

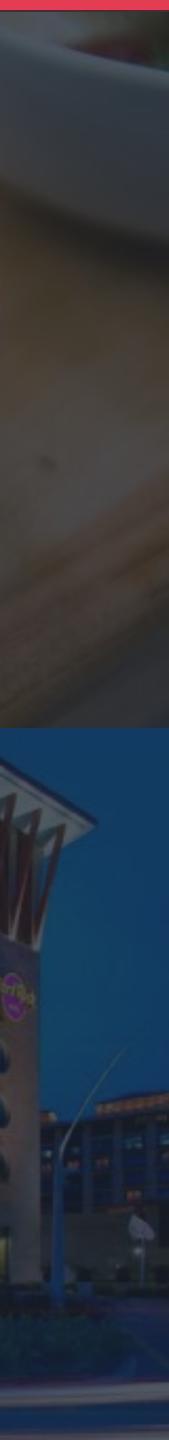
# Mapping the future of Hotel and Restaurant experience

A European Survey on International Guests' expectations





olivier.henry-biabaud@tci-research.com



#### **Report content**

#### **03** Background and methodology Recall of objectives

Data sources and methodology

## **07** Assessing hotel and restaurant guest experience in Europe

Importance of the accommodation & food quality in visitor's experience European hotels and restaurants quality competitiveness Quality competitiveness per hotel category TOP 3 most competitive and at risk markets TOP 3 best-in-class destinations in Europe

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## **29** Mapping future hotel and restaurant international guests' expectations

Overall results

Results per gender and age

Results per market

Typology

#### **54** Conclusions

10 Key take-aways

Annexes : questionnaire





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In this context, HOTREC asked TCI Research to assess the current competitiveness of European hotels and restaurants' experience quality based on guests' satisfaction, as well as to map benefits that travelers would expect from their hotels and restaurants experience in the future.

The reports is therefore divided into two parts:

An assessment of the hotel and restaurant guest experience in Europe, based on the reference UNWTO endorsed TRAVELSAT Competitive Index survey: overall quality, staff hospitality, value for money, diversity... Is Europe hospitality competitive vs global competition? Which source markets are mostly satisfied or at risk? Which European destinations offers the best experience?...

A mapping of future guests' expectations about hotel and restaurant experience: which consumer benefits should the industry deliver tomorrow for attracting more customers?



#### **Background and objectives**

While facing a growing competition from alternative accommodation and food experience types provided to international visitors, the hotel & restaurant industry innovates and constantly needs to adapt to the new consumer paradigm.







#### Methodology, sampling and data collection

#### Part 1: Assessing hotel and restaurant guest experience in Europe

- Data source : TRAVELSAT© Competitive Index Survey, the UNWTO Awarded global standard benchmarking destinations, travel industries and segments based on guest experience.
- Custom analysis of 45 000+ observations in the world and 30 000+ in Europe consolidating 2013-2016 data for 100+ destinations and 40+ outbound markets worldwide.
- European and global Indexes are weighted to reflect actual destinations' sizes in the total arrivals.
- Statistical significance for Total Europe Indexes: +/- 10 points (at 95% confidence level)



#### Part 2: Mapping future hotel and restaurant guests' expectations

- 2000 specific interviews of international travelers from 8 strategic outbound markets to Europe: UK, France, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Italy, US and China (223 to 254 interviews per market).
- Interviews occurred in February 2017 on the TRAVELSAT© Competitive Index Interviewing Platform using Computer Assisted Web Interviewing mode on access panels.
- Statistical significance for market data: 20% +/- 5 points (at 95% confidence level)







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## **The Global Standard**

Measuring Visitor experience Quality

TRAVELSAT Competitive Index<sup>©</sup> is the reference global survey endorsed<sup>(\*)</sup> by the UNWTO. It offers an independent, standard and comparable measurement of visitor experience quality in 200 destinations, markets and travel segment, covering the full visitor journey.

<sup>(\*)</sup> In 2011, TRAVELSAT Competitive Index won the prestigious UNWTO Ulysse Award for Innovation, recognizing the program excellence and relevance for destinations and tourism players.



## **TRAVELSAT©**

At-a-glance



#### A survey endorsed internationally

By several tourism organizations (UNWTO, ETC, ECM, OLACT, CTO...)



#### 80+ destinations using the program

Cities, Regions, Countries and travel players in Europe, Caribbean, North America, MEA, APAC and Indian Ocean.



#### 60+ Indexes covering the full visitor journey

Accommodation, Transportation, Food, Cultural and Leisure activities, Shopping, Safety feeling, Digital hospitality, Landscape, Cleanliness, Price, Hospitality...



#### **200+ destinations, markets and travel segments** Offering unrivalled geo-topic benchmarking possibilities on all segments of travelers.



#### A solid and independent methodology

Capturing reliable data on visitor experience, with detailed competitive performance metrics based on custom benchmarking norms.



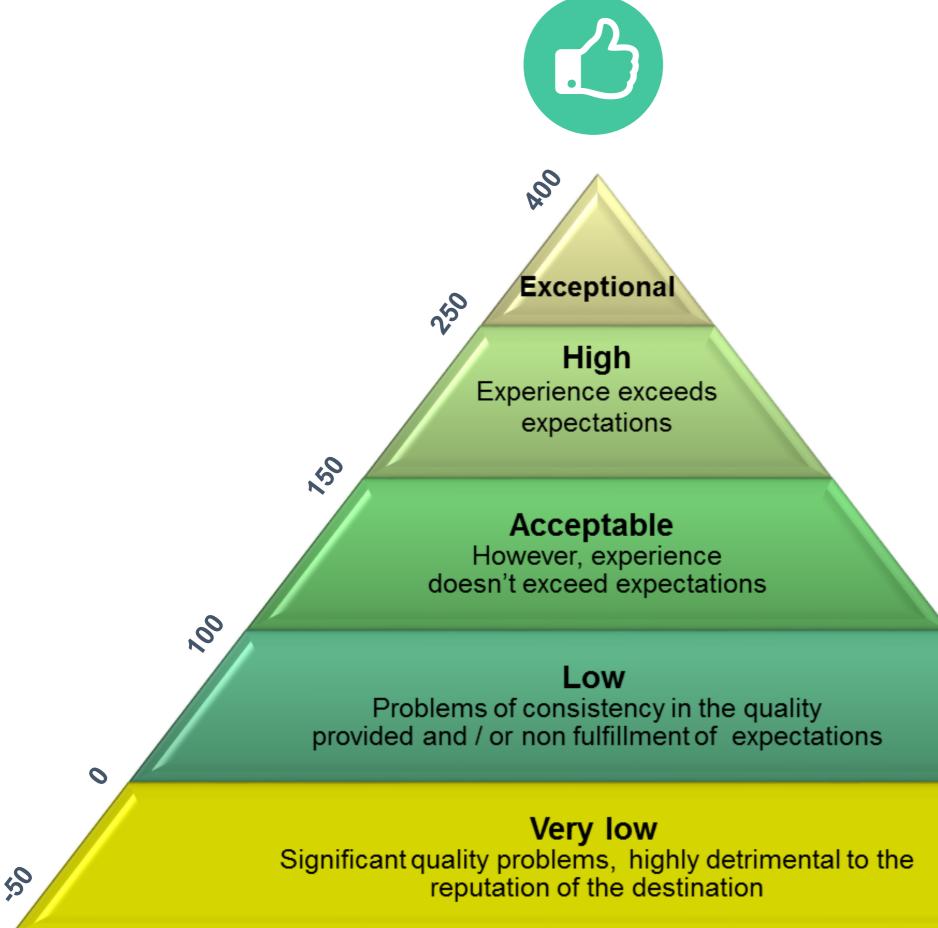








#### **TRAVELSAT Competitive Index**<sup>©</sup> Principles and definition



Indicative interpretation grid – How to read TRAVELSAT Competitive Index



TRAVELSAT© applies a standard proprietary scoring from the 1 to 10 satisfaction rating scale used in the questionnaire.

The index reflects the reputation impact associated with each grade and can usually fluctuate from -50 to 400.

Scores from extremely satisfied or dissatisfied visitors likely to greatly influence the destination reputation are more valued in the scoring Vs arithmetic averages.

The primary purpose of Indexes is to benchmark destinations' experience quality Vs norms and competition.





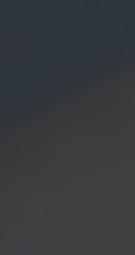








# Part 1: Assessing hotel and restaurant guest experience in Europe

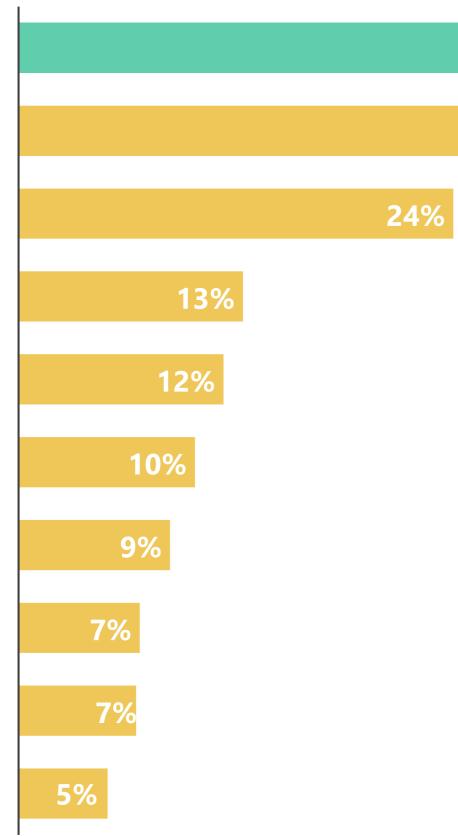




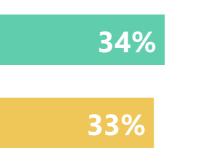
#### Visitor experience is the first driver of destination attractiveness Influencing 1 in 3 destination choice in Europe

#### What mostly prompt your decision to choose this destination? (Total Europe)

Friends & relatives recommendation "Must-see" destination Information on Internet Geographical proximity Special offer / cheap deal Article in newspaper/magazine Travel agency recommendation Film shot in the destination Attractive advertising Heard in the TV news







#### A delighted visitor today...

... Recruits new visitors tomorrow,

- ... Shapes the **destination reputation**,
- ... is likely to **spend more**,

... and is more likely to **repeat visit!** 

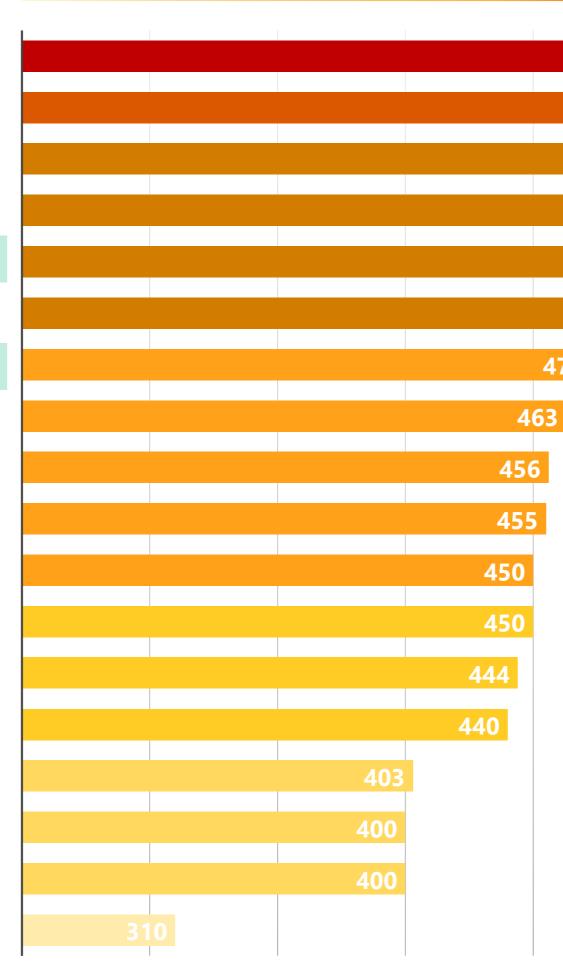


#### Accommodation and Food strongly impact visitors' experience





#### **IMPACT ON DESTINATION EXPERIENCE**



HOSPITALITY OF LOCAL PEOPLE SAFETY FEELING OF SECURITY BEAUTY OF LANDSCAPES CONVENIENCE OF VISIT, CROWD ACCOMMODATION EXPERIENCE CLEANLINESS / ENVIRONMENT FOOD EXPERIENCE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTERS HISTORIC MONUMENTS AND SITES CULTURAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES CULTURAL SHOWS SIGNPOSTING SHOPPING NIGHTLIFE PUBLIC TRANSPORT TAXI SERVICE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE PARKING CONVENIENCE



TOP Factors influencing international visitors' experience

550

510

500

490

490

486

473

#### Essential pillars at destination!

Accommodation and local food play a critical role in shaping international visitors' quality experience at a destination, along with other key influential tangible and intangible factors (safety, environment, locals hospitality...).











# **The Hotel Experience in Europe**











#### Value for money competitiveness challenged by global competition...

Guests' experience with European hotels' overall quality and hospitality has been rated at satisfactory, which is line with global competitive norms. However in international visitors' perceptions of value for money remain significantly below the global average.



