

# 2007 awards sponsors

(\*indicates past participant)

## GRAND PRIZES (4)

**Idyllwild, CA** – Located high in the San Jacinto Mountains of Southern California above Palm Springs, Idyllwild is a mountain resort town that offers relaxation, recreation, galleries, concerts, special events, and more. This six-night prize package features two nights each at the Quiet Creek Inn, the Rainbow Inn, and the Creekstone Inn (midweek only); a \$50 gift card at the Café Aroma; and a \$25 gift certificate to the Bread Basket Restaurant and Bakery.

**Ireland** – This five-night prize from Tourism Ireland includes stays in a traditional Irish Farmhouse, hospitable B&B, Dublin city hotel, and romantic castle. Roundtrip economy airfare from the nearest Ireland gateway plus six-day car rental are also included. Prize includes sightseeing passes for a Dublin city tour, evening at Ireland's National Theater, medieval banquet at the 15<sup>th</sup> century Bunratty Castle, and more.

**Guam** – Take a 10-day trip for two, including roundtrip travel from the USA on Continental Airlines, that includes accommodations on Guam and Rota plus a myriad of complimentary activities and attractions, plus other things to do while visiting the Marianas. A U.S. territory, Guam is a Western Pacific island divided into 19 villages. The largest and southernmost of the Marianas, Guam's economy is supported by tourism from the Japan, Korea, and Taiwan, as well as U.S. military bases. It has 20 large hotels, many golf courses, several American-style shopping malls, and an aquarium – plus a tropical climate that makes water sports popular. Accommodations and itinerary will be created after the winner picks his/her travel dates.

**\*Sierra Madre Express** – This seven-night prize is valued at \$7,000, the highest value in the 15-year history of the NATJA awards. The winner and guest will visit Mexico's remote Copper Canyon by train and explore the Sierra Madre mountains, home of the little-known Tarahumara Indians. American-owned and operated, the private passenger train provides escorted, round-trip tours to the Copper Canyon on a route that features 87 tunnels and 35 bridges and rises from sea level to 8,000 feet. Featured in National Geographic's "Great Train Journeys of the World," the Sierra Madre Express uses vintage coaches, including Pullman sleepers, dome cars, and an observation car, with space for open-air photography. The prize includes accommodations, train sleeper compartment, meals and beverages, onboard hosted bar, tours and sightseeing, bilingual escorts, airport transfers, taxes and gratuities.

FIRST PRIZES (45) – all 3-night stays unless otherwise indicated

**Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa**, Phoenix – In addition to this two-night stay, enjoy one dinner for two in Wright's at the Biltmore. Daily resort charge and gratuity are included. The Grande Dame of Arizona since its 1929 opening, the Biltmore offers a blend of desert ambiance and Frank Lloyd Wright influence. A 92-foot water slide helps guests escape the heat in the Valley of the Sun.

**Atlantic City casinos** – Choose a three-night stay at any of four resorts, including Harrah's, Bally's, Caesars, or Showboat, and enjoy breakfast for two daily, plus show tickets. Atlantic City is known for casinos, spas, world-class entertainment, fine dining, nightlife, shopping, the boardwalk, fishing and water sports, plus proximity to the ocean. It is about an hour from Philadelphia under three hours from New York.

**Beacon House**, Sea Girt, NJ – An 1879 Victorian one block from the ocean, The Beacon House recaptures the elegance of a lost era. Its wraparound, columned porches contain wicker furniture that faces manicured grounds and the historic lighthouse beyond. Also in the vicinity are Allaire State Park's 19<sup>th</sup> century village, Barnegat Bay, and the towns of Spring Lake, Manasquan, and Ocean Grove. Some of the rooms in the two spacious guest houses have balconies, fireplaces, and Jacuzzis, while all have private baths, ceiling fans, cable-TV, and WiFi capability. Daily breakfasts for two are included, along with beach passes, sand chairs, and use of the inn's private pool.

