# Revenue Management Strategies for Tours & Activities

Lessons from the hospitality industry



Host: Nicole Kow
Customer Research & Product Marketing Lead
TrekkSoft



#### **Guest Speakers**

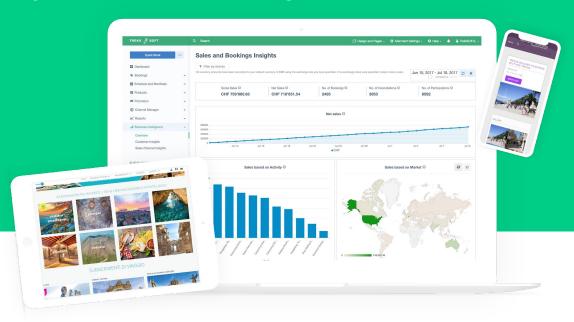


Amrita Makkar
Director of Revenue
The Standard Hotels



Olan O'Sullivan
CEO
TrekkSoft

# TrekkSoft is the #1 booking system for day tour operators



TrekkSoft's booking tools can help you drive and streamline website bookings for the next season.

#### **Guest Speaker**

#### **Amrita Makkar**

Director of Revenue The Standard Hotels



## "LONDON'S OPENINGS FOR 2019"

THE TELEGRAPH

"A PUNCHY NEW HANGOUT **BRINGING A COOL VIBE TO THE** 





# WHAT WE'LL BE DISCUSSING TODAY

- 1) What is Revenue Management?
- 2) How is RM applied in hotels?
- 3) What you can do as a T&A operator?

### **Any questions?**

Add them in your question box. We will have breaks during the webinar.





What is
Revenue
Management?



It's about selling the right product to the right person for the right price at the right time through the right channels with the best commission efficiency.



# The journey of revenue management in hotels

#### 2012

OTAs **assist hotels** to fill bookings during off-peak season.

Commission rates: 15%-25%

OTA market: 31%

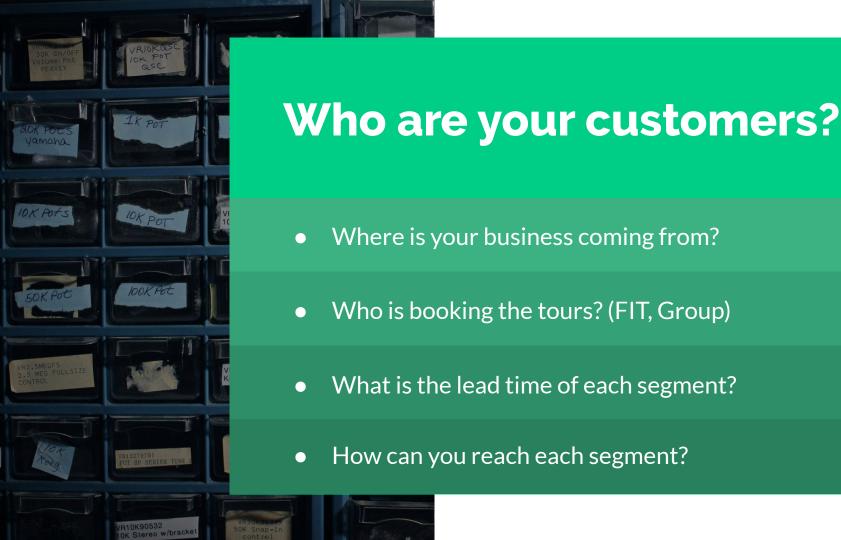
#### 2017

Hotels now **compete** with OTAs for direct bookings.

Commission rates: 18-35%

OTA market: 66%





# Sell at the right price DEAL at the right time Limited time offer!

DYNAMIC PRICING

## **What is Dynamic Pricing?**

- Use historical data to establish trends
  - Get granular with your analysis not only seasons, but months/day of week/time of day
- Offer reduced pricing or add-ons to promote quieter periods
- Higher price for busy periods and key dates
- Volume strategy during low demand vs rate strategy during high demand period



## **Question Break**



Q: In whose interest is yield management and who should it be done by?

