A ROCKY START TO THE YEAR MARKET PULSE

SEPTEMBER 2019





MARKET PROFILE

Since our previous article in April 2018, the business environment in France has experienced positive change with a decrease in unemployment rate and an increase in purchasing power, following the 'gilets jaunes' disruption. The Economist Intelligence Unit forecasts modest GDP growth to pick up to around 1.5% for the foreseeable future. In terms of tourism, Paris enjoys an exceptionally well-balanced mix of business and leisure demand, which allows the City of Lights to have both a broad seasonality and strong average rate. Paris has remained, alongside London, one of the two most desirable destinations for hotel investment for more than a decade.

TOURISM DEMAND

Visitation to Paris is robust and has remained broadly static at 15-16.5 million over the past ten years. After the terrorist attacks in France in 2015-16, figures for 2017 indicated a recovery and 2018 saw a further increase in visitation thanks to the international market (accounting for approximately 60%), especially with the return of US visitors – the number one source country – and thanks to city-wide events such as the 2018 Ryder Cup. However, the end of 2018 and first months of 2019 were challenged by the 'gilets jaunes' movement. The scenes of violence relayed by the media caused considerable harm to the destination. Visitation and bednights from the Middle East, Asia and South America decreased in the first quarter of 2019. The second quarter of 2019 showed signs of recovery in hotel demand thanks to the Women's Football World Cup and the Paris Air Show.

HOTEL PERFORMANCE

- After the terrorist attacks in 2015, the performance of hotels in Paris fully recovered in terms of RevPAR in 2018, but didn't reach the 2012 occupancy peak in the high 80%s. Occupancy suffered at the start of 2019, especially in the luxury market with the decrease in international visitors;
- The average rate in Paris was the main driver of the recovery, but still a long way from the 2012 peak. Paris's average rate performance remains, however, at the top end in Europe. RevPAR showed double-digit growth in 2018, but was subdued in the first half of 2019.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS – FRANCE



Sources: Economist Intelligence Unit; OECD

VISITATION (000s)



Source: Paris Tourism Office





Source: HVS Research

*Sample of approx. 15,600 rooms

HOTEL SUPPLY

The supply of rooms in high-end hotels in Paris increased significantly since 2012. As of the end of 2018, Paris had 1,600 hotels providing some 82,500 rooms. In 2018, hotel openings included the repositioned 128-room Hotel Lutetia; the 54-room Fauchon, known worldwide for its high-end food store; the 76-room Hôtel de Berri, a Luxury Collection Hotel; and the first Motel One in Porte Dorée with 255 rooms. In the first half of 2019, Paris saw the opening of the 25hours Hotel Terminus Nord, the first JO&JOE Paris-Gentilly and the reopening of the 164-room Hotel du Louvre (Hyatt).

Going forward, Paris has a fairly substantial pipeline with more than 6,800 rooms (8% of existing supply) coming to market in the next five years, with the most relevant shown in the table opposite. Luxury and fivestar properties are likely to feel the most pressure, as a third of the new supply falls into this category. Around half of the new supply will be located outside of central Paris. Since our previous article, new hotel opening announcements include the first Canopy by Hilton in Trocadero (123 rooms) at the end of 2020 and the 210room CR7 Hotel Paris in 2021.

INVESTMENT MARKET

Paris's hotel investment market has remained liquid and sought-after, despite the recent turmoil. French REIT Gecina sold its entire portfolio of five hotels to Angelo Gordon and EQ Group for €181 million (€222,000 per room) in June 2019. In 2018, the most significant single hotel transaction was The Westin Paris – Vendôme, sold by Singapore sovereign wealth fund GIC to Henderson Park for €550 million (€1.3 million per room, the highest value per key European transaction in 2018). For the latest value trends, please refer to our annual *European Hotel Valuation Index*, which showed that Paris maintains by a significant margin the highest value per room compared to other European markets.

OUTLOOK

Paris remains a favourite for investors with no discounts having been factored into acquisitions, despite challenging events over the last few years. Paris is still one of the most attractive markets in Europe and, once again, achieved the highest price per room in our HVI. The general resilience and strong fundamentals of the Paris market have led us to consider that a continued improvement in performance can be expected for the rest of 2019, despite a rocky start to the year. The organisation of large events such as the 2023 Rugby World Cup and the 2024 Summer Olympic Games will certainly help maintain, and even improve, Paris's strong performance.

HOTEL PIPELINE

Property	Room	s Opening
25hours Hotel Terminus Nord	236	Recently Opened
Hotel du Louvre, The Unbound Collection by Hyatt (Reopening)	165	Recently Opened
JO&JOE Hotel Gentilly	240	Recently Opened
J.K. Place Rive Gauche Paris	30	Nov 2019
Hilton Garden Inn Paris Orly Airport	125	Nov 2019
Maison Albar Paris Vendôme	51	Jan 2020
Cheval Blanc Samaritaine Paris	72	Apr 2020
Hyatt Place Paris Charles De Gaulle Airport	309	Jul 2020
Hyatt House Paris Charles De Gaulle Airport	121	Jul 2020
OKKO HOTELS Paris Montparnasse	146	Jul 2020
Canopy by Hilton Paris Trocadero	123	Sep 2020
Courtyard by Marriott Paris Creteil	112	Dec 2020
Kimpton Hotel Paris Opera	149	Q4 2020
Hilton Garden Inn Porte de la Villette	94	Jan 2021
Hilton Paris Eiffel Tower	118	Q1 2021
InterContinental Paris Le Grand (Refurbishment)	470	Q1 2021
Moxy Paris Marne La Vallée	233	May 2021
The Student Hotel Paris	300	Q2 2021
W Paris Opera (Extension)	50	Oct 2021
Hotel La Poste du Louvre	82	Q1 2022
Four-Star Hotel Paris Quartier Latin	150	Q1 2022
SO Sofitel Paris Champs Elysees	102	Q1 2022
CR7 Paris	210	Q4 2023

Source: HVS Research

HOTEL TRANSACTIONS

Property	Sale Date	Rooms	Estimated Price (€)	Per Room (€)	
Staycity Courbevoie (forward sale)	Jul 2019	216	73,000,000	338,000	
Gecina Hotels Portfolio (5 Hotels)	Jun 2019	814	181,000,000	222,000	
Mama Shelter La Defense	Apr 2019	211	Undisclosed		
ibis Paris Tour Montparnasse 15eme	Jan 2019	45	Undisclosed		
ibis Styles Paris Montmartre Nord	Jan 2019	46	Undisclosed		
Phileas Hotel Gare Saint Lazare	Dec 2018	39	5,300,000	136,000	
Hotel Lancaster	Nov 2018	56	Undisclosed		
Westin Paris	Oct 2018	428	550,000,000	1,285,000	
66 Champs-Elysees - 128 Boetie	Jun 2018	109	80,000,000	734,000	
Motel One Porte Dorée (forward sale)	Jan 2018	255	Undisclosed		

Source: HVS Research

VALUE TRENDS



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