

Equity Research Report February 28, 2024

**CONSUMER: Lodging** 

#### C. Patrick Scholes

212-319-3915 Patrick.Scholes@truist.com

# **Gregory J. Miller**

212-303-4198 Gregory.J.Miller@truist.com

#### Samuel Durno

212-303-4183 Samuel.Durno@truist.com

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# Reasons for this report

✓ Our analysis of the most recent weekly China and Europe lodging results

# Int'l hotels' RevPAR last week: China -25.1% y/y, Europe +4.2% y/y.

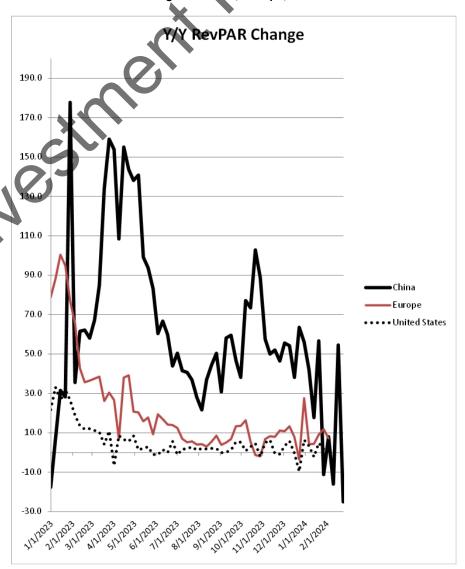
China: Per STR for the week ending February 24th, hotel RevPAR in China in local currency was -25.1% y/y vs. +54.6% y/y in the prior week. Last week's RevPAR was up against a +58.0% y/y comparable result in 2023 and vs. +62.1% y/y in the prior week.

We believe the volatility in week-over-week results for the past several weeks was due to the y/y comparisons around the Lunar New Year.

**Europe:** RevPAR in Europe in Euros was +4.2% y/y vs. +5.1% in the prior week. Last week's RevPAR was up against a +35.7% comparable result in 2023 and +42.7% in the prior week.

Overall U.S. RevPAR was -2.9% y/y for the week ending 2/24/2024, per STR, below the prior week's result of +1.6 y/y% and below the trailing 10-week average of +0.7%.

Exhibit 1: Y/Y RevPAR Change for China, Europe, US



Source: STR, Truist Securities Research

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#### RevPAR detail for week ending February 24th vs. trailing 28 days (see charts at end of note for graphical representations):

#### China (local currency):

- RevPAR was -25.1% y/y for the week ending February 24th, lower than the +5.4% for the trailing 28 days.
- ADR was +0.8% y/y for the week ending February 24th, lower than the +24.1% for the trailing 28 days.
- Occupancy was -25.7% y/y for the week ending February 24th, lower than the -15.0% for the trailing 28 days.

#### Europe (in Euros):

- RevPAR was +4.2% y/y for the week ending February 24th, **lower than** the +6.7% for the trailing 28 days.
- ADR was +1.6% y/y for the week ending February 24th, lower than the +3.6% for the trailing 28 days.
- Occupancy was +2.5% y/y for the week ending February 24th, lower than the +2.9% for the trailing 28 days.

#### EBITDA and rooms exposure by region:

EBITDA: Hyatt (H, Buy), InterContinental (IHG, NR), and Marriott (MAR, Hold) are among the Lodging C-corps that have the greatest exposure to Europe and Asia. From Europe, MAR generates approximately 15% of EBITDA, IHG 15%, Wyndham (WH, Buy) less than 5%, H roughly 5%, and Hilton (HLT, Hold) 10% each. Of these companies, H and MAR have the greatest exposure to Asia (~10-20% of EBITDA). HLT is approximately 10%. Each of the other companies generates 5% to 10% of EBITDA from the Asia-Pacific region. Following the Apple Leisure Group acquisition, H has a relatively high ~25% exposure to the Americas ex-US/Canada.

In a normalized environment, Greater China inclusive of Macau and Hong Kong generally represents half of the Asia-Pacific EBITDA from the C-corps.