**Bedandbreakfast.com** – Use these three \$100 B&B gift cards at any of more than 3,200 locations throughout the United States. Winner will receive a booklet listing participating B&Bs and inns alphabetically by state. More current information may be found online, since the list is constantly growing. According to website founder Eric Goldreyer, "After enjoying the comfort, hospitality, and great food of a B&B, your travels will never be the same. Enjoy!"

**Breakwater Inn**, Kennebunkport, ME – Enjoy dinner for two and daily breakfasts during this 3-night retreat in the scenic town where presidents vacation. Walk to Dock Square, sample lobster rolls, ride working fishing boats, and mingle with landscape artists as they paint the rocky Maine coastline. You might even catch a glimpse of Fidelity III and its famous driver, former president George H.W. Bush, near his Walker Point mansion.

**\*Casablanca Inn**, St. Augustine FL – 2-night midweek stay in the romantic Butler suite (or equivalent), with daily breakfast for two. One of seven Inns of Elegance, this 1914 Mediterranean revival is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Some of its rooms and its grand porch overlook the bay. Antique-decorated suites have private baths and private entrances. Guest amenities include complimentary beverages and fresh-baked chocolate-chip cookies.

**CasaBlanca Resort**, Mesquite, NV – Spend three nights at this 500-room destination resort, known for its casino, dining, championship golf, co-ed spa and salon, headline entertainment, and lagoon pool with sunbathing grounds. Prize includes one-hour spa treatment, one round of golf, and dinner for two at Katherine's, the best gourmet restaurant in Mesquite.

**Costa Mesa**, CA – Located in Southern California's vibrant Orange County, cosmopolitan Costa Mesa is home to South Coast Repertory Theatre, the Orange County Performing Arts Center, René and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall and South Coast Plaza, The Ultimate Shopping Experience. Nearby are beaches, Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure. Nine amenity-packed luxury hotels feature more than 2,225 guestrooms. Winner and his guest will spend three nights at the Westin South Coast Plaza.

**Crested Butte Club Spa Weekend** – This prize, valued at \$1,433.75, features three nights in a luxury king suite for two, bottle of wine upon check-in, two massages with warm stones, two facials, and two manicures and pedicures. Also included are daily breakfasts for two plus use of onsite lap pool, Jacuzzi, steam rooms, and fitness center. Crested Butte is a picturesque mountain town on the western slope of the Colorado Rockies, less than two hours from Denver.

**\*Culinary Institute of America (CIA), Hyde Park, NY** – Foodies can test their skills in a one-day Boot Camp Program from the *other* CIA while spending two nights in a one-bedroom suite at the Residence Inn by Marriott in nearby Poughkeepsie. Breakfast and evening hospitality hour are included. Among nearby attractions is Franklin Roosevelt's home. The class is for food enthusiasts seeking to enhance their basic cooking skills.

**Denver: High High Weekend** – Located at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, Colorado's capital city is booming with three new art museums (including the incredible new Denver Art Museum designed by Daniel Libeskind), six new sports stadiums for a record eight professional sports teams, the second-largest performing arts center in the nation, and America's largest city park system with 850 miles of paved bike trails. Trip includes accommodations for three nights and passes to all of Denver's attractions and museums, from the famous Denver Museum of Nature & Science to the Colorado Railroad Museum.

**Fairmont Algonquin Golf Getaway** – Spend three nights in St. Andrews-by-the-Sea at a century-old grand hotel with classic Tudor styling, modern amenities, manicured gardens, a luxurious spa, and striking views of Passamaquoddy Bay, and an award-winning 18-hole golf course. The prize includes three nights accommodations and one round of golf for two people during the 2008 golf season.

**\*Fairmont Newfoundland** – 3-night stay in Fairmont Deluxe Room. Situated in the heart of St. John's, the oldest city in North America, The Fairmont Newfoundland provides breathtaking views of the harbor, Signal Hill and the historic city center. Although Newfoundland is known as "the Rock" because of its rugged terrain, it is home to some of the friendliest souls in Canada. Many of them work at this property, a blend of rustic scenery and eastern Canadian hospitality.