HIGH

ACCEPTABLE









#### **Better quality generates higher satisfaction**

Variations per Hotel Categories

#### Europe Quality Indexes according to the hotel category (\*)



<sup>(\*)</sup> Budget, practical hotels with a limited range of facilities and services Intermediate hotels with standard range of services and more formal hospitality Luxury hotels offering the highest quality of accommodation, facilities, services and hospitality



Value for money

European hotels able to meet all ranges of quality demand

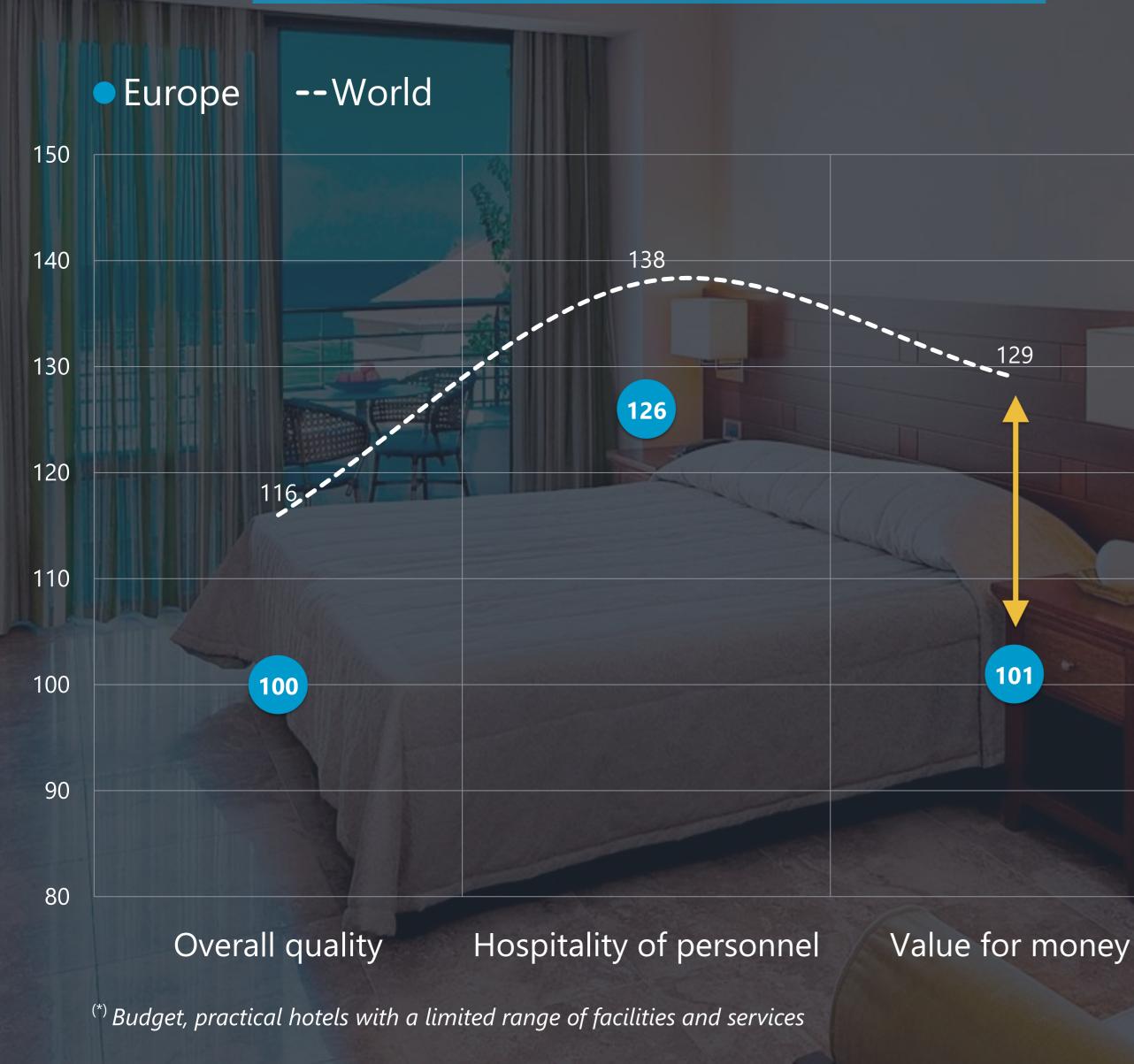
Quality perceptions of hotels in Europe widely increase with the infrastructure category. The higher end hotels receive a more competitive rate of perception of quality than the mid-range or budget hotels, reflecting staff hospitality skill in welcoming luxury travelers.





## **ACCOMMODATION EXPERIENCE**

#### Budget Hotels (\*)



#### Budget hotels' competitiveness at risk!

Budget hotels in Europe **are the most "at risk" in terms of competitiveness**. The global competition provides higher levels of satisfaction on overall quality and staff hospitality, generating a **significant competitive gap in value for money perceptions**.



ACCEPTABLE

LOW



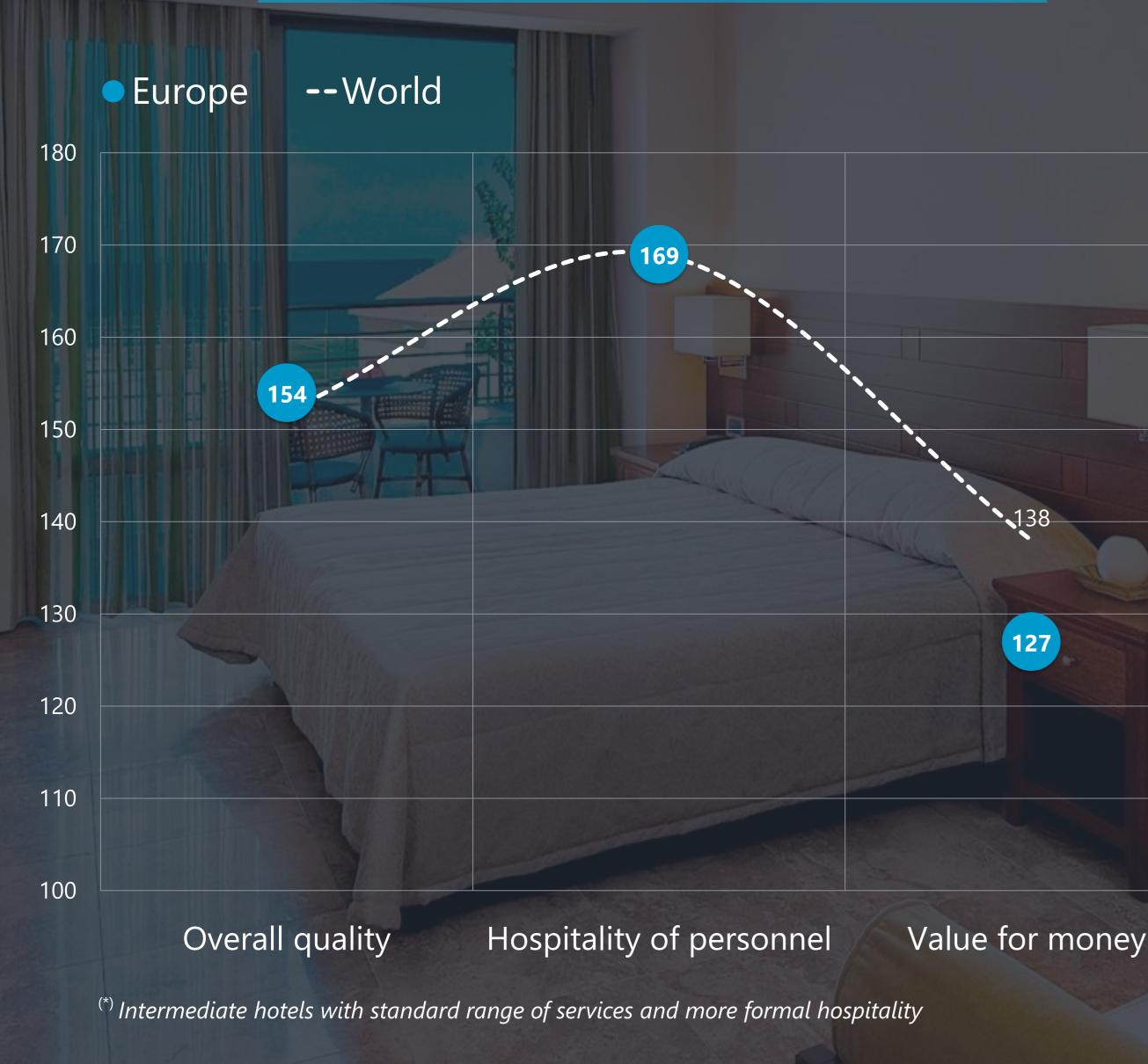


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#### **ACCOMMODATION EXPERIENCE**

#### Middle range Hotels (\*)



#### Middle range hotels stay firmly in the race

Mid range hotels, which are the most popular classification of hotels used by international guests, offers a competitive experience in overall, even if value for money perceptions are slightly rated lower vs norm.



HIGH

CCEPTABLE





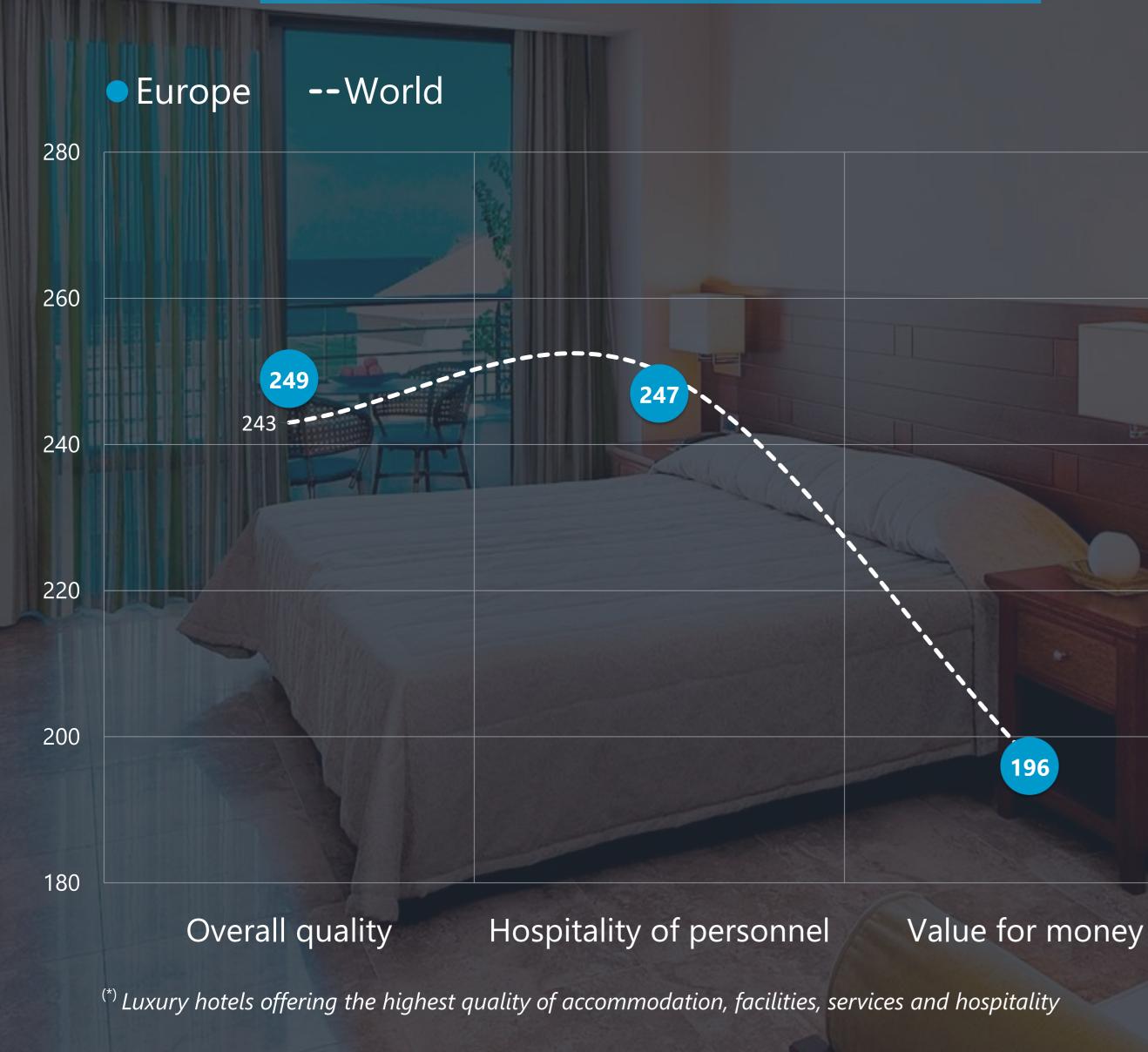






#### **ACCOMMODATION EXPERIENCE**

#### Luxury Hotels (\*)



#### Affluent visitors recognize Luxury hotels excellence

With very high Indexes in line with global norms, **Europe hotels offers a competitive experience to its luxury guests**. High-end hotels received excellent ratings, **including in terms of value for money.** 



EXCEPTIONAL

HIGH







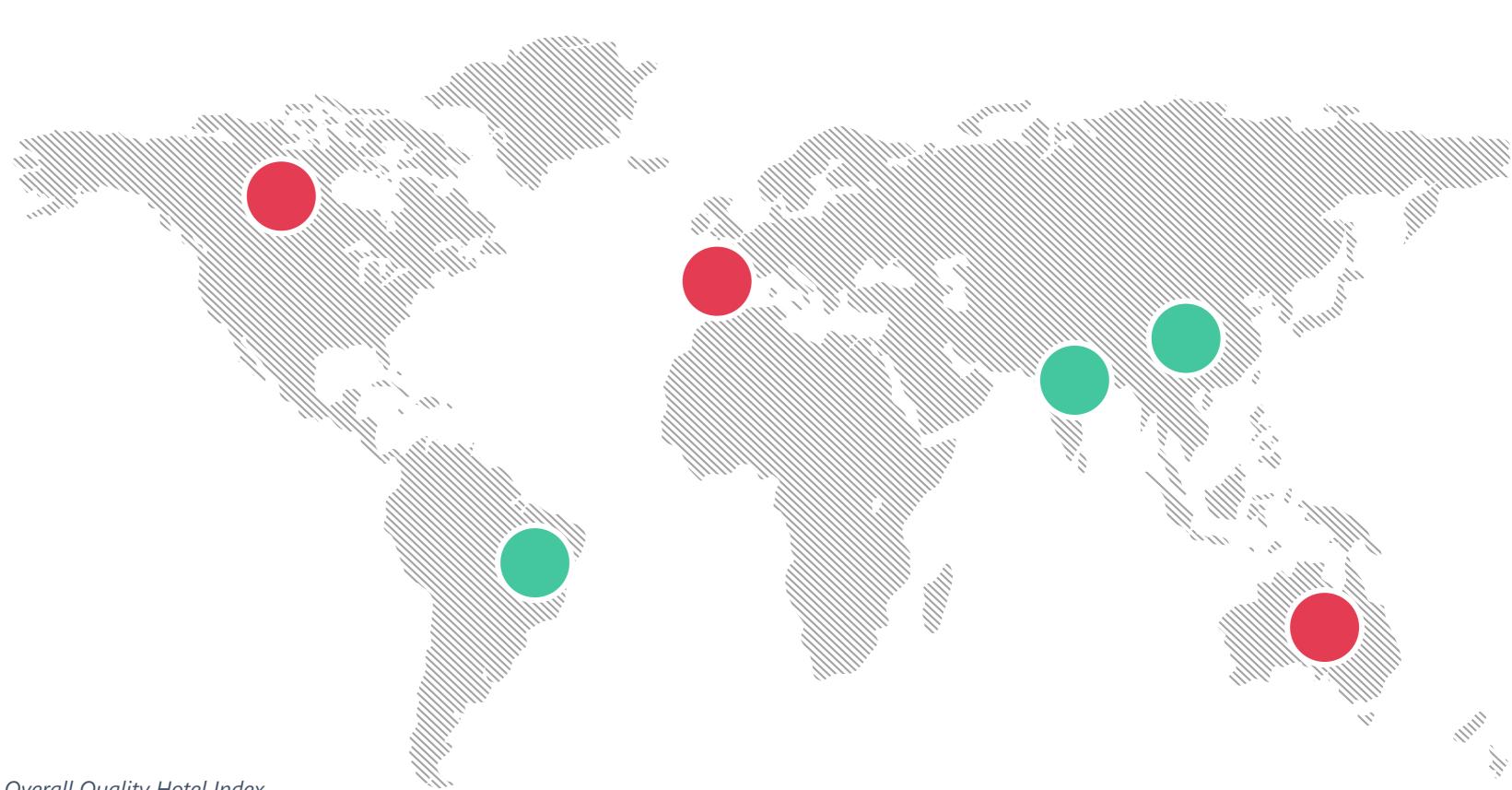


## **Hotel Quality Perception per Market**

Who is Europe offering the best / lowest hotel quality experience to vs Global competition ?