### Rooms (as of 4Q22; figures may not round to 100%):

- - o Domestic: 80%
- H (includes owned/leased hotels):
- ased hotels):

  as ex-all inclusives: 55%

  Asia-Pacific: 19%

  Europe/Africa/Mid East/SW Asia ex-all inclusives: 14%

  All-inclusives Americas: 8%

  All-inclusives EAME/SW Asia: 4%

  HLT:
  US: 69%

  America

- HLT:

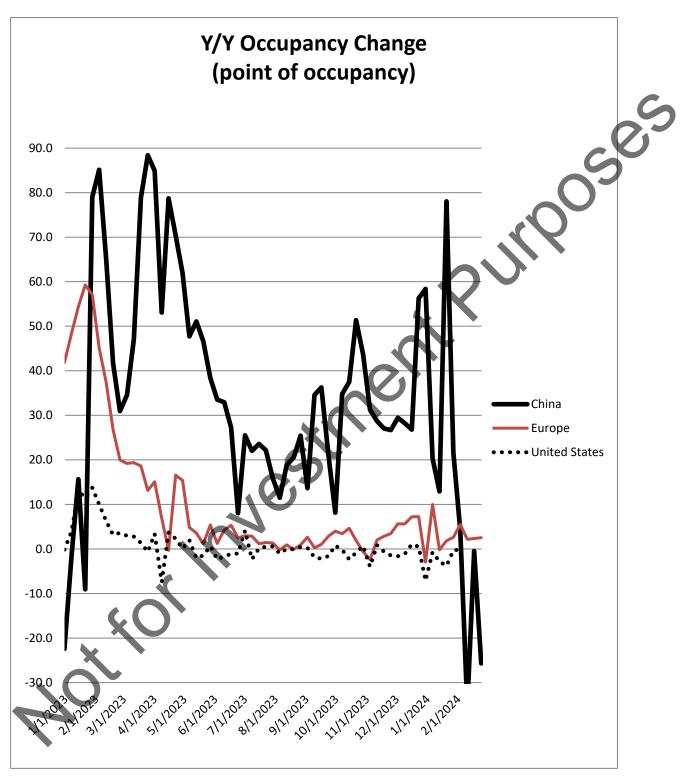
  - o Americas: 6%
  - o Europe: 9%
  - Middle East/Africa: 3%
  - Asia Pacific: 13%
  - Other hotels, likely to be converted to a brand, with no geography noted: 0.3%
- IHG:
  - Americas: 57%

  - reater China
- MAR (ex-timeshare):
  - North America: 64%
  - Europe: 9%
  - Middle East/Africa: 5%
  - Asia Pacific: 18%
  - Caribbean/Latin America ("CALA"): 4%
- WH:
  - o US: 59%
  - o Canada: 5%
  - Greater China: 19%

- o Rest of Asia: 4%
- o Europe/Middle East/Africa: 9%
- o Latin America: 5%

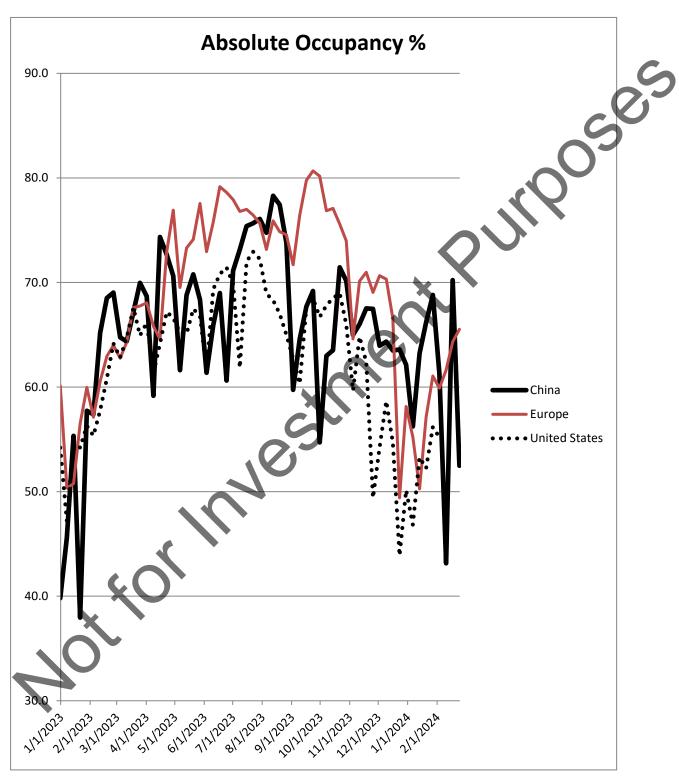
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Exhibit 2: Y/Y Occupancy change for China, Europe, US