**FireLight Bed and Breakfast**, Williams, AZ – This English Tudor property, 60 miles south of the Grand Canyon, is offering a three-night stay. The four bedrooms available for guests feature fireplaces, views, and vintage-style bathroom with shower and jetted tub. Perched at an elevation of 7,000 feet, this property is surrounded by scenic Ponderosa pines and has proximity to the steam-powered Grand Canyon Railroad.

**\*Glenwood Springs**, Colorado – Three-night stay (location to be determined) includes pair of passes to world's largest hot-springs pool; two Iron Mountain tram rides, two tickets to Glenwood Caverns' Fairy Caves; two passes to Yampah Spa and Vapor Caves; and two lift tickets (in season) at Sunlight Mountain Resort.

**Great Wolf Lodge**, Niagara Falls, Ontario – Stay three nights in a family suite, with daily breakfast for two and two one-hour spa services, in Canada's only exclusive indoor-waterpark resort. The 406-suite resort has 13 water slides, 7 pools, 2 hot tubs, a 500,000-liter lazy river, and a huge outdoor pool with ground geysers. In addition, there's a 7,000-square foot redemption arcade with 100+ video games, an 18-hole interactive outdoor miniature golf course, five themed restaurants, a spa, fitness facility, free parking, plus proximity to Niagara Parks and its attractions.

**Hadsten House Inn & Spa**, Solvang, CA – Enjoy Wine 101, a three-night midweek getaway in a deluxe room, daily breakfast for two, nightly wine and hors d'oeuvres, picnic lunch, more than a half-dozen wine tastings for two, and Introduction to Central Coast Wines class. Located in the Santa Ynez Valley, this European-style inn features a pool, Jacuzzi, and day spa plus guest rooms decorated in classic French furnishings, including fireplaces.

**Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa** – Enjoy three nights in a Hilton Room in scenic British Columbia. This smokefree property has 87 guest rooms and 202 suites, many with kitchens, fireplaces, and balconies. Seventy-five miles north of Vancouver, along the Sea to Sky Highway, the four-season resort is located at the base of Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains and steps from the gondolas. Summer activities range from mountain biking to championship golf, fishing, and swimming. The resort has a complete spa, fitness facility, and business center, while guest rooms feature deep-soaker tubs, large work desks, WiFi, microwave, stovetops, and coffeemaker. It is in Whistler Village, site of the 2010 Winter Olympics.

**Hotel Balzac**, Paris – This 19th-century elegant mansion, a member of Preferred Hotels, offers a prize of three nights with breakfast in a suite, two glasses of champagne, and “a bunch of flowers.” The mansion underwent a multi-million dollar refurbishment program, which establishes it as one of the most exceptional landmarks in Paris. The historic Parisian townhouse is still echoing the spirit of the French novelist, Honoré de Balzac.

**Hotel Monteleone**, New Orleans – Stay two nights (Sunday-Thursday) in the largest hotel in the French Quarter. Explore the historic streets, visit the nightspots, watch the boats on the Mississippi, ride the streetcars, and sample the cuisine of this legendary city while using the family-owned Hotel Monteleone as your home-away-from-home.

**Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa**, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM – This 350-room property, 26 miles from Albuquerque airport and 50 miles from Santa Fe, is set on 500+ acres of Native American land along the Rio Grande. Noted for its views of the Sandia Mountains and the Bosque, this resort is one of the finest in the Land of Enchantment. Recreational facilities range from 18 holes of championship golf to tennis, fitness center, horseback riding, hot-air ballooning, three pools, and a 16,000 square foot spa with a dozen treatment rooms.

**\*Inn on the Alameda**, Santa Fe – 3-night stay in deluxe king with breakfast, afternoon wine & cheese reception, two-and-a-half hour class at Santa Fe School of Cooking plus signature apron and cookbook. Secluded behind adobe walls are 71 rooms and suites containing the essence of Santa Fe: authentic southwestern decor, including kiva fireplaces. This property blends the ambiance of a B&B with the amenities and professionalism of a full-service hotel.