2

TOP 3 Ambassadors		
Brazilians	+51 pts	
Indians	+29 pts	
Chinese	+13 pts	



TOP 3 Detractors		
Spanish	-12 pts	
Australians	-10 pts	
British	-9 pts	

*Competitive Index Gap Europe Vs Global competition for Overall Quality Hotel Index* 



European hotels are particularly competitive on some key long-haul markets, including fast-growing strategic China and India, but is outperformed by the global competition on some key intra-European markets (Spanish and UK).







TOP 3 Ranking in Europe for "*Hotels Overall Quality*"

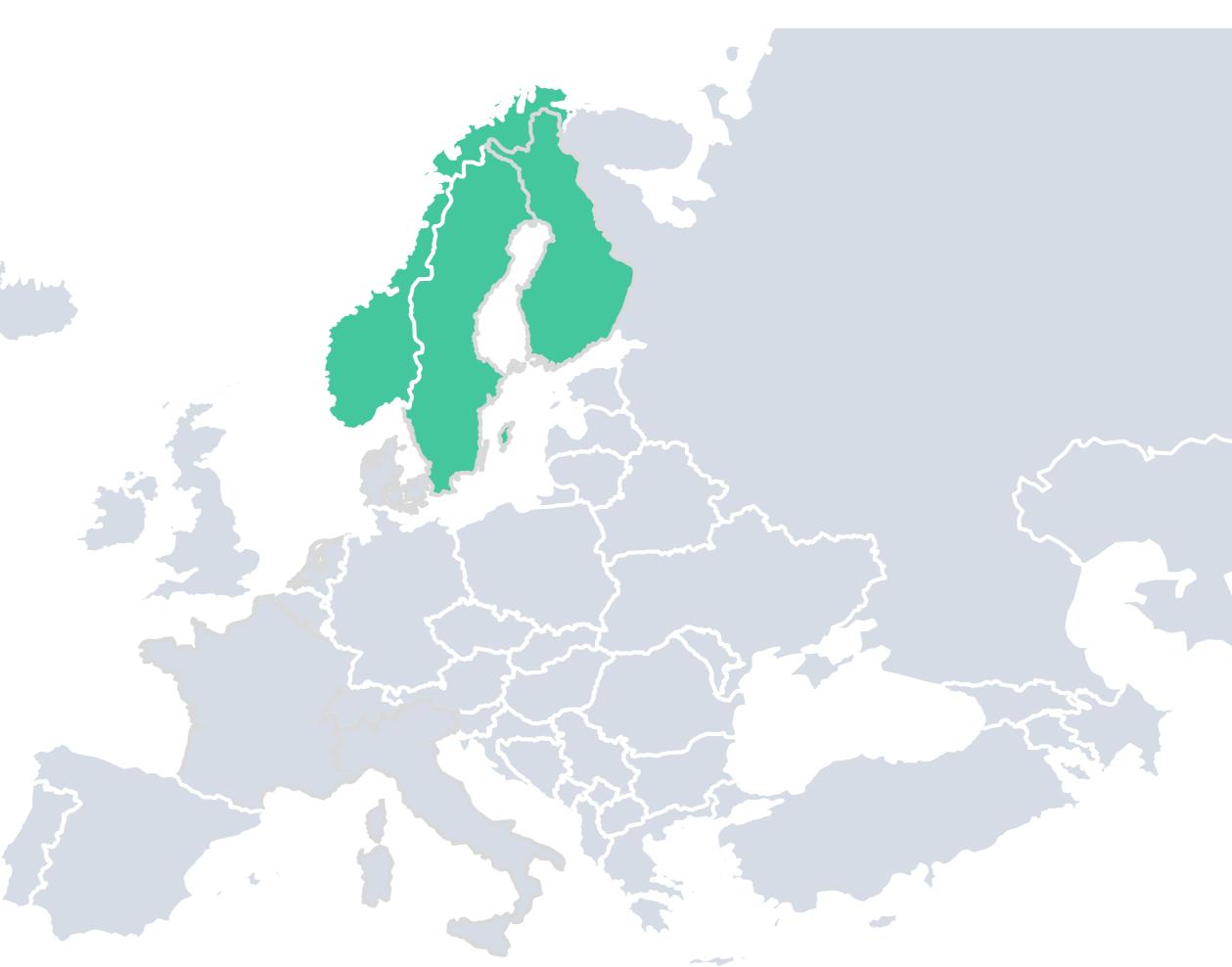
TOP 3 Destinations	Index > 200
Sweden	250
Norway	246
Finland	234



#### Nordics leading the race...

Despite operating in relatively expensive environment for visitors, hotels in Nordic destinations usually generate very positive overall quality rating.









 $\mathbf{\nabla}$ 



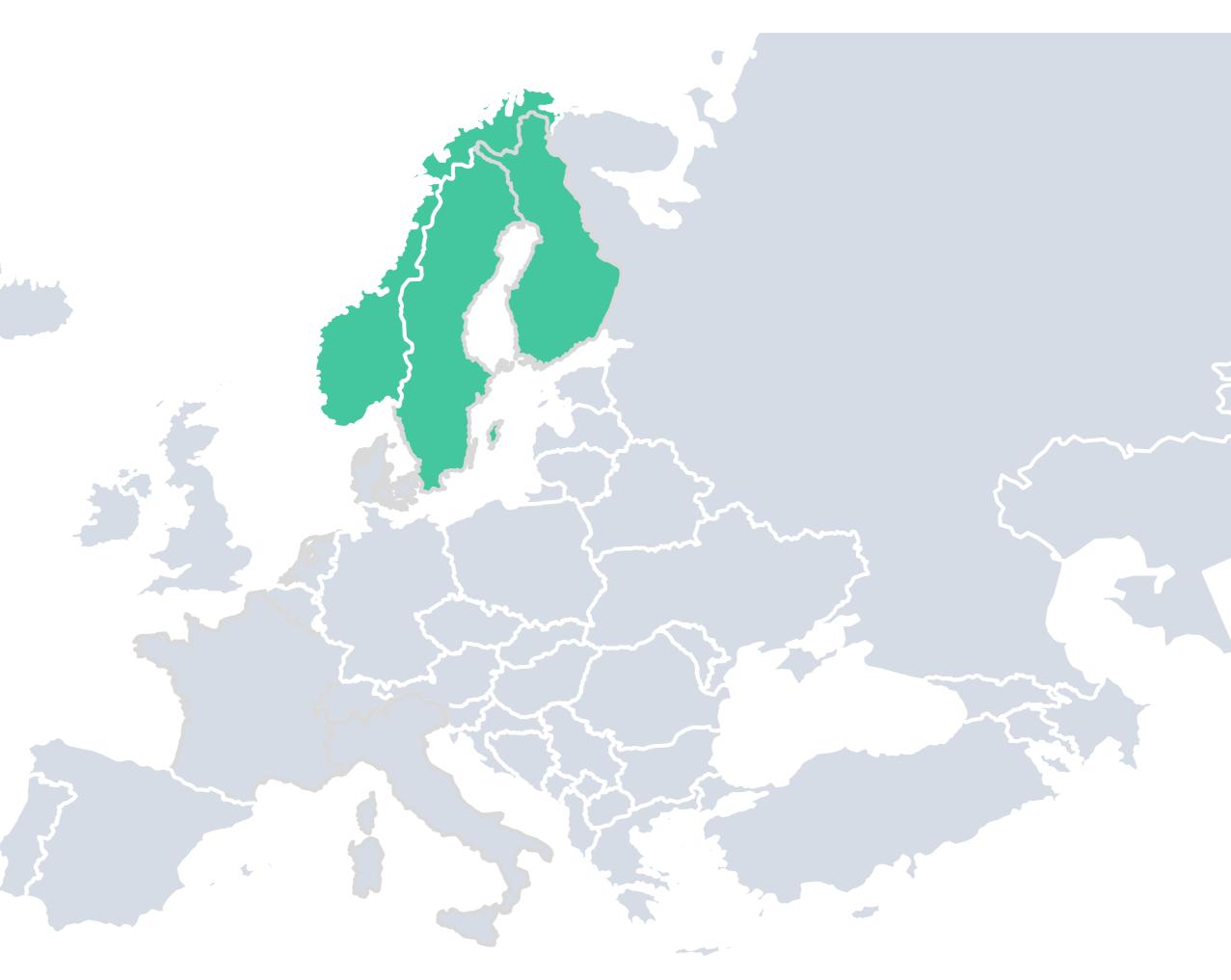
TOP 3 Ranking in Europe for "*Hotel Hospitality of Personnel*"

TOP3 Destinations	Index > 200
Norway	281
Sweden	266
Finland	243



Hotel staffs are rated as highly hospitable in Northern Europe, particularly Scandinavia where best-in-class hospitable staff can be found.











TOP 3 Ranking in Europe for "*Hotels Value for Money*"

TOP 3 Destinations	Index > 150
Bulgaria	212
Cyprus	192
Czech Republic	188



Europe is also able to provide cheap yet valuable hotel experiences in some destinations, in particular those located in Eastern regions or remote islands.





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# **The Food Experience in Europe**







#### LOCAL FOOD EXPERIENCE

--World Europe



#### Scope of progress needed in various facets of the food experience

While Europe offers a competitive overall food quality, it is outperformed by the global competition on diversity perception and staff hospitality.

These gaps weight on the regional value for money competitiveness, a challenge for the mainstream markets who generally look for "good food experience at a good price" during their stay.



144

113













#### LOCAL FOOD EXPERIENCE

#### « Food Tourists » segment

--World Europe



#### Food Tourists segment delighted!

International visitors experience higher rate of satisfaction with Europe's gastronomic activities during their stay (fine cuisine restaurants, cooking classes, wine roads, farm to table experiences...).

By encouraging visitors to explore more of the gastronomic diversity European destinations have to offer, along with highest standard of staff professionalism, the hospitality industry would positively impact value for money perceptions.



176

151





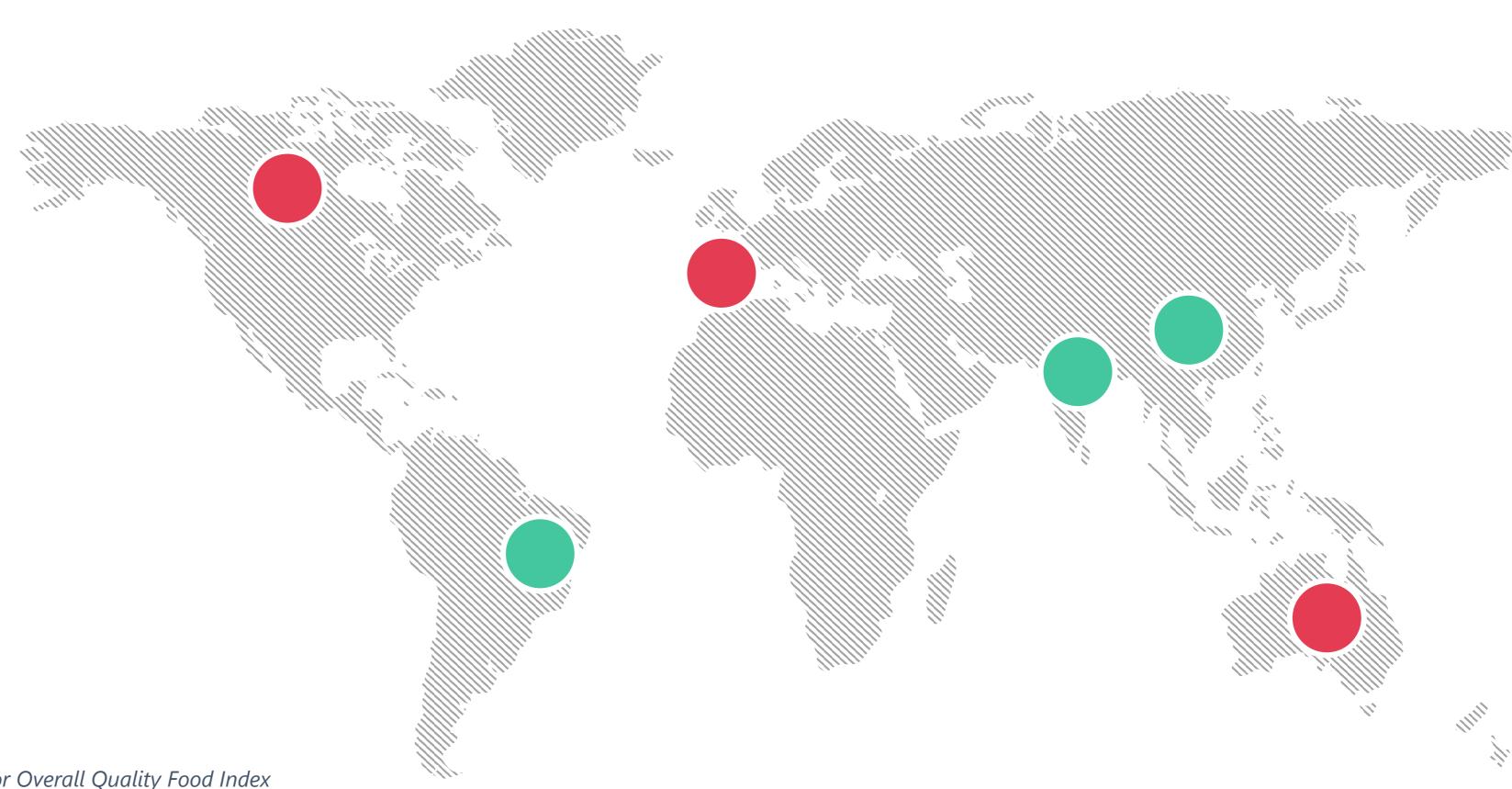




## **Food Quality Perception per Market**

Who is Europe offering the best / lowest food quality to vs Global competition ?

TOP 3 Ambassadors		
Brazil	+27 pt	
India	+25 pts	
Russia	+11 pts	



TOP 3 Detractors	
Australians	-29 pts
Spanish	-18 pts
French	-17 pts

Competitive Index Gap Europe Vs Global competition for Overall Quality Food Index



As for hotels, several long-haul markets particularly enjoy local food in Europe, while some European visitors tend to prefer food experiences outside Europe.







TOP 3 Ranking in Europe for "Local Food overall quality"

TOP 3 Destinations	Index > 180
Sweden	197
Italy	192
Greece	191



In addition to Mediterranean food, which traditionally enjoys a positive reputation, more recent players like Sweden are now driving excellent visitors' culinary experiences too.











TOP 3 Ranking in Europe for "Local Food Diversity"

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TOP 3 Destinations	Index > 150
Turkey	176
Finland	171
Greece	160

#### Diversity from South to North

Destinations in both the South and the North of Europe offer a diversity in food. This shows that food perceptions are subjective and not a fixed characteristics of a region.









TOP 3 Ranking in Europe for "*Restaurants staff hospitality*"

TOP 3 Destinations	Index > 200
Finland	223
Cyprus	223
Ireland	205



#### Hospitality of different kinds

The profile of destinations offering best-in-class restaurant staff hospitality reveals that a genuine and efficient service can come in different forms, reflecting European diversity of experiences.



