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World Travel Awards make their name in the Middle East



DTCM's Awadh Seghayer Al Ketbi receives his award from Graham Cooke, president of the World Travel Awards, for Middle East's Leading Business Destination



ADTA's Ali Al Hosani poses with Graham Cooke and Miss World Tatana Kucharova after winning their award for Middle East's Leading Tourist Office



Chris Noth (extreme left), best known for his role as Mr Big in 'Sex and the City', Sheikh Faisal bin Khali Al Qasimi (third from left) and actress Lauren Holly (second from right) were some of the attendees at the event



Sheikh Faisal bin Khali Al Qasimi and Pam Wilby with their awards for Le Royal Meridien Beach Resort & Spa which won three categories: UAE's Leading Spa Resort, Middle East's Leading Spa Resort and Dubai's Leading Spa Resort



Also at the WTA were Sheikh Faisal bin Khali Al Qasimi, ADTA's Mubarak Al Muhairi, Rotana's Nasser Al Nowais and Noel Massoud, GM of Emirates Palace



Claudia Hardt from The Ritz Carlton Bahrain Hotel & Spa receives awards from hosts Deborah Gibson and Akhtar Khan for the categories, Bahrain's Leading Hotel, Bahrain's Leading Spa Resort and Bahrain's Leading Suite

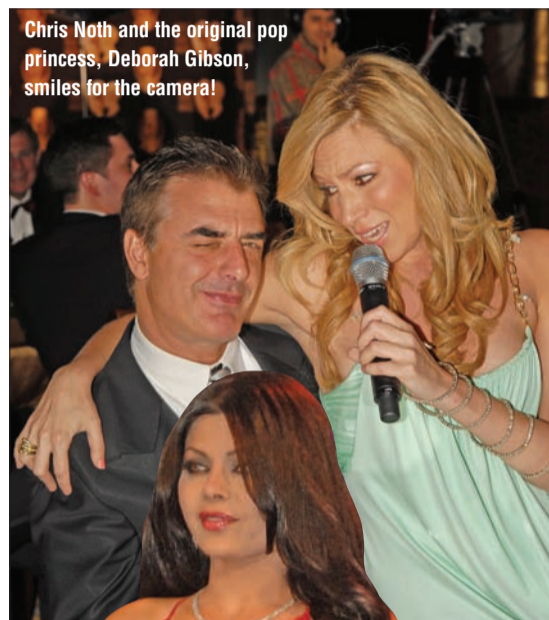


Hotel Al Khozama, A Rosewood Hotel's Erik Huyer collected their award from Deborah Gibson for Saudi Arabia's Leading Business Hotel

The World Travel Awards (WTA) has announced the winners for the Middle East and Africa at its inaugural regional event. Over 1,000 industry leaders convened at the Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi to celebrate their achievements at the star-studded event, where they enjoyed music, comedy and entertainment throughout the evening.

A total of 65 awards were presented to winners. These companies are now automatically put forward as nominees in their global categories. The World category winners will be announced at the global World Travel Awards ceremony in Providenciales, Turks and Caicos in the Caribbean near the end of 2007.

A total of 167,000 travel agencies and professionals in over 163 countries were asked to vote.



Chris Noth and the original pop princess, Deborah Gibson, smiles for the camera!



Lebanese sensation, Haifa Wehbe, was one of the performers

DIARY OF EVENTS

JULY

- 3-5 China Incentive Business Travel & Meetings Exhibition (CIBTM) 2006, China World Exhibition Hall, Beijing, China
- 10-13 JOITEX (Jordan International Tourism Expo), Amman International Motor Show, Amman, Jordan

SEPTEMBER

- 6-8 La Cumbre 2007 - The Travel Industry's Bidirectional Event of the Americas, The Westin Diplomat, Florida, USA
- 25-28 PATA Travel Mart 2007 (PTM), Bali International Convention Centre (BICC), Bali, Indonesia
- 27-29 TopResa Travel Market Show 2007, La Touques race course, Deauville, France

OCTOBER

- 3-5 CIS Travel Market 2007, Lenexpo Exhibition Centre, St Petersburg, Russia
- 16-18 Cityscape Dubai 2007, Dubai International Exhibition Centre, Dubai
- 27-31 46th International Congress & Convention Association (ICCA) Congress & Exhibition 2007, Pattaya, Thailand

NOVEMBER

- 1-5 INDEX Dubai 2007, Dubai International Exhibition

- Centre, Dubai
- 5-9 Equip'Hotel, Paris Expo - Porte de Versailles, Paris, France
- 9-10 3rd Annual Asia Pacific & Middle East Aviation Outlook Summit, Pan Pacific Hotel, Singapore
- 11-15 The Dubai Airshow 2007, Airport Expo, Dubai
- 12-15 World Travel Market 2007, Excel, London, UK
- 25-27 The International Fair of Tourism, Travel and Trips, Fairgrounds Damascus - Syria
- 25-29 The Big 5 2007, Dubai International Exhibition Centre, Dubai
- 27-29 EIBTM - The Global Meetings & Incentives Exhibition 2007, Fira Gran Via, Barcelona, Spain
- 29-30 Business Travel Show, Dubai, Madinat Jumeirah Arena, Dubai

DECEMBER

- 3-6 International Luxury Travel Market 2007 (ILTM), Palais des Festivals, Cannes, France
- 3-6 International Golf Travel Market (IGTM), Cancun, MEXICO
- 4-6 Middle East Exclusive 2007, Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Dubai

- 6-9 Arab World Travel & Tourism Exchange (AWTTE) 2007, BIEL Centre, Beirut
- 11-13 4th International Health Tourism Exhibition, Bahrain International Exhibition Centre, Bahrain
- 11-13 MENA TRAVEL CATERING 2007, Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Dubai
- 13-14 Brussels Travel Expo (BTE) 2007, Brussels, Belgium

2008

JANUARY

- 11-13 Monte Carlo Travel Market (MCTM) 2008, Grimaldi Forum, Monaco
- 28-31 Arab Health 2008, Dubai International Exhibition Centre, Dubai

FEBRUARY

- 12-15 The Bride Show Abu Dhabi 2008, Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 19-20 The 16th Asia Pacific Incentives and Meetings Expo (AIME), Melbourne Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, Australia
- 14-17 Eastern Mediterranean International Tourism and Travel Fair (EMITT) 2008, Istanbul, Turkey