**\*Kandahar: the Lodge at Big Mountain, Whitefish, MT** – This prize is a three-night stay in the heart of Montana’s Glacier Country. Located in northwest Montana at the Big Mountain Resort, Kandahar is eight miles from Whitefish, in the Rocky Mountains near Glacier National Park and Flathead Lake. The 50 rooms in the lodge come in four styles: hotel, studio, loft, and kitchen loft. Spa facilities, including an outdoor hot tub, are located both inside the lodge and in the adjacent Wellness Center. Kandahar is 22 miles from the airport and 11 miles from the Amtrak station.

**Lake of the Ozarks** – Two-night prize at The Lodge of Four Seasons features two rounds of golf on either of its 27-hole courses. The waterfront resort has 350 guestrooms or condominiums, many with balconies. Some are located on the executive level, which features upgraded amenities, spa robe, turndown service, and a private refreshment center. The lodge, built in 1964 by Harold Koplak, is owned and managed by the Koplak-Brown family, long-time residents of Lake of the Ozarks. Spa Shiki, recently profiled by NBC’s *Today* show, contains 15,000 square feet of treatment rooms and services for those who need pampering. Guests enjoy the views of the lake from both the Japanese gardens and the restaurant, HK’s.

**Linekin Bay Resort**, Boothbay Harbor, ME – With a capacity of 150 guests and 62 years of public service, this bayside resort is known for water sports. It features two tennis courts, a heated salt-water pool, free use of kayaks, canoes, and rowboats, plus proximity to nearby attractions (a mile away). The resort has a fleet of 20 Rhodes 19 sailboats. Three meals per day are included in the three-night prize.

**\*Maine Windjammer Association** – Select a cruise of three to six days in length aboard one of the 14 windjammers, ranging in length from 46 to 132 feet, that explore Maine’s rocky middle coast. All have hot showers, hearty, family-style meals, and accommodations of varying sizes. See whales, porpoises, and lighthouses and feast on an all-you-can-eat beachside lobster bake. Ships sail by day but drop anchor at night, allowing time to go ashore and experience small settlements or deserted islands.

**Middlebury Inn**, Middlebury, VT – This 70-room property blends historic charm and modern comfort. A mecca for travelers since 1827, it is located between Burlington and Rutland, convenient to many Vermont attractions. The inn is on Court Square, in the heart of town on Route 7 and within walking distance of the Middlebury College campus. The three-night prize includes daily breakfasts for two, afternoon tea, and access to a nearby fitness center that has an Olympic-sized pool.

**\*Mohegan Sun**, Uncasville, CT – Three-night stay plus dinner for two in Rain and dinner for two in Todd English's Tuscan. This 1200-room resort, located in coastal Connecticut between New York and Boston, is a world-class entertainment destination with more than 300,000 square feet of gaming excitement, 32 dining options, and 135,000 square feet of retail and entertainment space.

**\*Monterey County**, CA – Two-night stay at Hyatt Regency Monterey, dinner for two at Old Fisherman's Grotto, two tickets and behind-the-scenes tour of the Monterey Bay Aquarium, two tix to Monterey Movie Tours, two tickets to the National Steinbeck Center, a wine-tasting for two at Chateau Julien Wine Estate, two tix to the Maritime Museum of Monterey, and a historic Monterey book and DVD.

**\*Newport** – With miles of scenic coastline, this popular maritime community is ideal for exhilarating sailing excursions, relaxing beach time, and rejuvenating walks. Visitors can take tours of mansions and museums or join walking tours that reveal the town's history and charm. Newport has quaint wharves, cobblestone streets, boutiques, shops and galleries. Nautical events, music festivals, and visits to the Tennis Hall of Fame are other visitor options, along with dining with a view at a myriad of waterfront restaurants. This two-night prize can be redeemed at several locations, including hotels, inns, and B&Bs.