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TOP 3 Ranking in Europe for "Local food Value for money"

TOP3 Destinations	Index > 200
Bulgaria	229
Poland	207
Turkey	204



Eastern European destinations have good capabilities to provide positive culinary experiences to their international visitors at very affordable cost, which offer competitive advantages for attracting families and budget travelers.





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## **Quality Assessment Summary**

While offering of good guest experience quality, European hotels and restaurants must face a tough global competition...

European hotels and restaurants provide their international guests with a satisfying quality experience overall. The region offers a wide range of options from budget to premium lodging and food experiences, with several destinations exceeding consumers' expectations located in various geographical positions.

However, value for money perceptions in Europe remain at risk on the global scene, both in lodging and food experiences, particularly among budget travelers or visitors with no particular motivation for taking gastronomic activities during their stay.



## **Key Competitive Challenges**

To be taken up by European Hotels and Restaurants



#### **Budget hotels competitiveness "at risk"**

Practical and affordable hotels rating are lower compared to the global average, while the budget travelers segment is dramatically growing internationally.



#### **Focusing again on the mainstream markets**

While many long-haul markets in Europe are delighted, some intra-European volume markets report better experience outside Europe than inside.



#### Improving quality consistency across Europe

Quality, Price and Value perceptions greatly vary across Europe and Markets, making it difficult for visitors to experience a consistent quality when traveling in the region.



#### Not all visitors are Foodies...

Europe seems competitive in delighting Food Tourists, but does not rival the global competition for delivering value for money food options to the "mainstream".



#### **Increasing level of hospitality for impacting value**

By adapting hospitality and services to the new consumer paradigm disrupted by collaborative and peer-to-peer platforms.





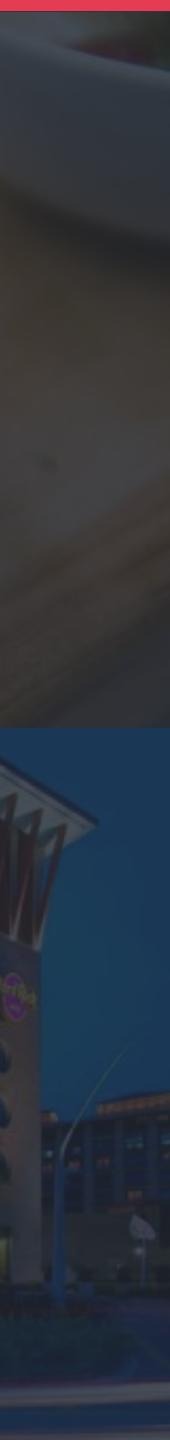








# Mapping future international Hotel & Restaurants Guests' Expectations





# What ideal experiences are expected from hotels in the future?



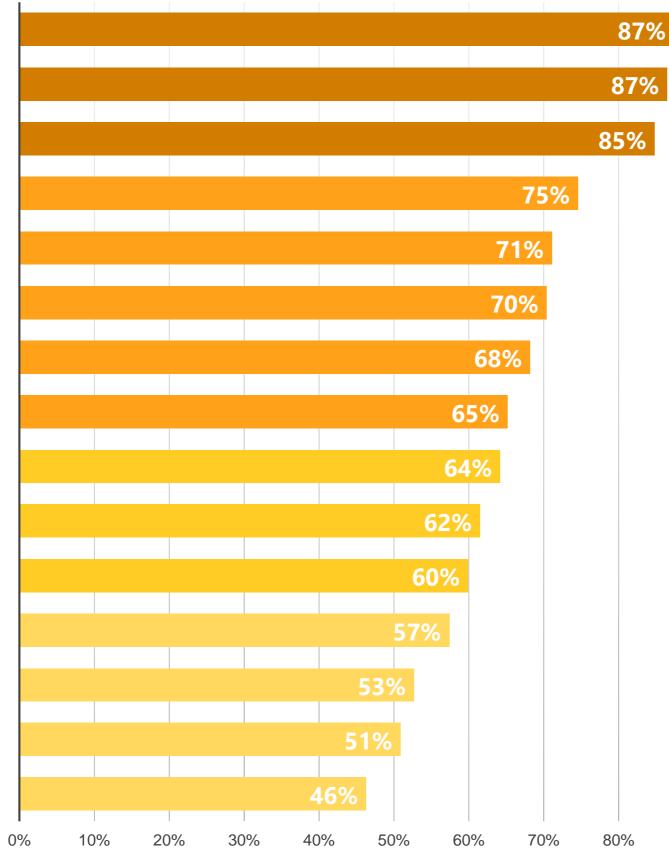




#### **Defining the Ideal Hotel Experience for Tomorrow**

TOP Consumer Benefits expected from Hotels in the future

#### What ideal experience would you expect from a hotel in the future?



MAKES ME FEEL SAFE **RESPECT MY PRIVACY** GENUINE FRIENDLY STAFF MAKES ME FEEL AT HOME HOST ME AT ANY TIME TAKE CARE OF MYSELF **INSIDER DESTINATION TIPS** LOCAL AND CULTURAL AUTHENTICITY COMPLETE ONSITE AMENITIES PERSONALIZED EXPERIENCES FAMILY / FRIENDS HOSTING FLEXIBILITIES REWARD MY LOYALTY SOCIALIZING OPPORTUNITIES HIGH-TECH ENTERTAINMENT **UNIQUE DESIGN** 



% of scores 1+2 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5

A peaceful retreat for increasingly anxious travelers... and more!

Reflecting global opinion trends, benefits expected from hotels in the future polarize around the concept of **a safe retreat that respects privacy, offering a truly genuine and hassle-free, flexible sense of hospitality**. Once these features are provided, guests are **ready to explore, socialize and be entertained.** 





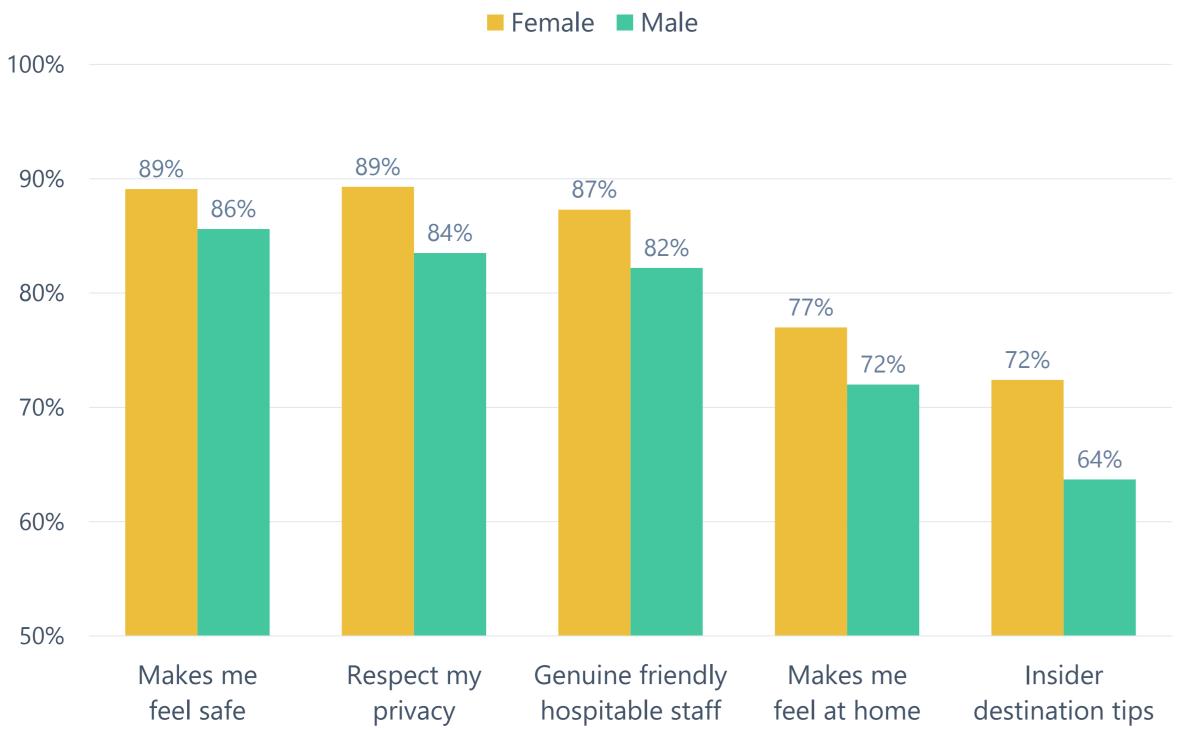
otels

Researcl

#### **Addressing Gender-specific Needs**

A focus on female guests' expectations

#### What female guests expect in particular from hotels tomorrow...



% of scores 4+5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



#### Cocooning inside, Exploring outside!

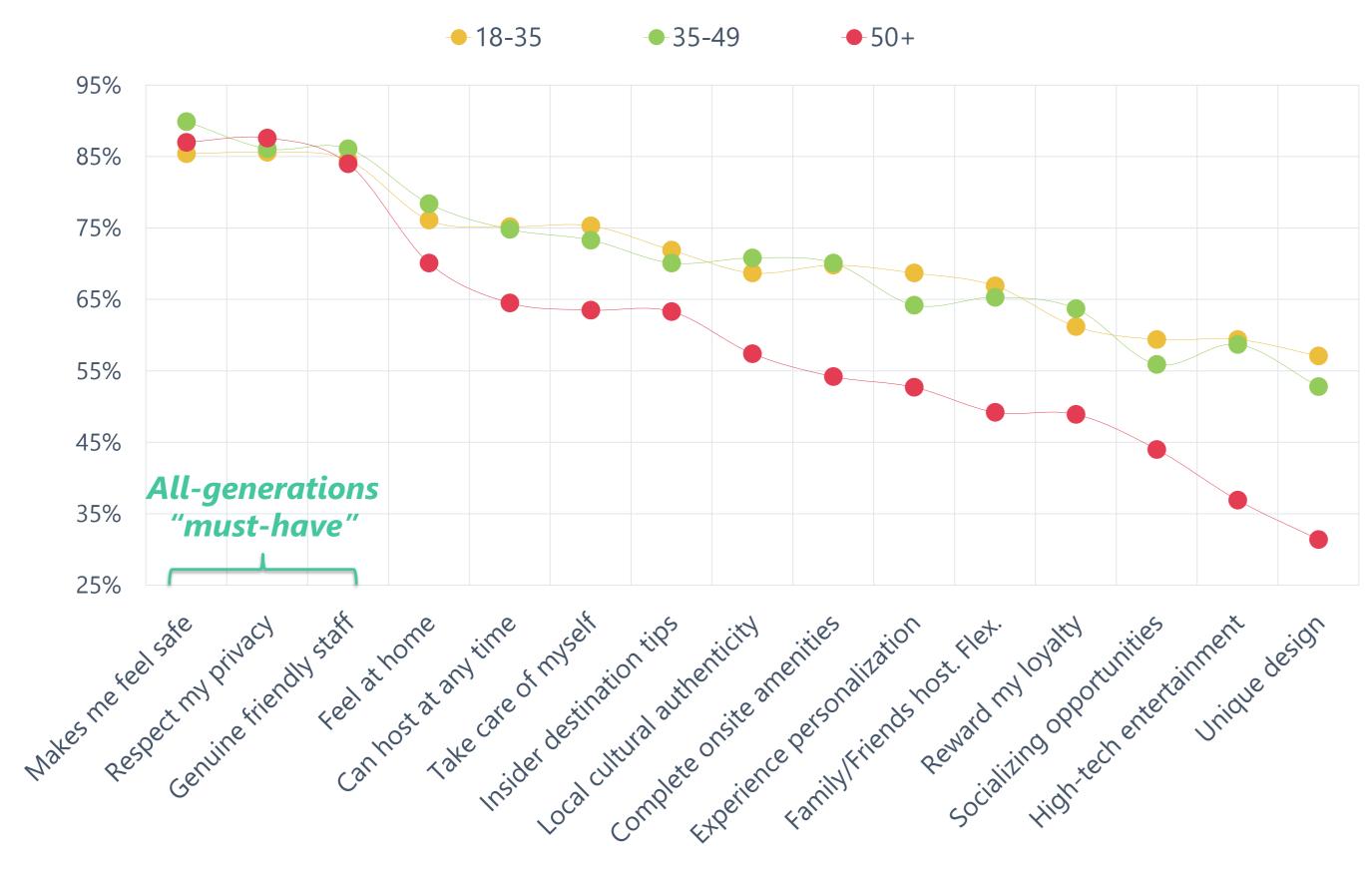
Female guests express more than males the need for finding a perfectly safe place respecting their intimacy. They also expect more insider tips for exploring the destination.





#### **Addressing Generational-specific Needs**

Generational shift requires adaptation



What generations expect from hotels tomorrow...

% of scores 4+5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



#### Millennials expect much more from hotels than Boomers

While safety, privacy and staff hospitality have become common essential pillars for all-age guests, younger generations are expecting much more from their hotel experience compared to their elders: more amenities for some (incl. flexibility for hosting friends or families), more digital and high-tech entertainment or unique design for others...

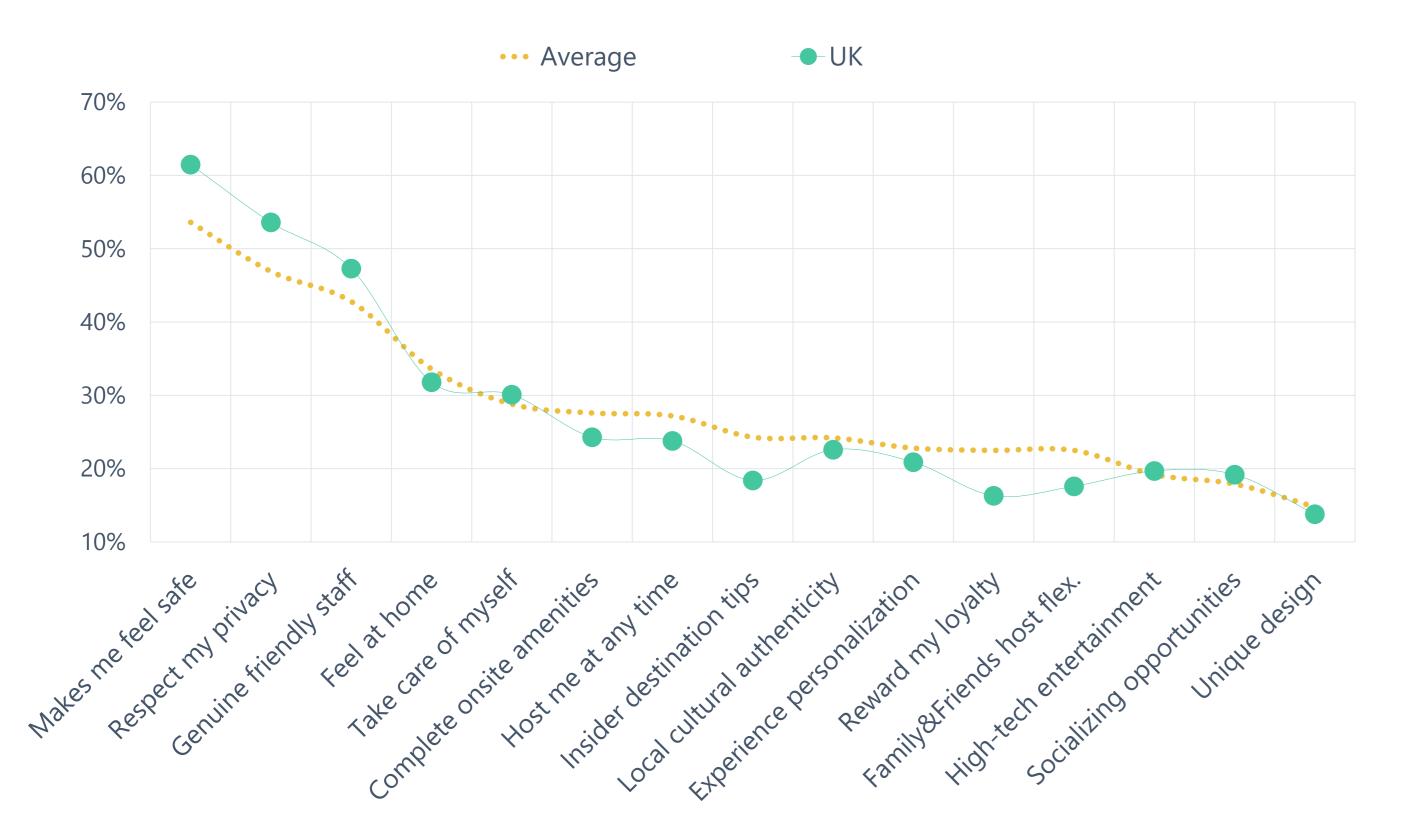








#### What British expect from hotels tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



#### **Addressing Market specific Needs**

**UK Travelers** 

Exceeding expectations on the "basics"

Safety, privacy and staff hospitality are the main British expectations on future hotel experiences.



