



NEWS RELEASE

Apr. 5, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TourRadar awards Free & Easy Traveler Platinum rating

Free & Easy Traveler is thrilled to have been recognized once again as a leader in the travel industry, beating out industry heavyweights to collect a Platinum badge as a part of a newly launched tour operator rating system. TourRadar announced the launch of their Travellers' Choice status badge rating system on February 8, 2016, simultaneously awarding Free & Easy Traveler one of only five Platinum badges.

"To recognize the tour operators that consistently receive excellent reviews, recommendations and ratings across all their tours, TourRadar has launched the Travellers Choice status badges," said Carly Hulls, Head of Community at TourRadar. "FnEZ is the operator that received the most positive reviews in 2015 across all tours - making them one of the best operators in the business when it comes to traveler satisfaction!"

The badge designations of Platinum, Gold or Festival are based upon a tour operator's overall performance and customer feedback across all tours. A Traveller's Choice badge recognises tour operators with high star ratings, excellent reviews, high Net Promoter Score, high traveler engagement with TourRadar tools and overall excellent customer experience.

"Having just come off winning our sixth Most Amazing Tour award from TourRadar earlier this year, I couldn't be more stoked to receive this recognition," said Rob Campbell, Chief Operating Officer at Free & Easy Traveler. "It's a huge accomplishment for us as a small company to know that our trips are really resonating with our travelers year after year."

Read more about Free & Easy Traveler here:

<https://www.freeandeasytraveler.com/why-travel-free-easy/our-travel-concept>

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About Free & Easy Traveler:

Founded in 2000 by Curtis Smith, Free & Easy Traveler is Canada's original adventure backpacking company, providing amazing world travel experiences to thousands of young adults. From 10- to 125-day trips in Southeast Asia, the Mediterranean, Latin America and South Africa, Free & Easy Traveler is a leader in providing well-rounded, exciting, and socially-conscious backpacking experiences. In 2012, they won TourRadar's coveted title of *World's Most Amazing Tour*; in 2013, TourRadar's *Asia's Most Amazing Tour* for their "Experience the Land of Smiles" 40-day Thailand trip; in 2014 both *Asia's Most Amazing Tour* for their "A Dose of Paradise" 20-day Thailand trip and *North America's Most Amazing Tour* for their "Caribbean Retreat" 10-day trip to Costa Rica & Panama; and in 2015 both *Nature and Adventure Tour of the Year Award* for their "The Ultimate Journey" 40-day trip through Laos, Thailand and Cambodia, and *Festival Tour of the Year Award* for "The Final Fiesta" 10-day trip to Nicaragua.