Vietnam their most popular, followed by Lub D Cambodia Siem Reap and Stamps Backpackers in Thailand
- Globally, European hostels continue to lead the way, with winners across many categories including Best for Groups and Best for Solo Travel

**LONDON, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019:** Hollywood's elite will learn if they're in the running for an Oscar tomorrow, but today it's time for hostels to take the spotlight with the launch of [Hostelworld's 2019 HOSCARS](#) (Hostelworld Customer Annual Ratings). You can find the highlights below and the worldwide list of winners at [www.hostelworld.com/hoscars](http://www.hostelworld.com/hoscars).

Recognising the best in backpacker accommodation for globe trotters, this year's HOSCARS add a raft of new categories including Best for Pre-Uni Gap-Yearers and Best for Career Breakers.

Responding to the 42% boom in solo travel bookings, Hostelworld has also introduced the world's Best Hostels for Solo Travellers. The new category aims to celebrate the hostels that are committed to creating an environment where going-it-alone results in meeting like-minded people and having a once in a lifetime experience. The Roadhouse in Prague has been crowned the overall winner. With female solo bookings increasing 45%<sup>1</sup>, Hostelworld's users have called out We Love F. Tourists in Lisbon for being the top spot for female solo travellers.

It will come as no surprise that Brits in particular are getting their travel fix in sunnier climes. British travellers' top three hostels were all located in South East Asia: Cozy Nook Hostel in Vietnam, Lub D Cambodia Siem Reap in Cambodia and Stamps Backpackers in Thailand. Those searching for adventure elsewhere, can head [here](#) to find top-rated hostels from all around the world.

Reviews from 1.2 million customers, submitted over the past year, determined which of the 36,000 properties in over 170 countries would scoop a much-coveted HOSCAR. Reviews are based on key criteria including overall customer experience, value for money, security, location, atmosphere, staff, cleanliness and facilities.

---

<sup>1</sup> Based on Hostelworld booking data from 2015-2017

**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**

The categories are broken down by continent, top 116 countries and top 50 cities, as well as a number of unique awards including Best Value for Money, Best Atmosphere, Best for Pre-Uni Gap-Yearers, Career Breakers and Best for Solo Travellers.

Gary Morrison, CEO of Hostelworld, said: *"This year's annual HOSCARS mark a momentous 20 years since Hostelworld received its first booking in 1999. A lot has changed since then, including the quality and variety of hostels, their unique social spaces, and the ability for backpackers to search, plan and book on the go via our mobile app.*

*The more destinations our customers visit in a single trip, the higher the number of reviews they leave, which goes to show just how much the Hostelworld community love sharing their experiences with other like-minded travellers.*

*With travel trends constantly evolving, we're also excited to introduce 13 new award categories in 2019 to honour the best hostels in the world. The HOSCARS celebrate hostels that go above and beyond to help travellers have the best experience possible."*

You can find full list of winners here: [www.hostelworld.com/hoscars](http://www.hostelworld.com/hoscars)

## **Hostelworld's 2019 HOSCARS winners:**

### **Best for Solo Travellers – The Roadhouse Prague, Czech Republic**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

[The Roadhouse Prague](#) named Best for Solo Travellers, identified as the ideal place for social backpackers looking for a laid-back atmosphere. Its big social areas help people meet like-minded travellers, making it a worthy winner of the new award for 2019. Staff also organise daily activities such as trips to local festivals, walking tours and bar tours, making it perfect for those travelling solo.

### **Best Solo Female Hostel – We Love F. Tourists, Portugal**

**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

Female solo travellers crowned the newly refurbished [We Love F. Tourists](#), Lisbon, as the Best for Female Solo Travellers, thanks to its friendly staff who run daily activities. With Lisbon's reputation for being a safe, cultural, laid back, affordable and superbly located near amazing beaches, it's easy to see why female solo travellers find it an ideal location. The hostel says the F stands for many things such as 'finding', 'friendly', 'fun-loving', 'foreign' and 'funky', and Hostelworld users clearly think it can also stand for "female".

#### **Best Solo Male Hostel – Hostel One Paralelo, Barcelona**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

For male solo travellers, [Hostel One Paralelo](#), Barcelona takes the top spot. Described as a hostel run and loved by travellers, for travellers, it boasts free daytime activities, free dinners and free parties every day. With its lively nightlife, great food, culture and reliable weather, Barcelona is a great location for solo travellers looking to get out and explore the city whilst meeting people along the way.

#### **Best for British Travellers – Cozy Nook Hostel, Vietnam**

**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

This new category for 2019 celebrates the favourite amongst British travellers and [Cozy Nook Hostel](#) in Vietnam has nabbed the top spot. The small and friendly hostel organises some of the best activities in the scenic area of Delat, ensuring that travellers can experience all that Vietnam has to offer.

### **Best in England – Wombats City Hostel, London**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

Setting the standard for hostels in England, [Wombats City Hostel](#) has scooped Best in England. In the heart of popular Shoreditch, Wombats has a large bar, courtyard and cosy hangout area, making it the ideal base for those visiting the city and wanting to experience iconic London.

### **Best for Pre-Uni Gap-Yearers (aged 18-24) – Adventure Q2 Hostel, New Zealand**



**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

For those seeking adventure before taking the next step in their lives, this is the one for you. [Adventure Q2 Hostel](#) has been named for Best for Pre-Uni Gap-Yearers. It's no surprise considering the dreamy mountain views, proximity to the centre of town and range of activities on offer.