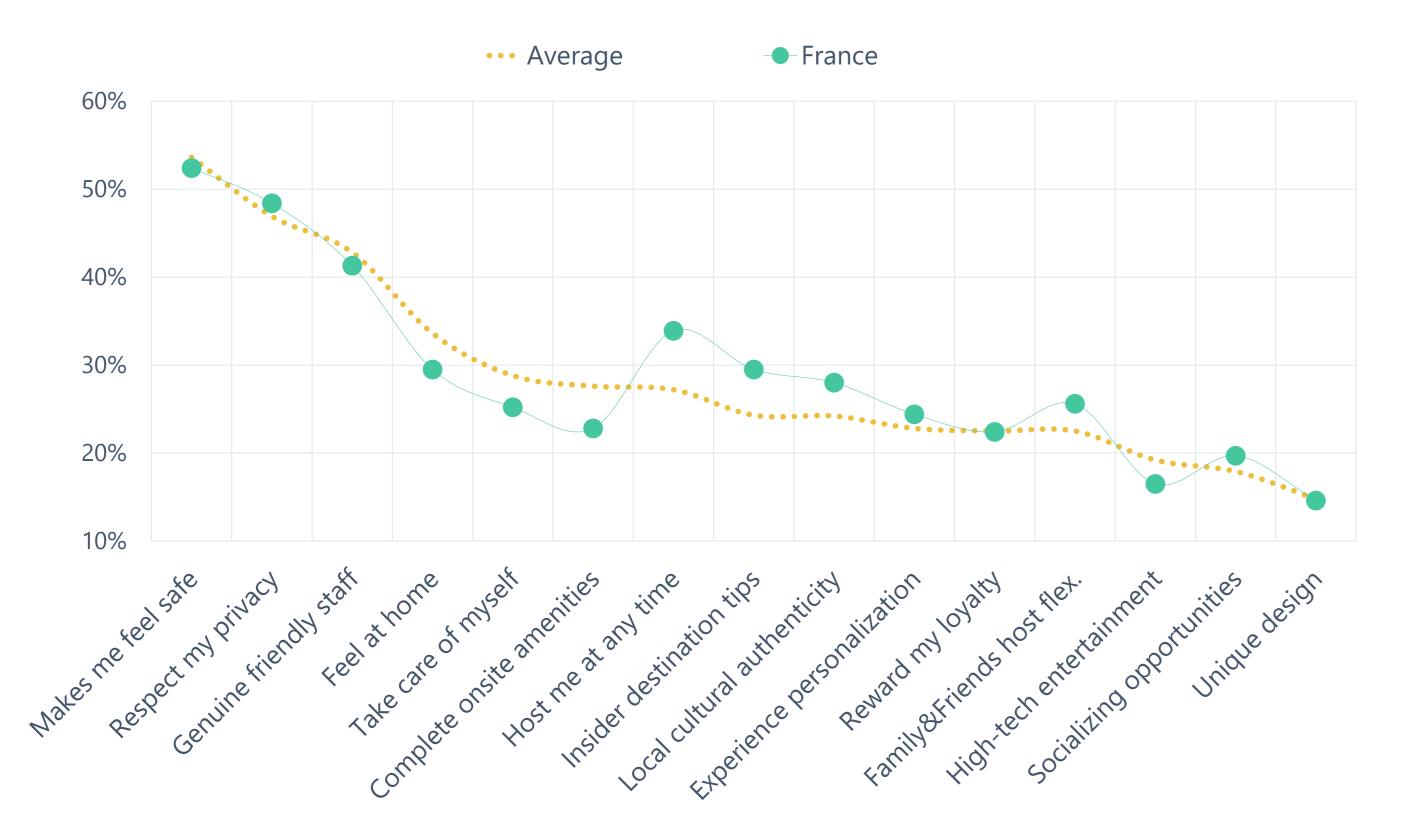


search



#### **Addressing Market specific Needs**

#### What French expect from hotels tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



France Travelers

Hosting flexibilities and authenticity

The French would expect more flexibilities from hotels in the future, with options for adapting various time constraints or families-friendly hosting amenities. Their appetite for **discovering local authentic places** is also stronger than average.



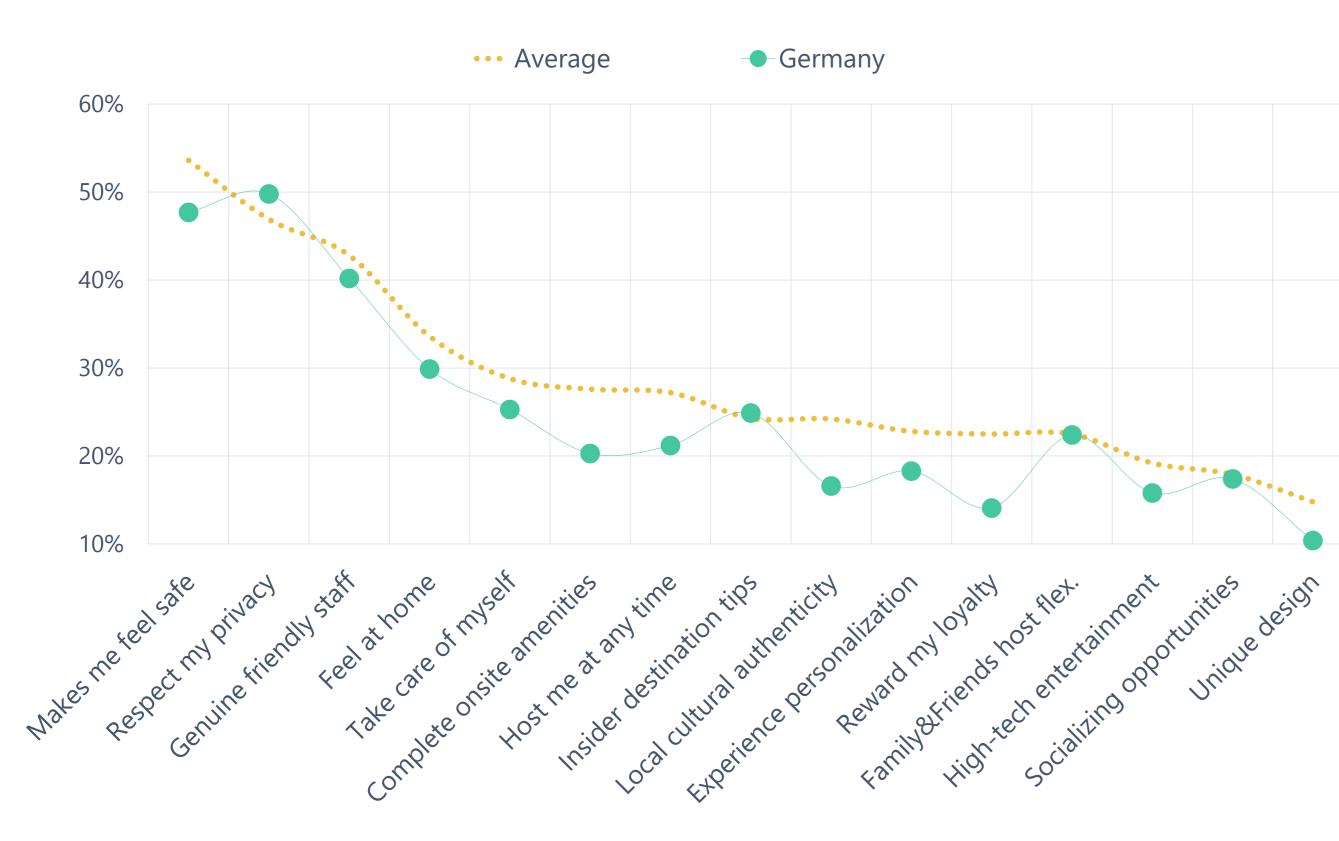






#### **Addressing Market specific Needs**

#### What Germans expect from hotels tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



German Travelers

#### Privacy and destination Tips

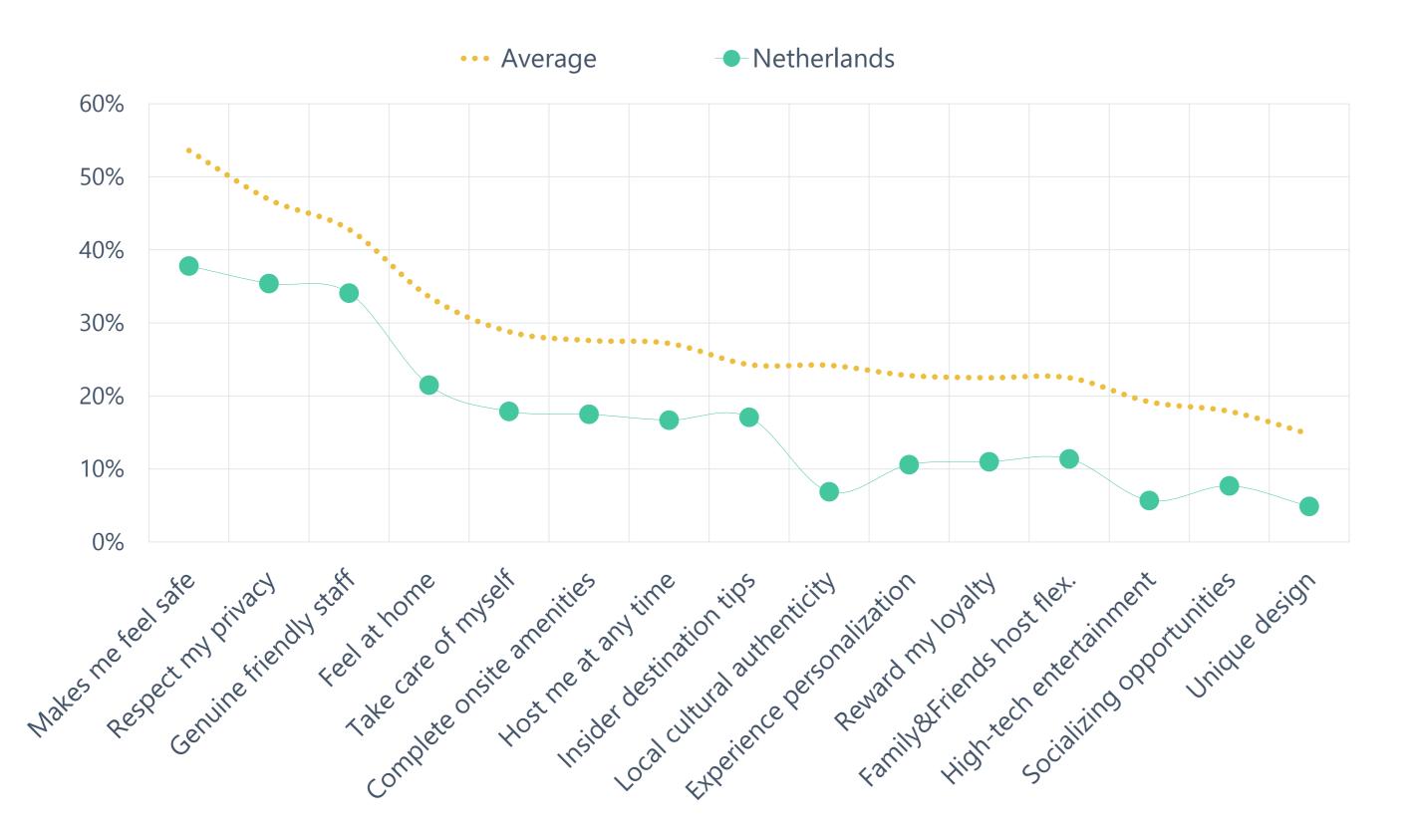
**Privacy** is essential to German guests hotel experience in the future. Moreover, tips for discovering the destination as well as family or friends hosting flexibilities are also highly rated importance criteria.







#### What Dutch expect from hotels tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



**Dutch Travelers** 

Staff genuine hospitality before local authenticity

Dutch expectation ranking shows some sensitiveness towards genuineness of hospitality, while the reflection of local authenticity seems more secondary in the hotel experience.