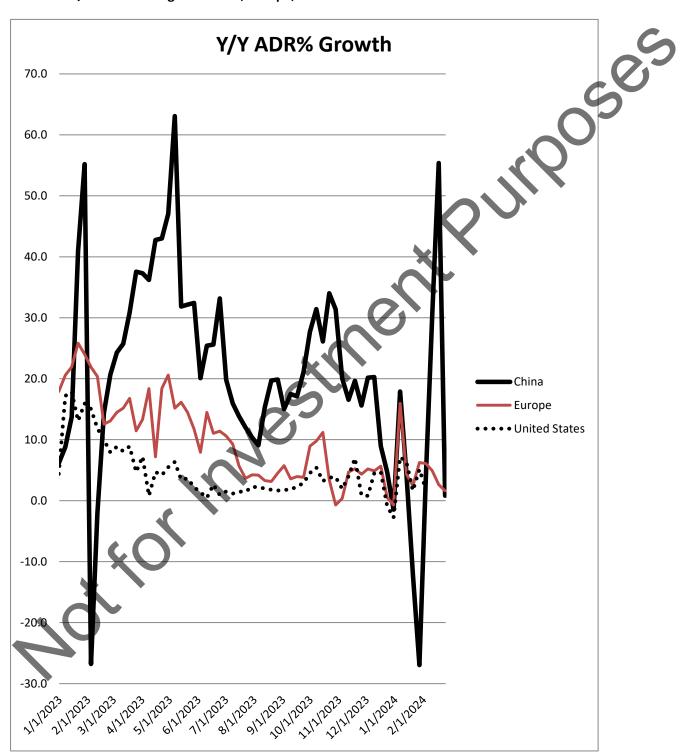
Source: STR, Truist Securities research

Exhibit 3: Absolute Occupancy % for China, Europe, US



Source: STR, Truist Securities research

Exhibit 4: Y/Y ADR % change for China, Europe, US



Source: STR, Truist Securities research

#### H: Valuation and Risks

Our price target of \$143 is derived by applying a 14.2x target EV/EBITDA multiple (a blended average of the industry multiples for each business segment) to our estimate for 2024 EBITDA. Our sum-of-the-parts analysis on our 2024 segment multiple assumptions include (12.5x owned EBITDA u/c, 16x fees EBITDA u/c) and other segments/ALG (10-12x, u/c).

Risks to our rating and price target: Lodging recovery takes longer than expected. Planned dispositions take longer than expected. Material labor issues to owned hotels. Regional risks to the Caribbean including material new competitive supply growth. H pipeline growth slower than expected. Apple Leisure Group underperforms Hyatt's guidance.

#### MAR: Valuation and Risks

Our \$263 price target is based on a 16.7x blended multiple on our 2025E EBITDA. In the parts, we assign a 13.0x multiple of EBITDA to the Owned segment and 17.0x fees EBITDA (the fees EBITDA also includes credit card branding fees, a 10x multiple business) to the managed/franchised business. The multiple is towards the higher end of the historical range of 9-18x.

Risks to our rating and price target:

Upside Risks: Significant U.S macroeconomic improvement results in large recovery in transient corporate and group/convention demand. Owned assets sell for premium prices relative to MAR expectations. Supply growth is stronger than expectations. Consolidation in the lodging industry benefits MAR.

Downside Risks: Deep macroeconomic recession. Geopolitical, inflation, and policy risks negatively impact lodging demand. Inability to grow pipeline in line with Street expectations.

#### WH: Valuation and Risks

Our price target of \$105 for WH is based on a 15.0x target EV/EBITDA multiple (in line with portfolio quality/RevPAR relative to peers) of our 2025 EBITDA estimate.

