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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**September 29, 2015** 

## **Explore Life, Culture, and Nature on the Andaman Coast** Kuraburi, Thailand

Andaman Discoveries, a grassroots responsible travel organization in Thailand is winner of the 2015 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Thailand Tourism Awards

The Thailand Tourism Award was introduced for the first time in 1996, this year marking the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The focus was on the sector's intention to upgrade the quality of tourism products and services to deliver happiness to the tourists and their Thai hosts. Andaman Discoveries was recognized under the Award of Excellence for the inbound tour program. Highlighted was the spectacular five day homestay program featuring Ban Talaenok, a Muslim village on the coast and the island village of Tapaeyoi on Koh Prathong. Andaman Discoveries programs offer a unique and meaningful experience that allows for a positive cultural exchange between villagers and interested guests. This instills responsible tourism values within all participants and creates a shared goal of conserving culture and natural recourse for next generations.

Judge's comment: It is a tour program that is associated with the name of the entry. Tourist can explore the way of life and culture of a sea community and see the beautiful nature of the Andaman Sea. Meanwhile, they will admire the community which has gone through the crisis of a tsunami disaster and the community's members who joined hands in reviving the affected areas to the previous beautiful condition. Also, the community is allowed to participate in realizing how to be a good host, which causes love, pride, and a sense of ownership to the local resources among the community's members. In addition, the program includes good management, quality guides, and efficient usage of local resources.

Andaman Discoveries has proven to be a reliable and sustainable responsible Tourism Operator and will continue to serve as a bridge between local communities and interested guests!