**\*North of Boston** – Spend three nights, with daily breakfasts for two, in The Salem (MA) Inn, a trio of properties that includes the Captain West House (1834), the Curwen House (1854), and the Peabody House (1874). Located within walking distance of the town's museums, restaurants, antique shops, and galleries, the Salem Inn offers a total of 40 rooms, all equipped with cable-TV, telephone, private bath, and coffee-makers. Many also have fireplaces, whirlpool tubs, and canopy beds. The surrounding seaport community, notorious for the 1692 witch trials, has many buildings listed on the National Historic Register.

**Oasis Resort**, Mesquite, NV – This prize package includes a three-night stay for two in a deluxe room, dinner for two at Charmaine's, a round of golf at The Palms golf course, and a one-hour spa treatment. The 1000-room resort is a gambler's paradise complete with golf course, spa, dining, night club, lounge, sports bar, swimming pools, hot tubs, tennis courts, mini-golf, go-carts, and even a gun club. Many guest rooms have Jacuzzi tubs and refrigerators.

**Pacific Palisades Hotel**, Vancouver, B.C. – A member of the Kimpton family of boutique hotels, this downtown Vancouver property is perched on trendy Robson Street. Guests enjoy the spa and hosted evening wine reception, plus personalized service that welcomes pets (and gives goldfish to visitors who miss their animal companions).

**Palm Beach Gardens Marriott** – This prize is valid for a two-night weekend stay (exclusive of Feb. 1-April 30) at this 279-room South Florida resort, located between I-95 and the Intracoastal Waterway. This 11-story property has comfortable rooms, a concierge level, large pool, business center, and a reputation for customer service. The Atlantic Ocean, Palm Beach, golf courses, and Roger Dean Stadium (spring training home of the Cardinals and Marlins) are minutes away, while Palm Beach International Airport is 11 miles away.

**Reunion Resort & Club of Orlando** – Stay two nights at Seven Eagles Resort Villas, where you and a guest are invited to stay and play as VIP guests. This resort is the home of Tom Watson's Independence Course and Arnold Palmer's Legacy Course.

**Ritz-Carlton Sarasota** – Spend two nights in this luxurious 266-room Florida Gulf Coast property, a blend of cosmopolitan hotel and beach resort. Rooms have spacious balconies and sweeping views of Sarasota Bay, the marina, or the city skyline. There are seven options for dining and 16 treatment rooms in The Ritz-Carlton Members Club Spa. There's also a Ritz-Carlton Members Beach Club on Lido Key, in the Gulf of Mexico (shuttle service provided). Nearby attractions range from the Ringling Museum of Art to the Selby Botanical Gardens. This two-night prize includes room, tax, and valet parking charges.

**\*Rosen Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando** – Stay three nights at this 230-acre Central Florida property, which opened on Sept. 9, 2006. Designed in early-1900s Spanish Revival style, it has 1,500 rooms and suites, a spa that embraces 13,000 square feet, an 18-hole, par 72 golf course, four outdoor pools, two lighted tennis courts, plus nature trails, fishing, basketball, a volleyball court, and seasonal canoe trips. It is five minutes from Sea World, ten minutes from Universal, and less than an hour from the Atlantic Ocean. It is one mile from the Orange County Convention Center.

**St. Kitts Marriott Resort & Royal Beach Casino** – This prize, arranged by Cheryl Andrews Marketing, is valid for four days and three nights of deluxe category accommodations. This 513-room Caribbean paradise, spread over 26 acres, features eight restaurants, three lounges, a casino, a 15,000-square foot spa, plus proximity to the international airport (four miles away). Most guest rooms, decorated in West Indian accents, have private balconies with ocean, pool, or garden views. Baths feature massage showerheads, while suite baths are whirlpools. All guest rooms have coffee-makers and refrigerators.