From Alex Bainbridge
\_\_\_\_CEO/CTO\_Autoura

**Any questions?** Enter your questions in the chat box on the right.



Sell on the **right channels**with the best commission efficiency

OTAs Vs DIRECT BOOKINGS



#### **OTAs: Friend or foe?**

- We cannot ignore evolution in customer needs and wants online
- Customers have purchasing power and like transparency in pricing
- Understanding the cost of distribution is important
- Do you have enough volume in destination or do you need to reach potential customers overseas?



### OTAs: A necessary evil

#### The "billboard effect":

How can we then ensure that customers stay on our website and book there instead of on an OTA?

#### **Your strategy:**

- Have the best rate strategy direct, incentivise to book direct
- Build direct relationship once the customer has booked on OTA
- Give guest a great stay, personal touch and memorable service
- Improve loyalty and hence direct bookings
- Sell OTA guests an additional service, bring in incremental spend

## **Question Break**



Q: How do you maximize distribution partnerships without letting them cannibalise your own business?

Q: What can tour, attractions & activity providers learn from hotels around balanced channel management strategies?



From Paul Mockler
Head of Commercial Development Fáilte Ireland

# Turn OTA lookers to direct bookers

- Direct bookings
  - Low distribution cost + Enhanced customer loyalty
    - → Retention

- Beat OTAs at their own game
  - Add a "call to action" / incentive / direct only offers
  - Show rate parity (so they won't leave your website)
  - Reward loyalty



# Turn OTA lookers to direct bookers

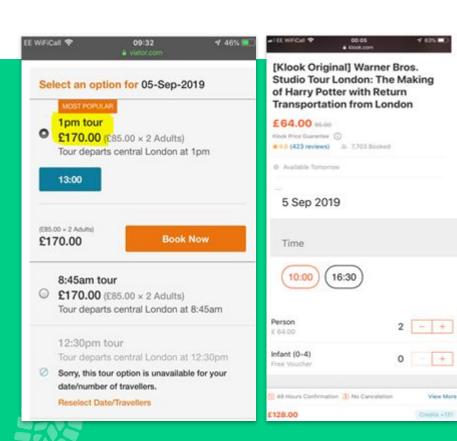
• Have a strong brand, SEO, visibility and marketing

#### Build trust

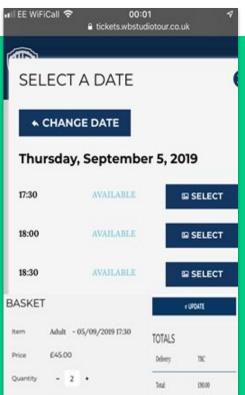
- Have a calendar with live availability and prices
- Make it simple to change or cancelling a booking
- Payment security



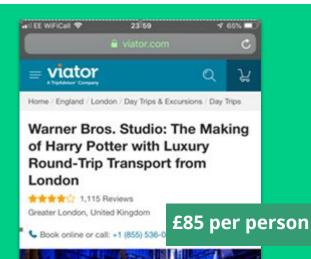
#### Warner bros studio tour

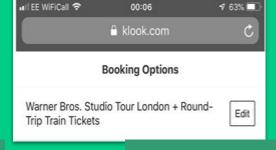






#### Warner bros studio tour - package inclusions





£64 per person





## **Key Takeaways**

- Use revenue management techniques to **plan growth** for your business
- Use OTAs as an **advertisement tool** for customers you can't reach
- The "Billboard effect"
- Make sure your website has a "**hook**" so visitors don't leave
- Reward loyalty custom with direct incentives
- Start **tracking trends** periods, times and key dates

# **Final Question Break**



Q: How do operators retain control of the inevitable move towards revenue management?

From Christian Watts
CEO Magpie Travel

Q: Can RM tools improve operator profits?
What variables truly affect demand?
How would operators with the ability to try
RM do so in a trial scenario?



## **Final Question Break**



**Any questions?** Enter your questions in the chat box on the right.



# Join the conversation

Join Revenue Management for Tour Operators on LinkedIn and get involved with the discussion.



#### & EXAMINE: Website Health Check Sheet

- READ: Introduction to revenue management
- <u>READ: 3 revenue management strategies used by tour operators</u>
- WATCH: How to keep customers coming back for more with Antony Lias from SANDEMANs NEW Europe
- JOIN THE CONVERSATION: Revenue Management for Tour Operator group on LinkedIn

#### Resources

# Thank you!



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