# **Paris – A Spectacular** Start to the Recovery

May 2022 MARKET PULSE



## MARKET PROFILE

Tourism in Paris was heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions, at a time when the market was recovering from terrorist attacks (2015/16), the yellow-vest movement (2018/19) and transportation strikes (2019). However, the strong government support combined with the city's worldwide appeal have resulted in a dynamic rebound for the tourism sector. The easing of travel restrictions and successful vaccination rollout in France and across Europe have allowed a rise in tourist numbers from June 2021, resulting in a substantial market bounce in the second half of the year, in line with the country's economic growth. Paris has remained one of the most desirable destinations for hotel investment for more than a decade thanks to strong economic and tourism fundamentals.

## **TOURISM DEMAND**

Overall visitation to Paris is robust and has remained broadly stable at between 15 million and 16.5 million until 2016, which marked the backlash of the 2015/16 terrorist attacks. From 2017 to 2019, demand strongly recovered, with 2019 being a record year in terms of tourist arrivals: challenges such as the yellow-vest movement, the heatwave in June and transportation strikes were counterbalanced by successful international events and strong growth in domestic arrivals. As with the rest of the world, tourism demand dropped significantly from March 2020 following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, compared to other gateway markets, Paris experienced a strong rebound in demand from June 2021, supported by the well-balanced customer mix, the diversified demand sources and the broad seasonality of the market. A recovery initially driven by domestic and European leisure customers is being further supported by the slow but continued return of face-to-face events, which are expected to gain momentum from mid-2022. Furthermore, the hosting of the Rugby World Cup in 2023 and of the Olympic Games in 2024 are expected to crystalise the recovery of international tourism to prepandemic levels.



## **ECONOMIC INDICATORS – FRANCE**



Source: IMF

## VISITATION AND ACCOMMODATED BEDNIGHTS (000s)



\* Data not available from January to July and in November and December. \*\* Data not available from January to April.

Source: Paris Tourism Office; INSEE

#### **KEY METRICS**



### HOTEL PERFORMANCE

- The overall Paris hotel market recorded a 4% compound annual growth rate in RevPAR between 2009 and 2019, mainly driven by an increase in average rates as the result of the increasing share of international guests and the move further upmarket of Paris's hotel supply (discussed below);
- The steep decline in performance following the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic remains more modest than for other European capitals. The recovery from the second half of 2021 demonstrates the market's resilience, with RevPAR reaching around 50% of 2019 levels in 2021 compared to approximatively 20% in Amsterdam or 30% in Brussels.

#### HOTEL SUPPLY

The Parisian hotel market has undergone a major shift upmarket over the lastten years, as the proportion of upscale and luxury hotels increased and that of non-classified and budget hotels remained flat or even decreased. As of early 2022, Paris had 1,585 hotels providing some 84,000 rooms. Among the high-profile openings in 2021 were the 149-room Kimpton St Honoré Paris (August), the 72-room Cheval Blanc Paris (September), the 82-room Madame Rêve (October), the 76-room Bulgari Paris (November), and the first Soho House in France, offering 36 rooms and opened in September.

Going forward, Paris has a reasonable pipeline of 3,600 rooms coming to market in the next five years, representing around 4% of existing supply. The five-star hotel segment is expected to be challenged, as 900 rooms in this category are forecast to enter the market by 2024, representing 11% of the five-star room stock. New hotel openings include the first SO/ brand hotel (Accor) in July 2022 as part of the Morland Mixite Capital mixed-used development and the 139-room Tours Duo MGallery (Accor) on floors 17-27 of a new-build tower in Paris's 13th arrondissement, expected to open in Spring 2022.

The modest hotel pipeline combined with a reasonable existing hotel supply should allow the city to capitalise on the additional demand from the Olympic Games in 2024, whilst at the same time limiting post-Olympic adjustments in performance, as experienced in markets with a large pipeline leading into the event. The outlook for this market is, in our opinion, very strong.

## **INVESTMENT MARKET**

The Paris market has remained amongst the core hotel investment destinations across Europe, with prices being pushed to record levels despite performance being impacted by a series of challenging events since 2015/16. However, since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, investor appetite has tended to move towards non-mature markets where there are potential distressed assets while prices in Paris have remained

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HVS London 7-10 Chandos Street London W1G 9DQ, UK Sophie Perret, MRICS Senior Director sperret@hvs.com +44 20 7878 7722 at their highest. At the same time, asset liquidity has been undermined by lenders' reluctance to finance hospitality.

For the latest value trends, please refer to our annual European Hotel Valuation Index (HVI), which showed that Paris maintains – by a significant margin – the highest value per room compared to other European markets.

## OUTLOOK

Paris remains one of the most popular destinations in Europe, both for tourists and investors. The pandemic has proved the resilience of the market, with no asset sold at a discount price, and once again the highest price per room in our HVI. Performance recorded in the second half of 2021 suggests that the hotel market could recover much earlier than expected, especially with the 2023 Rugby World Cup and 2024 Olympic Games. The main uncertainty lies in the ability of the industry to absorb the cost explosion resulting from the pandemic, the subsequent wage negotiation and the war in Ukraine.

#### HOTEL PIPELINE

Property	Rooms	Opening
Hilton Paris Tour Eiffel	118	Sep-22
SO/ Paris Morland	161	Sep-22
Tours Duo Paris MGallery	139	Sep-22
Greet Paris Hippodrome de Vincennes	109	Oct-22
Zoku Paris	109	Oct-22
Hilton Garden Inn La Villette	92	Oct-22
1 Hotel	163	Jun-23
Canopy by Hilton Paris Quartier Latin	150	Nov-23
Lyf Gambetta Paris	139	2024
SO/ Paris Champs-Elysees	101	2024
Tour Triangle Hotel	150	2026

Source: HVS Research

#### HOTEL TRANSACTIONS

			Estimated	Per Room
Property	Rooms	Sale Date	Price (€)	(€)
Hotel Residence Villiers	35	Oct-21	Undisc	losed
Hôtel du Roi René	30	Oct-21	Undisc	losed
Livelyfhere Gambetta Paris (forward sale)	139	Aug-21	52,300,000	376,000
Timhotel Paris Berthier	253	Jul-21	73,000,000	289,000
JJW Paris Hotels Portfolio (four properties)	198	Jun-21	105,300,000	530,000
Hotel Astrid Paris	40	Jun-21	16,000,000	400,000
Standard Design Hotel	37	Apr-21	Undisc	losed
Le Tsuba	82	Dec-20	43,000,000	524,000
Mercure Gobelins Place d'Italie	60	Sep-20	20,700,000	345,000
Hotel Reason	105	Jul-20	42,800,000	408,000
Royal Hotel	56	May-20	Undisc	losed

Source: HVS Research

#### VALUE TRENDS



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