#### **Best for Graduate Gap-Yearers (aged 25-30) – Hostel One Paralelo, Spain**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

Also named Best for Male Solo Travel, [Hostel One Paralelo](#), in Barcelona has been named Best for Graduate Gap-Yearers. Perhaps it's the range of free events, from Gaudi tours, dinners and pub crawls that sway it for those on their post-uni jaunt.

#### **Best for Career Breakers (aged 31+) – Home Lisbon Hostel, Portugal**

**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

[Home Lisbon Hostel](#) has been crowned the winner for those aged over 31. Frequently praised for its nightly homemade dinners cooked by the owner's mother, the hostel provides a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. Its location is also great for exploring Lisbon's historic centre.

#### **Best in Europe – The Roadhouse Prague, Czech Republic**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

[The Roadhouse Prague](#) adds to its Best for Solo Travellers award with the coveted Best in Europe. At just over a year old this is no mean feat. But with its stylish interior and host of activities, it's easy to see why it's quickly become a favourite for those exploring the city.

#### **Best in Oceania – Adventure Q2 Hostel, New Zealand**

**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

This marks one of two awards for [Adventure Q2 Hostel](#) as it's also a favorite for global travelers. With rave reviews acknowledging the perfect location, friendly staff and great atmosphere as well as unparalleled access to the finest spots Queenstown has to offer, it's easy to see why Adventure Q2 Hostel is top of everyone's list.

#### **Best in North America – Maya Papaya, Guatemala**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

[Maya Papaya](#) has claimed best in North America this year. With an authentic Guatemalan breakfast on offer as well as claims of fluffy duvets, it's no wonder travellers rate the hostel and it's claimed the top spot!

#### **Best in Latin America – Los Patios Hostel Boutique, Colombia**



**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

With Colombian hostels sweeping up awards last year, the country's success continues with [Los Patios Hostel Boutique](#) named best in Latin America. Nestled in the tropical valley of Medellín, the hostel provides an urban oasis complete with rooftop bar, organic garden, Spanish lessons for travellers and even a gym.

#### **Best in Asia – Cozy Nook Hostel, Vietnam**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

[Cozy Nook Hostel](#) reigns supreme for Best in Asia, cementing it as the ideal place to explore Vietnam in the comfort of a small and welcoming hostel. The family-run hostel aims to provide an authentic Vietnamese experience for guests which often involves having dinner with the family and traditional cooking classes.

#### **Best in Africa – The B.i.g Backpackers, South Africa**



**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

For the second year running, [B.i.g Backpackers](#) takes the top spot in Africa and it's easy to see why. With light and spacious rooms and just a short taxi ride away from Table Mountain and Camps Bay, B.i.g Backpackers provides backpackers with the perfect place to explore the area.

#### **Best Atmosphere – 5 Terre Backpackers in Italy**



*Credit: @\_michi*

Reigning champion in 2018, [5 Terre Backpackers](#) has done it again, winning the award for Best Atmosphere. With panoramic views of Cinque Terre National Park's rolling hills, it's no surprise that this hostel is a winner for backpackers. The ancient building, complete with stone walls, rustic design and wood-beamed ceilings ensure it provides an authentic Italian atmosphere.

#### **Best Value for Money – Dalat Friendly Fun, Vietnam**

**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**



*Credit: Hostelworld*

For the second year in a row, [Dalat Friendly Fun](#) takes the crown for Best Value for Money Dorm beds start from as little as £3.92 which includes free Wi-Fi, en-suite bathrooms, towels, breakfast and parking. For that price, it's no surprise it's consistently awarded best value for money.

**Other key winners across the categories include:**

**Best Location** – [Adventure Queenstown Hostel](#), New Zealand

**Best Staff** – [Stay Hostel](#), Rhodes

**Best for Groups** – [Hostel Mola](#), Madrid

#### **Best Newcomers**

This category awards the hostels that opened in 2018 and have already won the hearts of their guests.

- **Best new small hostel** – [The House of Sanderman](#), Portugal
- **Best new medium hostel** – [Hostel One Madrid, Spain](#)
- **Best new large hostel** – [Romehello Hostel](#), Italy
- **Best new extra-large hostel** – [Anda Venice](#), Italy

**ENDS**

#### **Notes to editors**

For more information, please contact [hostelworld@hotwireglobal.com](mailto:hostelworld@hotwireglobal.com) or call 0207 608 2500.

#### **About Hostelworld**

Hostelworld, the leading hostel-focused online booking platform sparking social experiences, inspires passionate travellers to see the world, meet new people and come back with extraordinary stories to tell. Hostelworld customers are not your average tourists; they crave unique experiences that Hostelworld

**UNDER EMBARGO: 00:01, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019**

facilitates with the best choice of hostels around the world. It's the social nature of hostels that turbo-charges their global adventures and empowers them to Meet the World.

Hostelworld has more than ten million reviews across 36,000 properties in more than 170 countries, making the brand the leading online hub for social travel. The website and mobile app operates in 19 different languages.

The Hostelworld Group went public in November 2015, listing on the main London and Dublin stock exchanges. Headquartered in Dublin, Hostelworld has offices around the world in London, Shanghai, Sydney and Porto and was recently recognised as a Best Workplace for 2017 by the Great Places to Work Institute.