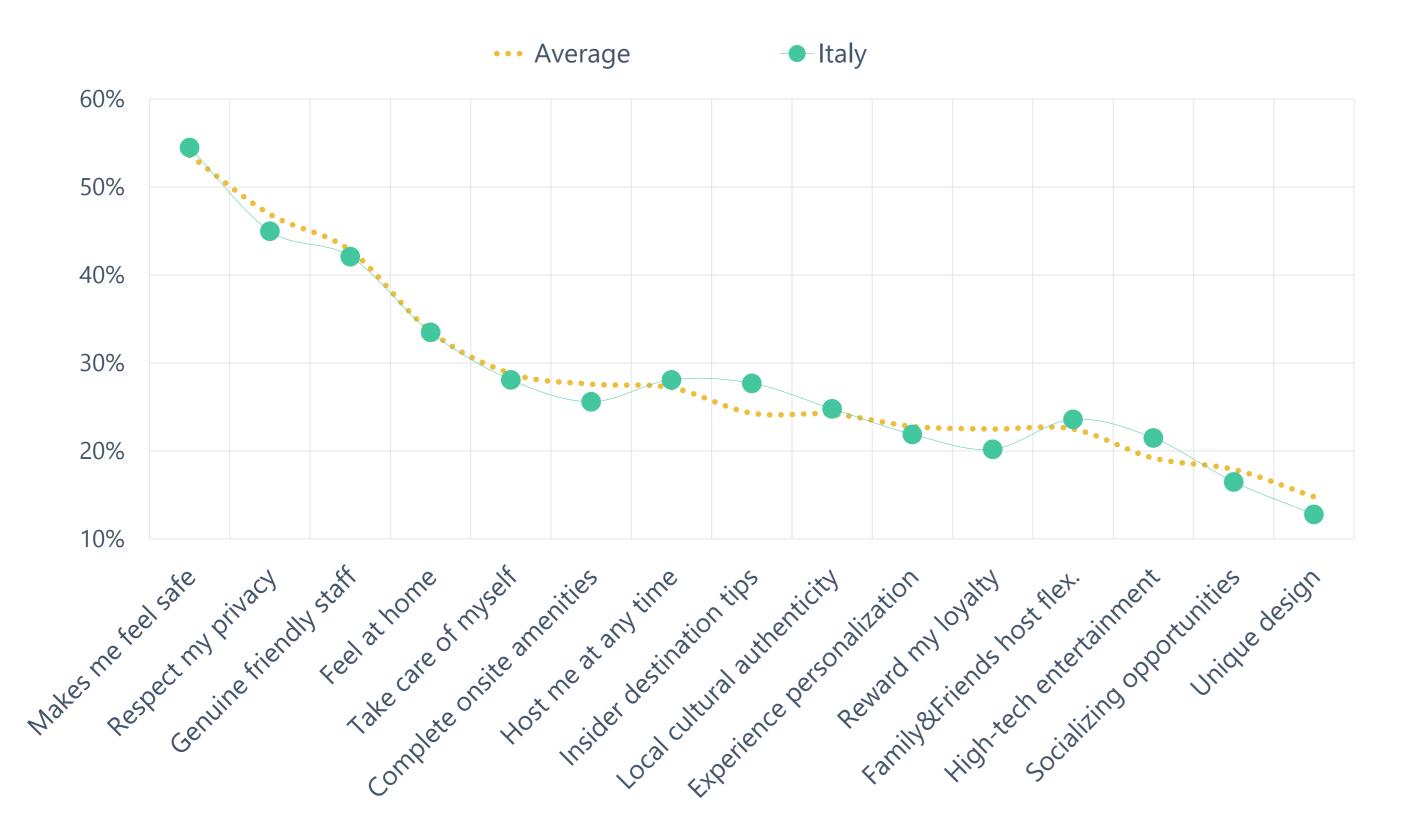






Italian Travelers

#### What Italians expect from hotels tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



## More of insider tips for exploring the destination

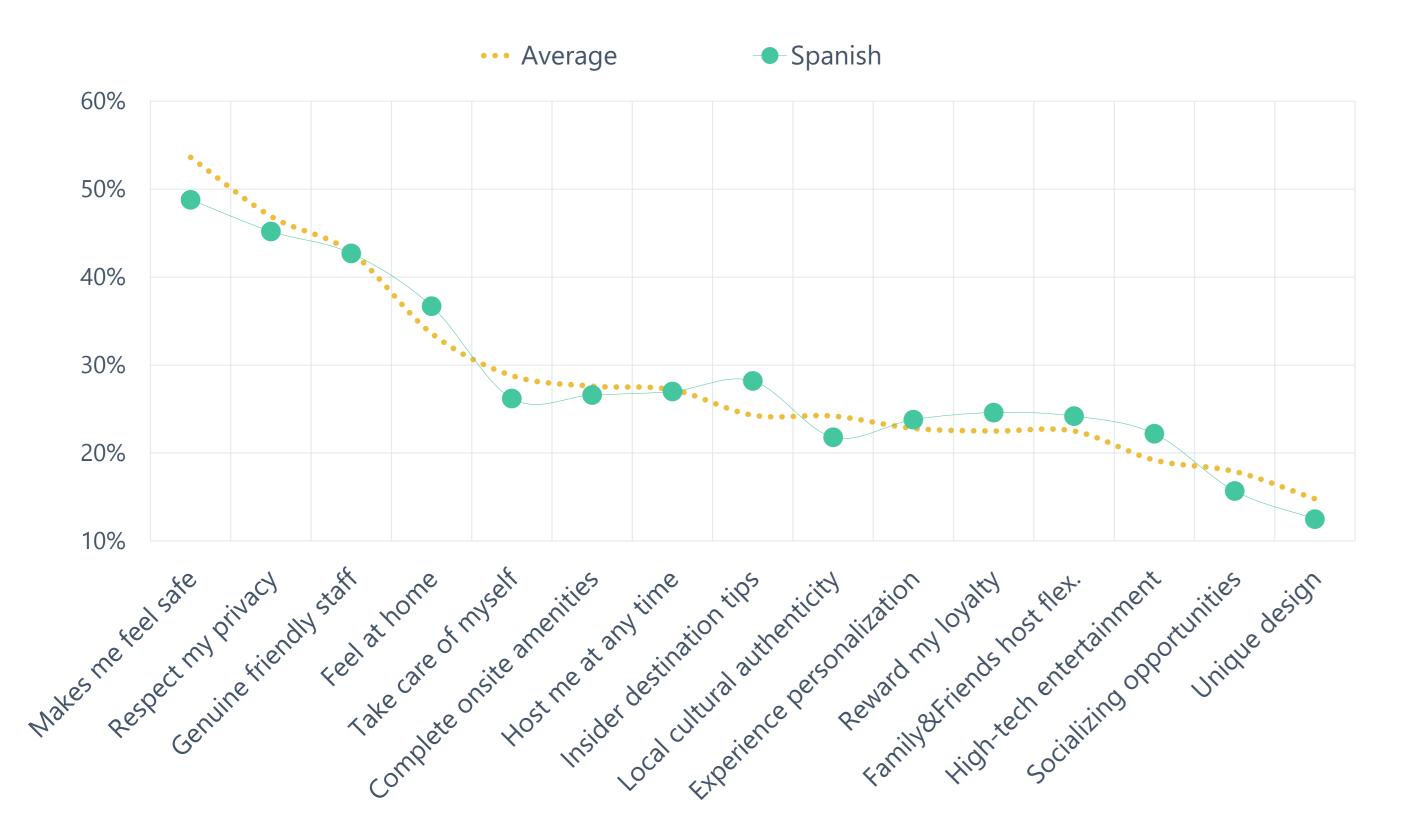
In overall, Italians' expectations fully reflect the average markets' ranking with safety concerns on top. The need for insiders' destination tip is well expressed though.







### What Spanish expect from hotels tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



Spanish Travelers

More of insider tips for exploring the destination

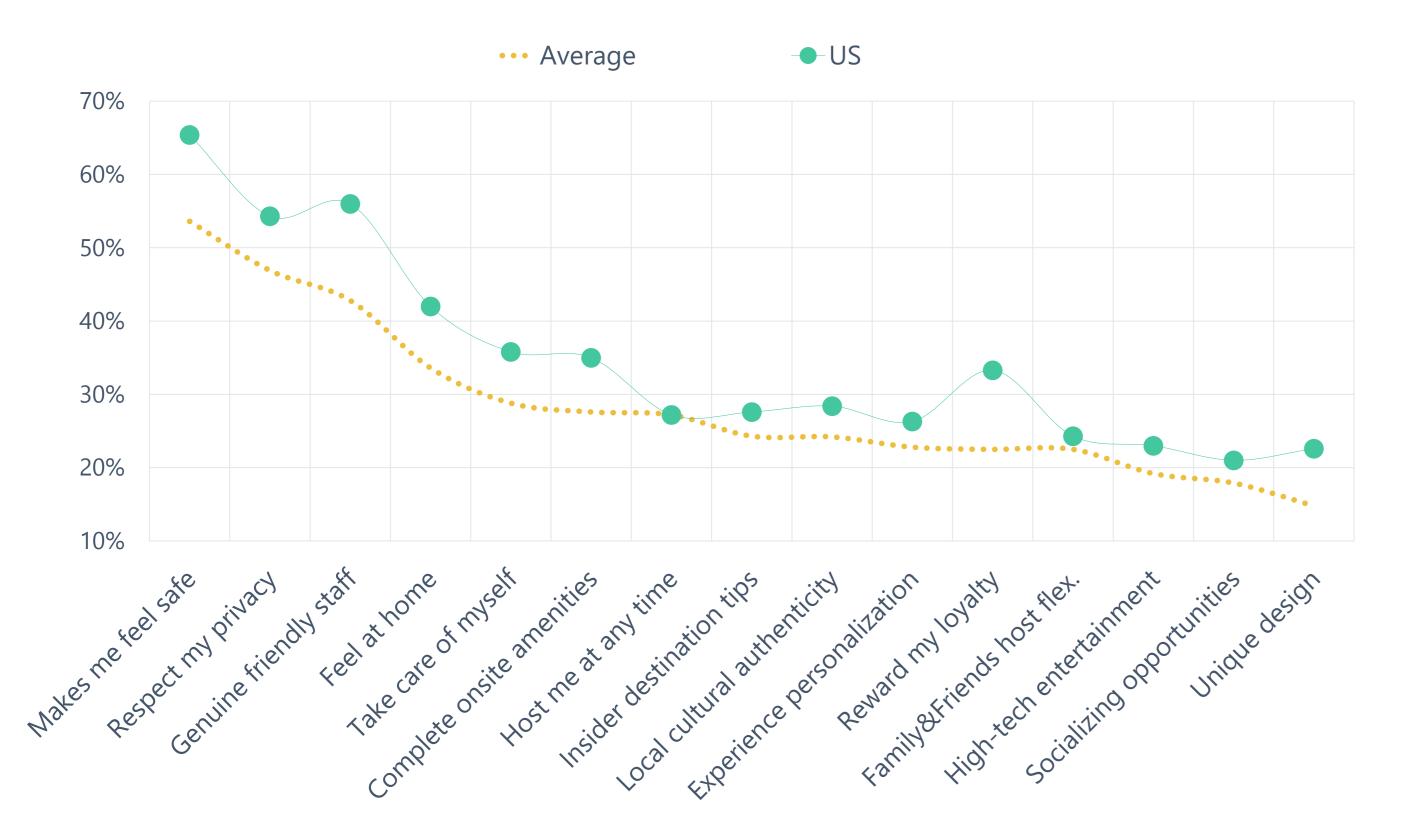
As Italians, Spanish expectations fully reflect the average markets' ranking with safety and privacy concerns on top. The need for insiders' destination tip is well expressed too.







#### What Americans expect from hotels tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



U.S. Travelers

Better welcoming, better rewarding

U.S. guests expect clear signs of distinctive consideration from future hotels, including an **outstanding genuine** staff hospitality and better rewarding programs.

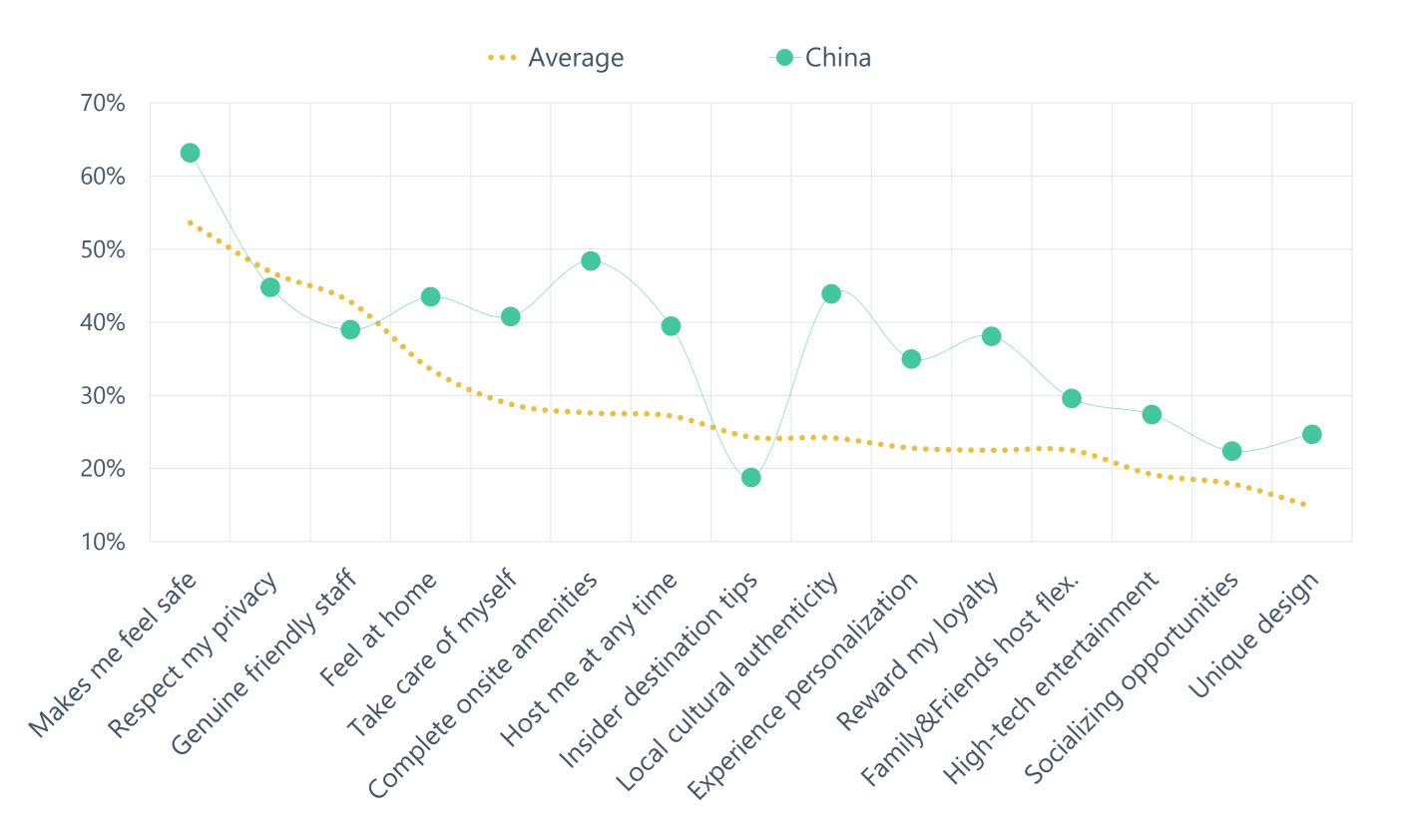




search



#### What Chinese expect from hotels tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



Chinese Travelers

A safe and authentic complete experience in one place

Chinese express the highest level of expectations with safety and would enjoy in the future "all-in-one" place" experiences that can reflect the local cultural authenticity.









