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Flattening Reservation Pace Presents Ongoing Challenge for Hoteliers

Still, North American Markets See Uptick in Rates Across Travel Segments

NEW YORK – March 2, 2017 – As North American hoteliers progress through the early months of 2017, the pace of new bookings is flat with new February reservation commitments at -0.8 percent. However, average daily rates (ADR) for the first and second quarters of 2017 are showing signs of growth across all travel segments, according to new data from TravelClick's February 2017 North American Hospitality Review (NAHR).

"Even though only 44 percent of North American markets are showing committed occupancy* increases compared to a month ago, ADR is growing in 21 of the top 25 North American markets, up 2.6 percent based on reservations currently on the books," said John Hach, TravelClick's senior industry analyst. "Additionally, both group and transient rates are experiencing an uptick of 3.4 percent and 2.4 percent, respectively compared to last year."

Twelve-Month Outlook (February 2017 – January 2018)

For the next 12 months (February 2017 – January 2018), transient bookings are flat at 0.1 percent year-over-year, and ADR for this segment is up 2.2 percent. When broken down further, the transient leisure (discount, qualified and wholesale) segment is flat at -0.1 percent and ADR is up 1.9 percent. The transient business (negotiated and retail) segment is also flat at -0.8 percent and ADR is up 2.7 percent. Lastly, group bookings are up 1.3 percent in committed room nights over the same time last year, and ADR is up 2.8 percent.

"As hoteliers move into the second quarter of 2017, it's important to keep the following tactics top-ofmind to ensure that they stay ahead of the competition moving forward – maximizing their online presence, promoting their properties across all channels and leveraging business intelligence to maximize revenue per available room (RevPAR) within local markets," added Hach. "All of these proactive marketing initiatives will allow hoteliers to push through the flattening booking pace and stay strong well into the remainder of the year."

	First Quarter 2017		
**	ADR	Reserved Occupancy	RevPAR
All Travel Segments	+ 2.3%	- 0.9%	+ 1.4%
Group Only	+ 3.6%	+ 0.8%	+ 4.4%
GUEST Transient Only Business +Leisure	+ 1.7%	- 1.6%	+ 0.1%
Transient Business	+ 2.2%	- 2.9%	- 0.7%
Transient Leisure	+ 1.3%	- 1.0%	+ 0.3%

Se	cond Quarter 2017	,
	ADR	Committed Occupancy*
All Travel Segments	+ 3.4%	+ 1.8%
Group Only	+ 2.2%	+ 0.1%
GUEST Transient Only Business + Leisure	+ 3.6%	+ 7.7%
Transient Business	+ 4.5%	+ 3.7%
Transient Leisure	+ 3.4%	+ 8.9%

The February NAHR looks at group sales commitments and individual reservations in the 25 major North American markets for hotel stays that are booked by February 1, 2017, from the period of February 2017 – January 2018.

*Committed Occupancy – (Transient rooms reserved + group rooms committed) / capacity The first quarter combines historical data (January) and forward looking data (February – March).

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