

Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani conclave award categories

Sr. No.	Award Category	Criteria
1	Lifetime Achievement Award	• Years of service (minimum 25+ years) • Industry leadership & influence • Contribution to tourism growth • Mentorship & legacy building • Awards & recognitions received • Ethical business practices
2	Founder's Excellence in Regional Cuisine Award	• Authentic use of regional recipes • Support to local farmers & suppliers • Culinary innovation without losing authenticity • Consistency in quality • Promotion of regional food culture • Customer appreciation & reputation
3	Innovation in Dining Award	• Original dining concept • Use of technology or new service models • Menu innovation • Guest engagement experience • Market impact • Sustainability integration
4	Best Adventure Resorts Award	• Range & quality of adventure activities • Safety standards & certifications • Trained staff • Eco-sensitive operations • Guest safety records • Guest satisfaction ratings
5	Best Iconic Hotel – Mahabaleshwar	• Historical or landmark value • Architectural uniqueness • Brand recognition • Guest loyalty • Service excellence • Contribution to destination image
6	Best Iconic Hotel – Panchgani	• Historical or landmark value • Architectural uniqueness • Brand recognition • Guest loyalty • Service excellence • Contribution to destination image
7	Best Boutique Resort – Mahabaleshwar	• Unique design & theme • Personalized guest experience • High service quality • Boutique positioning • Guest reviews • Environmental sensitivity
8	Best Boutique Resort – Panchgani	• Unique design & theme • Personalized guest experience • High service quality • Boutique positioning • Guest reviews • Environmental sensitivity

9	Sustainable Hospitality Award	• Support to local artisans & communities • Fire & guest safety compliance • Plastic-free operations • Water conservation & rainwater harvesting • Waste management & recycling • Renewable energy usage • Carbon footprint reduction
10	Best New Hotel – Mahabaleshwar	• Hotels established after 2019 • Concept & design innovation • Service standards • Sustainability practices • Market acceptance • Occupancy & growth • Guest feedback
11	Best New Hotel – Panchgani	• Hotels established after 2019 • Concept & design innovation • Service standards • Sustainability practices • Market acceptance • Occupancy & growth • Guest feedback
12	General Manager of the Year – Mahabaleshwar	• Leadership & team development • Financial & operational performance • Guest satisfaction scores • Staff retention • Innovation in operations • Crisis management
13	General Manager of the Year - Panchgani	• Leadership & team development • Financial & operational performance • Guest satisfaction scores • Staff retention • Innovation in operations • Crisis management
14	Hotel Chef of the Year	• Culinary creativity • Consistency & quality • Local ingredient usage • Kitchen hygiene & safety • Training & mentoring chefs • Guest & industry recognition
15	Best Restaurant – Mahabaleshwar	• Food quality • Menu variety • Service standards • Hygiene & safety • Ambience • Customer ratings
16	Best Restaurant– Panchgani	• Food quality • Menu variety • Service standards • Hygiene & safety • Ambience • Customer ratings

17	Contribution to Eco-Tourism– Mahabaleshwar	• Nature conservation efforts • Eco-friendly tourism initiatives • Community involvement • Promotion of responsible tourism • Waste & energy management • Environmental education
18	Contribution to Eco-Tourism– Panchgani	• Nature conservation efforts • Eco-friendly tourism initiatives • Community involvement • Promotion of responsible tourism • Waste & energy management • Environmental education
19	Transformative Impact on Tourism Development	• Infrastructure development • Job creation • Destination branding • Sustainable tourism initiatives • Long-term regional impact • Policy or industry influence
20	Architecture & Heritage Hospitality Excellence Award	• Preservation of heritage • Architectural uniqueness • Adaptive reuse • Cultural authenticity • Guest experience • Sustainability of structure
21	Best Traditional Thali	• Authenticity of recipes • Use of local & seasonal ingredients • Taste & presentation • Portion balance • Hygiene & food safety • Cultural representation
22	Best Valley View Hotel	• Scenic location with uninterrupted panoramic valley views • Guest experience focused on the valley-view offering (balconies, decks, sit-outs, ambience) • Quality of hospitality, service standards & guest satisfaction • Design & aesthetics complementing the natural landscape • Safety measures at viewpoints and public areas • Sustainable & eco-friendly practices to preserve the surroundings
23	Best Strawberry-to-Table Concept	• Authentic farm-to-table sourcing of fresh strawberries (local/own farm tie-ups) • Menu innovation showcasing strawberries across dishes, desserts & beverages • Quality, freshness & presentation of strawberry-based offerings • Guest engagement through themed menus, tastings or farm experiences (where applicable) • Support to local farmers & responsible sourcing practices • Sustainability measures including minimal food miles & reduced wastage