# What ideal experiences are expected from restaurants in the future?

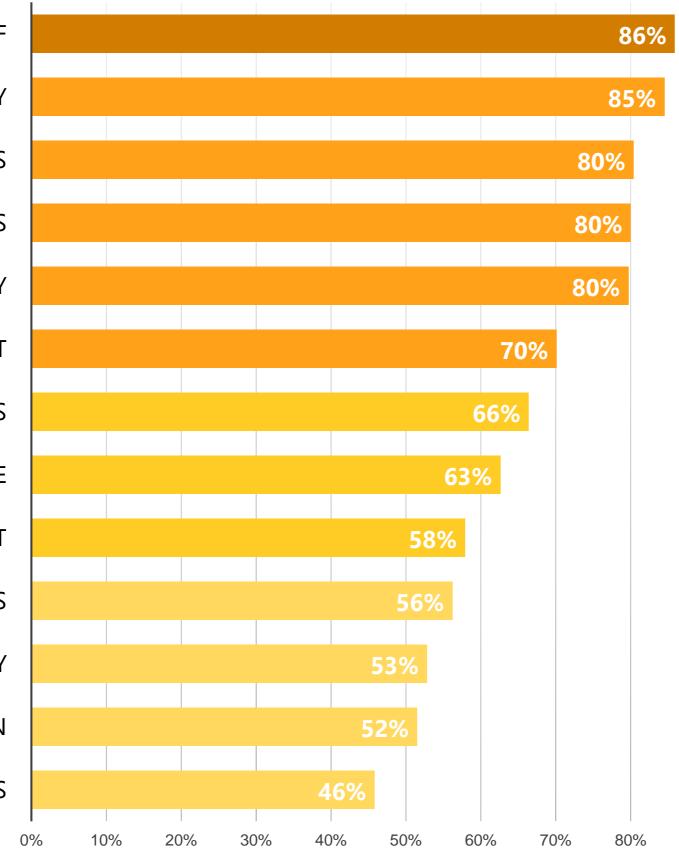




## **Defining the Ideal Restaurants Experience for Tomorrow**

TOP Consumer Benefits expected from Restaurants in the future

#### What ideal experience would you expect from a restaurant in the future?



GENUILY FRIENDLY STAFF STRICT FOOD SAFETY NEW ENJOYABLE FLAVORS LOCAL INGREDIENTS LOCAL AND CULTURAL AUTHENTICITY FEEL A SPECIAL GUEST PERSONALIZE TO MY PREFERENCES OPEN AT ANY TIME ACCOMMODATE MY DIET SOCIALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES REWARDS MY LOYALTY **UNIQUE DESIGN** ENTERTAINING MUSIC/SHOWS



% of scores 1+2 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5

The place for enjoying local authenticity ... with food safety complete re-insurance

Travelers express clear needs for more transparency and authenticity in their future food experiences. Restaurants are definitely the place for tasting and **discovering the local** authenticity from both genuine local people and local flavors.



100% 90%

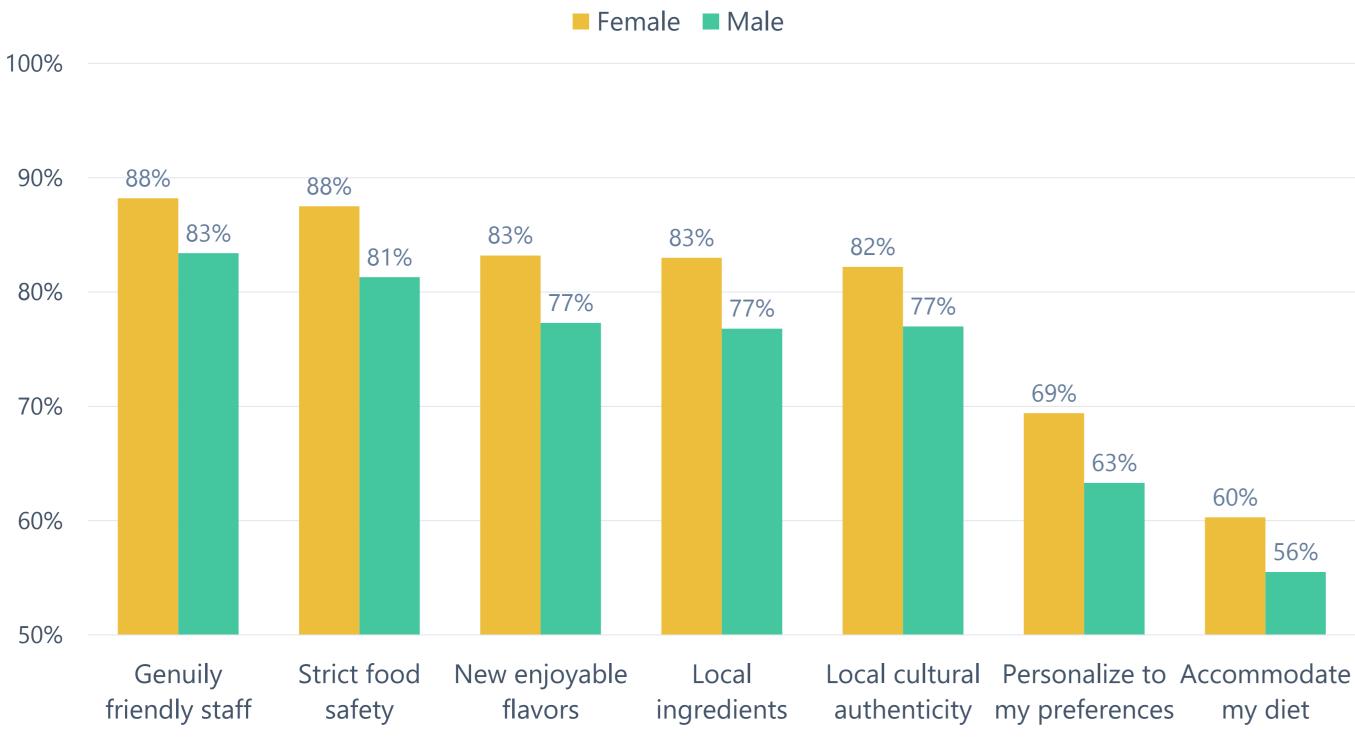




## **Addressing Gender-specific Needs**

A focus on female guests' expectations

#### What females guests expect in particular from restaurants tomorrow...



% of scores 4+5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



63% 60% 56%

my diet

Female guests look for an epicurean, sustainable and flexible experience

More than males, female guests would expect a total **experience** that combines restaurant local immersion and ability to adapt personal tastes or special diets.

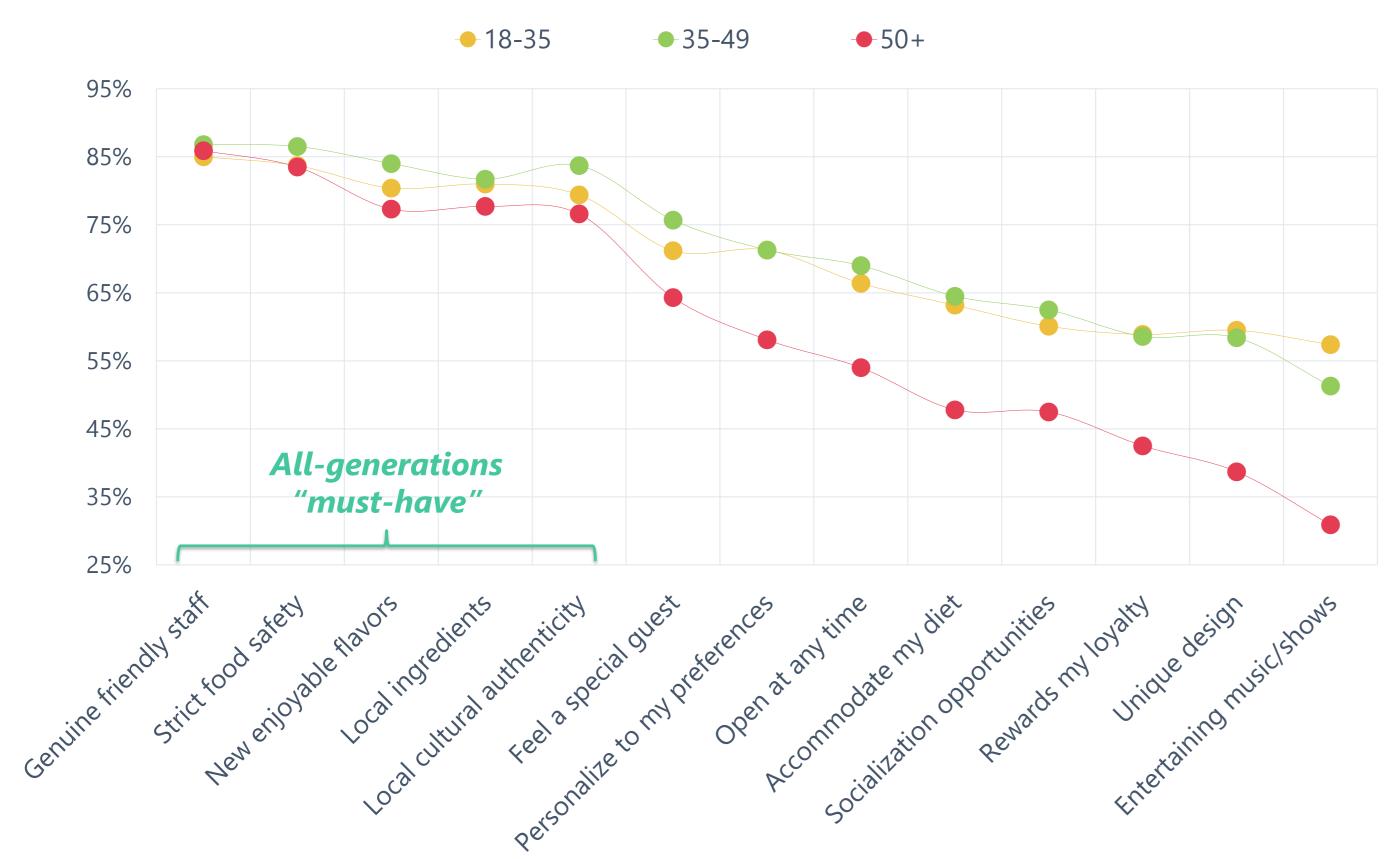






## **Addressing Generational-specific Needs**

Generational shift requires adaptation



What generations expect from restaurants tomorrow...

% of scores 4+5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



Millennials expect much more from restaurants than Boomers

While a genuine, local immersive food experience is expected by all age guests, younger generations are expecting much more from restaurants compared to their elders: unique design and atmosphere for some, a bit of entertainment while dinning for others. Flexible opening time and more personalization and consideration are appreciated as well.