Risks to our rating and price target: Slowdown in development opportunities. Macro demand/pipeline headwinds.

#### **CHH: Valuation and Risks**

Our price target of \$142 for CHH is derived by applying a 14.0x target EV/EBITDA multiple (slightly above industry average and in the midpoint of CHH's historical trading multiple range) to our estimate for 2025 EBITDA.

Risks to our rating and price target include: Upside risks: conservative guidance, if the economy performs better than expected, outperformance by Radisson. Downside risks: slowdown in development opportunities, high construction costs, newly created brands grow slower than expectations, and underperformance by Radisson.

## **HLT: Valuation and Risks**

We apply a blended multiple of 16.8x (11.5x for Owned/leased and 17.0x for Managed/franchised) to our 2025 adjusted EBITDA estimate to derive a price target of \$199. This multiple is above the high end of the historical range of 10x-16x which we view as appropriate based on current trading fundamentals/flight to quality consumer stocks.

Risks to our rating and price target:

Upside risks include: Higher than expected pipeline growth, material RevPAR growth (macroeconomic improvement beyond expectations), material market share gains.

Downside risks include: Growth trajectory could disappoint. Pipeline growth could either slow down or projects scheduled for construction could be canceled, which would diminish system growth for the firm and disappoint investors.

#### **Companies Mentioned in This Note**

Choice Hotels International, Inc. (CHH, \$112.17, Hold, C. Patrick Scholes) Hyatt Hotels Corporation (H, \$151.47, Buy, C. Patrick Scholes) Hilton Worldwide Holdings Inc. (HLT, \$203.59, Hold, C. Patrick Scholes) Marriott International, Inc. (MAR, \$249.03, Hold, C. Patrick Scholes) Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Inc. (WH, \$77.50, Buy, C. Patrick Scholes) InterContinental (IHG, Not Rated)

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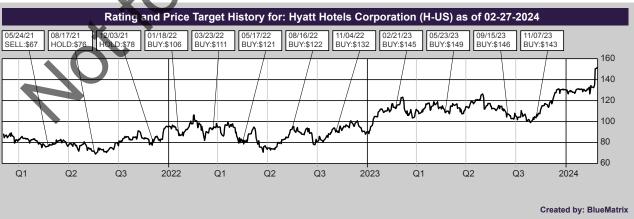
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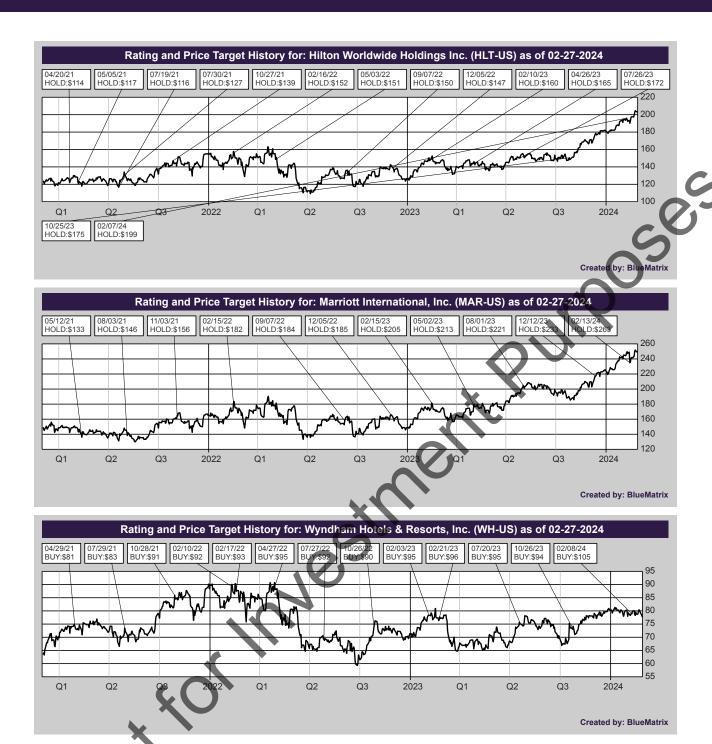
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#### **Legend for Rating and Price Target History Charts:**

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D = Drop Coverage

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