**San Francisco Dine-Around** – Beyond the CityPass book, which provides free rides on the cable cars and streetcars in this photogenic port town, nothing beats sampling the city's fine restaurants. Beyond the two CityPass books, which also allow 2-for-1 discounts at many major attractions, this prize includes a \$250 gift certificate from McCormick & Kuleto's Seafood Restaurant, sandwiched between Fisherman's Wharf and Ghirardelli Square, and a \$100 discount at First Crush Restaurant and Lounge.

**\*San Mateo County, CA** – Landis Shores on Miramar Beach, a luxury oceanfront inn, invites the winner and his guest to spend three midweek nights enjoying its private decks, fireplaces, whirlpool tubs, huge rooms, afternoon appetizers, and attentive service. Daily gourmet breakfasts for two are included in this three-night prize. Rooms feature Eurostyle glass showers, TV-VCR and CD stereo player, natural stone floors, and radiant heat. Also in San Mateo County, located between San Francisco and San Jose, are historical landmarks, mansions, gardens, two-sided natural beauty of the San Francisco peninsula, and SFO, the international airport. BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) connects the county to San Francisco and Oakland.

**Sooke Harbour House, Vancouver Island** – Voted Best Small Inn in North America by Mountain Living readers and the 8<sup>th</sup>-best Small Hotel in the World by readers of Travel + Leisure, this British Columbia property is a romantic hideaway on the island's southwest coast, an hour from Victoria. Its prize includes three nights in a guest room with a whirlpool for two, daily breakfast in bed; a wet bar stocked with teas, coffee, and cookies; a decanter of Port to sip by the fireplace; and a large balcony or terrace overlooking the Pacific Ocean, where seals, otters, and gulls play offshore. Also included are access to two rejuvenated far infra-red saunas and a complimentary garden tour to discover the inn's edible Kitchen Gardens.

**Stowe, VT** – Spend five nights in this beautiful mountain town where NATJA had its 2006 conference. Winner may choose from summer or winter recreational pastimes while enjoying a stay in the scenic Green Mountains of northern Vermont, not far from the Canadian border.

**USA Vacation Homes, Davenport, FL** – This four-day, three-night stay in the Orlando area provides the winner with a fully-furnished vacation house with private, screened-in pool. Also included are a free breakfast package, starter package, and kids gift (per child under 13), and free internet access at the company's office. The home will be located near Disney World, Sea World, Universal and MGM Studios, golf, shopping, and other Central Florida attractions, including baseball spring training parks. Occupancy of up to eight people is permitted.

**Valley Forge** – Spend three nights in the Rose & Grey Room at the Great Valley House, a 300-year-old B&B featuring private baths, antique furnishings, WiFi internet access, and gourmet breakfasts. This prize package includes dinner for two at Creed's Seafood & Steaks in King of Prussia, Pa. plus free passes to the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove; the Elmwood Park Zoo in Norristown; the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania; and the Wharton Esherick Museum.

**Virginia Beach** – This package from the Virginia beach CVB includes three nights at an oceanfront hotel; an ocean excursion for two in search of dolphins and whales; passes to the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center and its IMAX movie theater; a kayak journey through the Back Bay, Chesapeake, or Atlantic Ocean; and a Virginia Beach goody bag filled with memorabilia from beach towels to T-shirts.

**Virgin Islands** – Stay three nights at this all-villa property in St. Thomas, USVI. Each villa contains a king-sized bed, living and dining room, full kitchen, indoor garden shower, TV, WiFi, air-conditioning, ceiling fans, and maid service upon request. Complimentary daily breakfasts for two at the Fish Pond Café are included. Activity options range from snorkeling and parasailing to jet-skiing and swimming on Sapphire Beach, a five-minute walk from the property. The resort is also one mile from the ferries that sail to St. John in the British Virgins.

**Wyndham Palm Springs** – This property, built around a vast network of pools and spas, is located on Tahquitz Canyon Way, a short hop from Palm Springs airport and an easy walk to the main shopping and dining street. Enjoy the Palm Springs tram, desert jeep tours of the San Andreas Fault, a vintage World War 2 air museum, and frequent celebrity sightings.