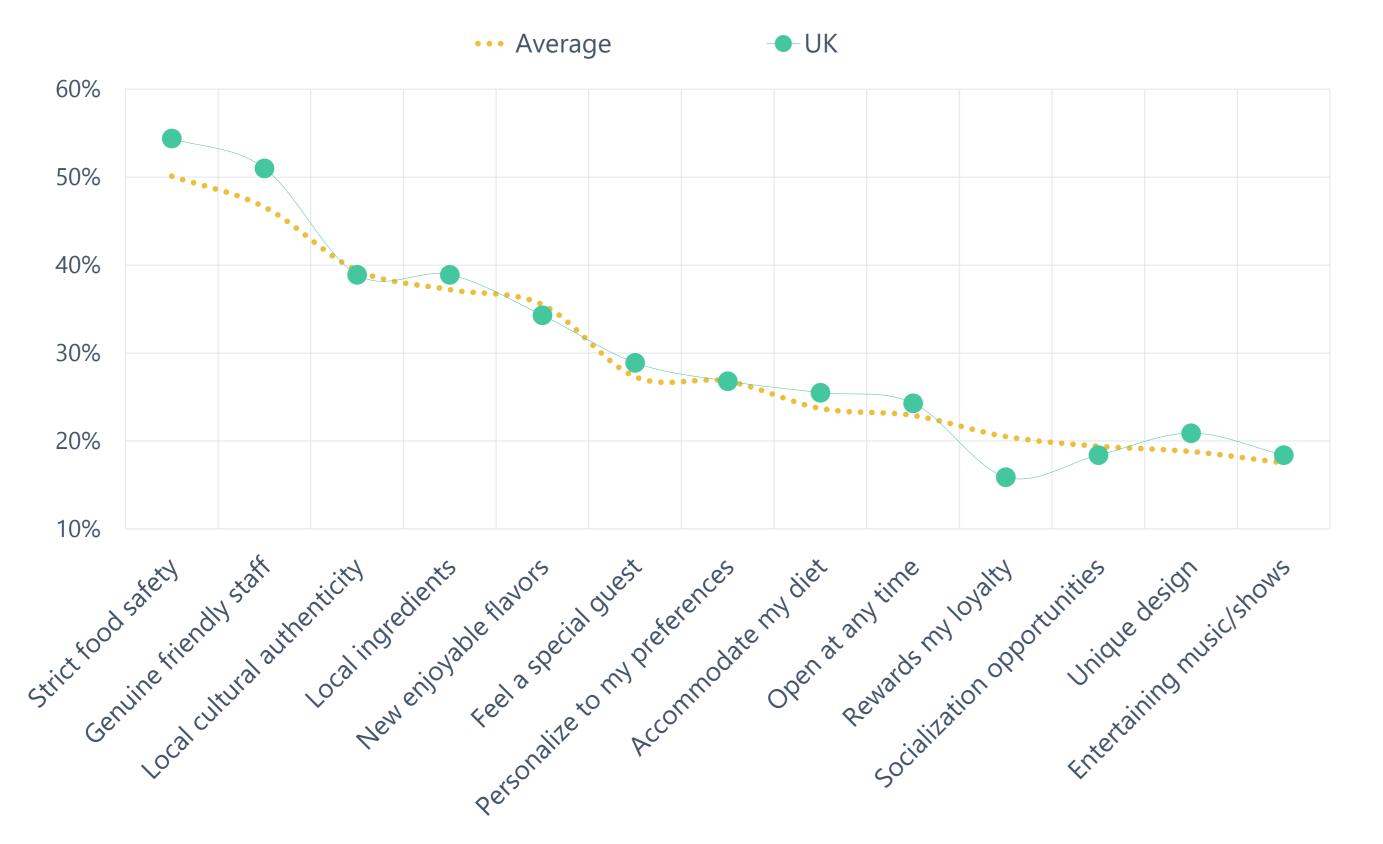








### What British expect from restaurants tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



## **Addressing Market specific Needs**

UK Travelers

Food safety and genuine hospitality

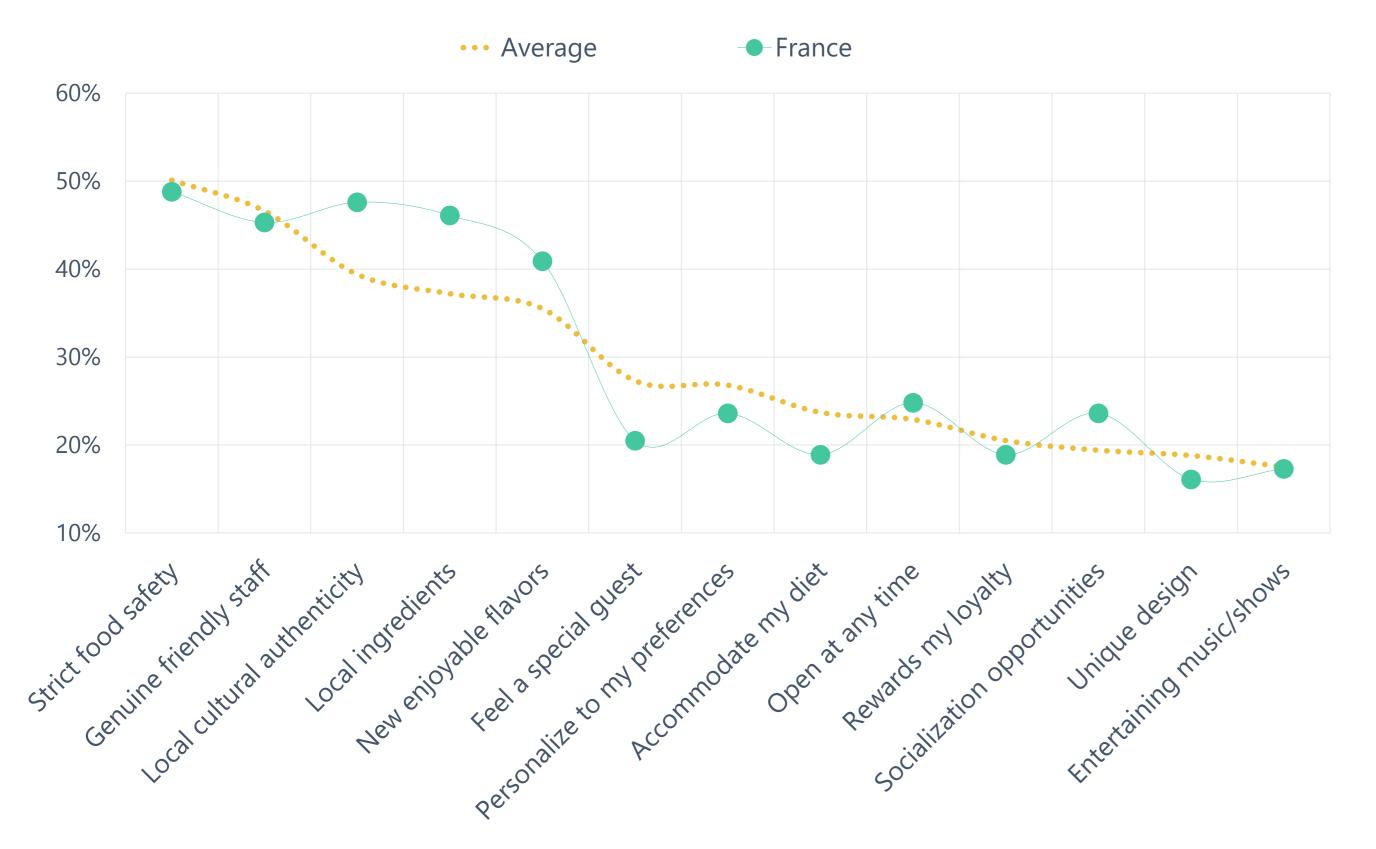
British guests insist on food safety and genuine hospitable service. Loyalty reward seems less in their top expectations for the future.







#### What French expect from restaurants tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



### French Travelers

## Eating local and socializing

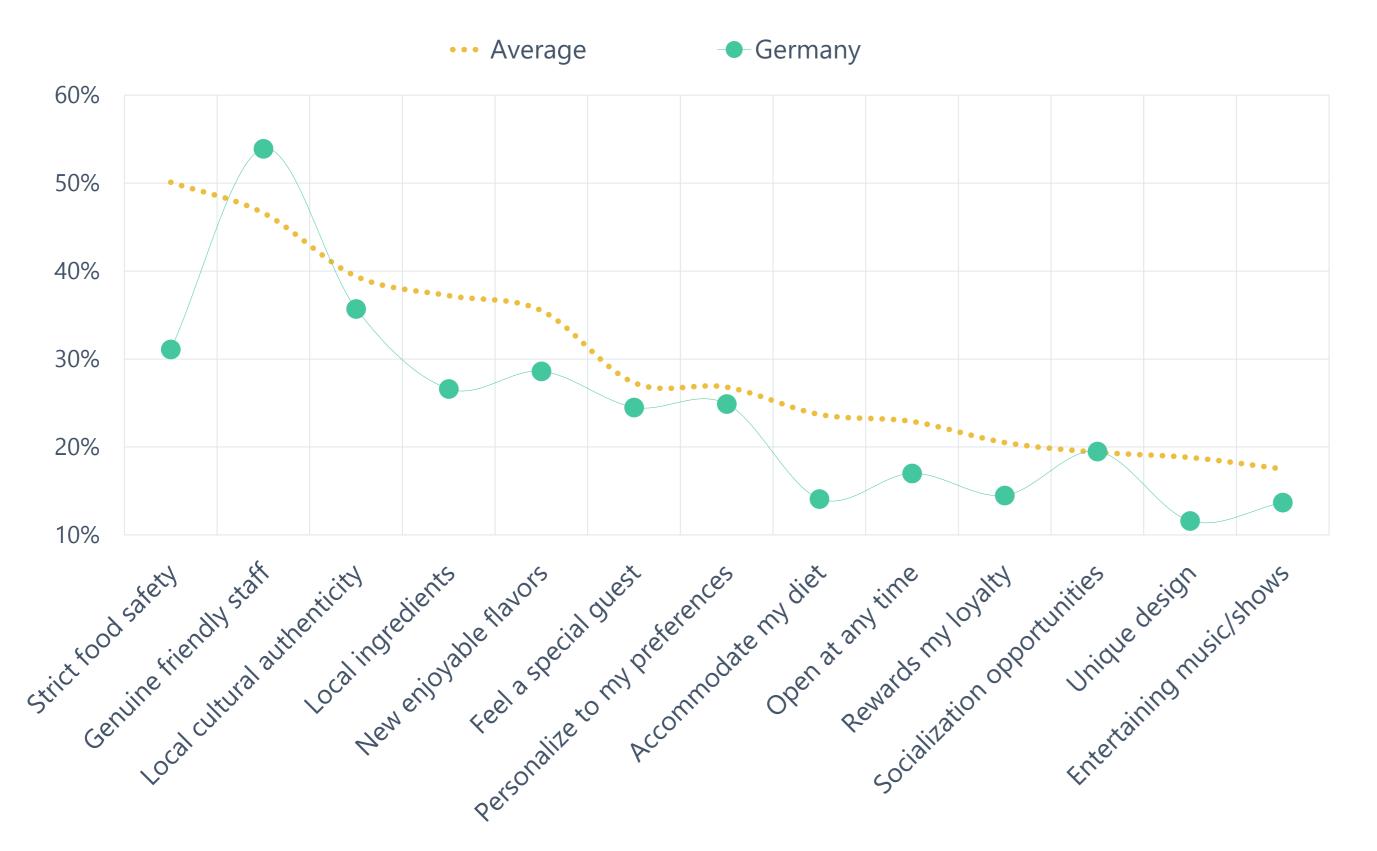
The French search more than any other market for an authentic and new local experience when dinning out. Restaurants are also seen as a place or socializing.







#### What Germans expect from restaurants tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



German Travelers

A special focus on staff hospitality

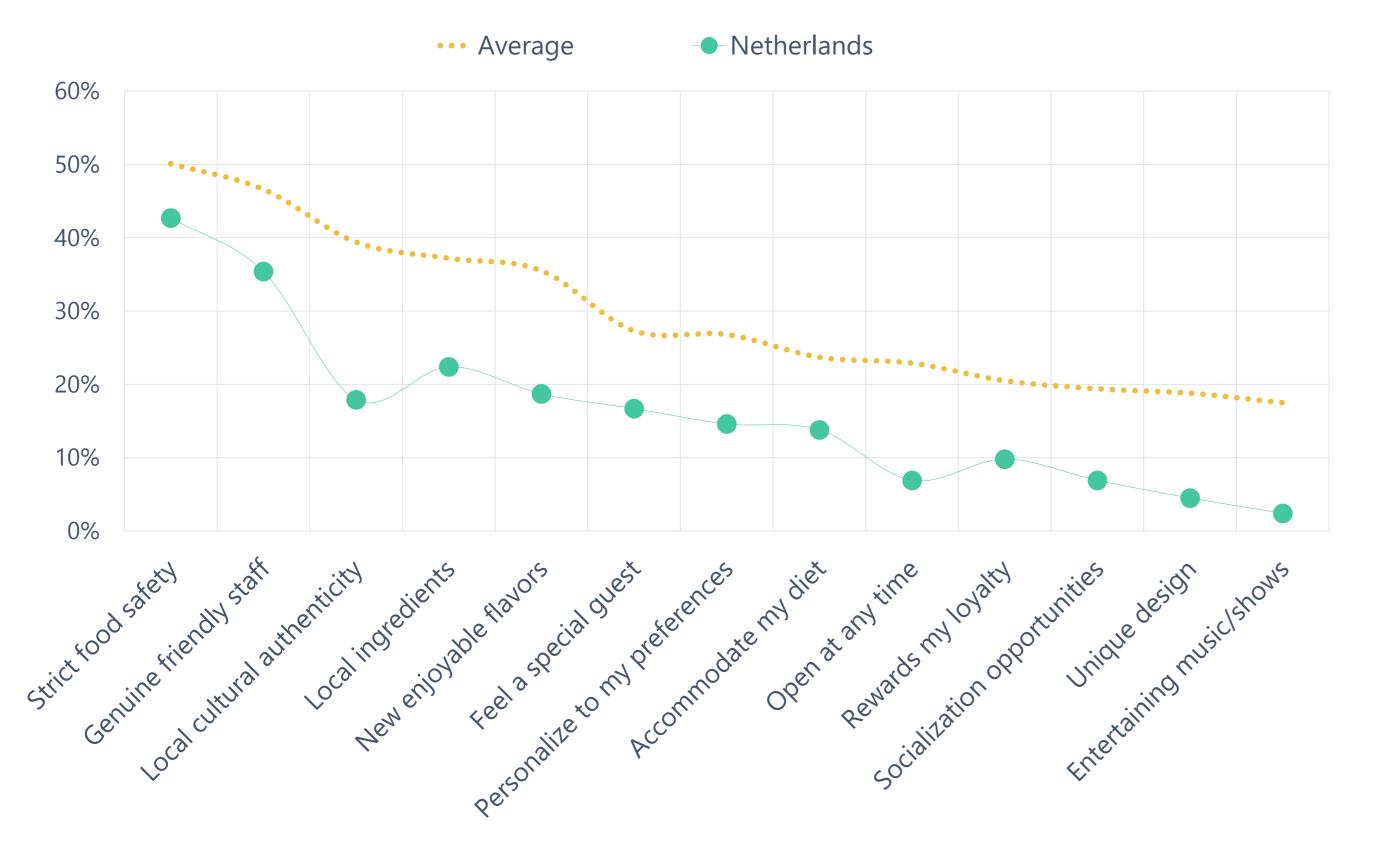
Germans express a strong expectation towards the genuineness and friendliness of staff hospitality in future restaurants, while food safety seems less a concern (seen probably as an obvious prerequisite).







#### What Dutch expect from restaurants tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



Dutch Travelers

A lower sensitiveness to the "local touch"

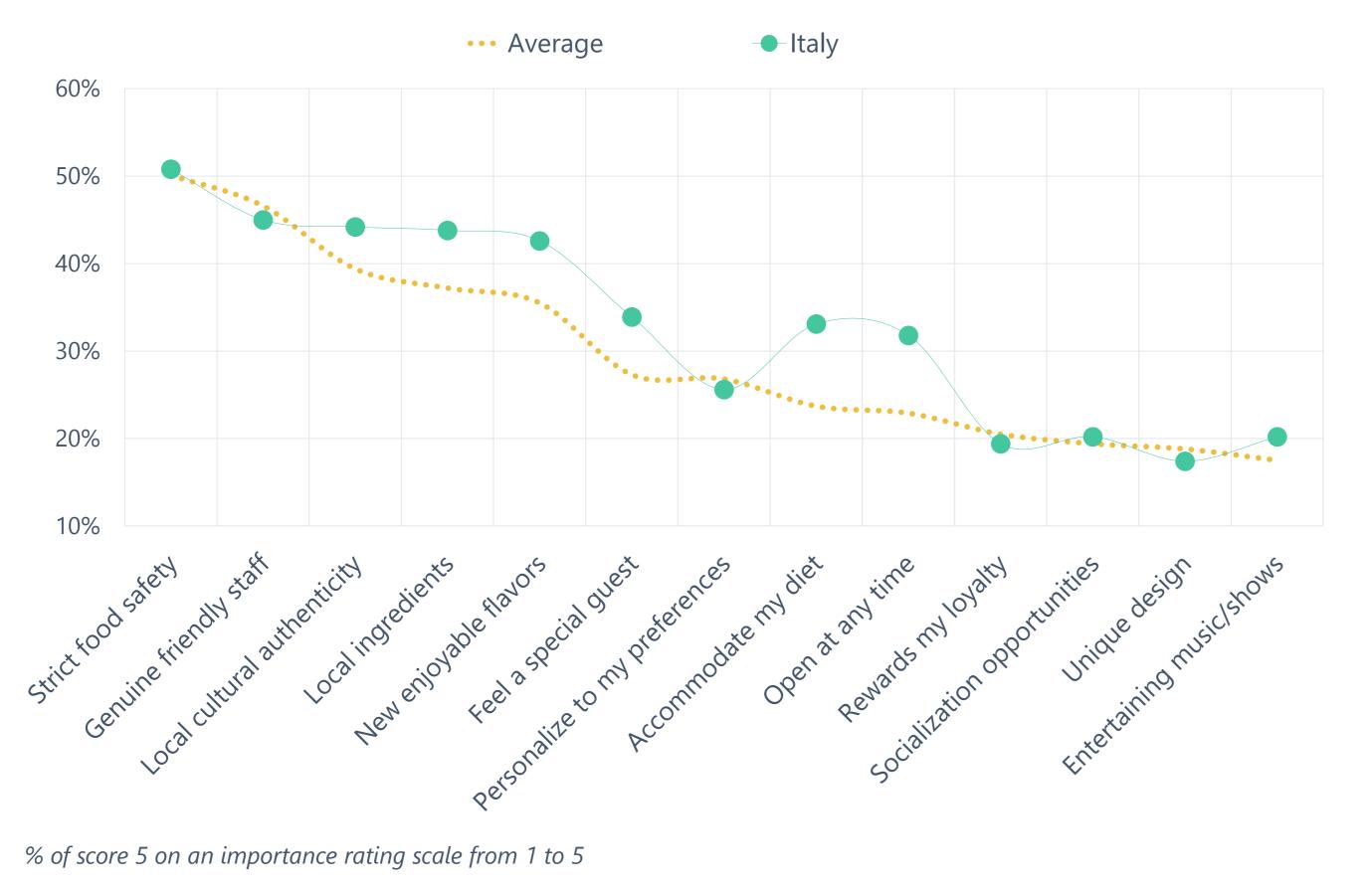
All in all, basics are expected by Dutch guests who will pay a bit less importance to the local authenticity than other markets when dinning out. They credit however a lot of interest to the food safety requirements and staff hospitality.







#### What Italians expect from restaurants tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



## Italian Travelers

Local and flexible experiences

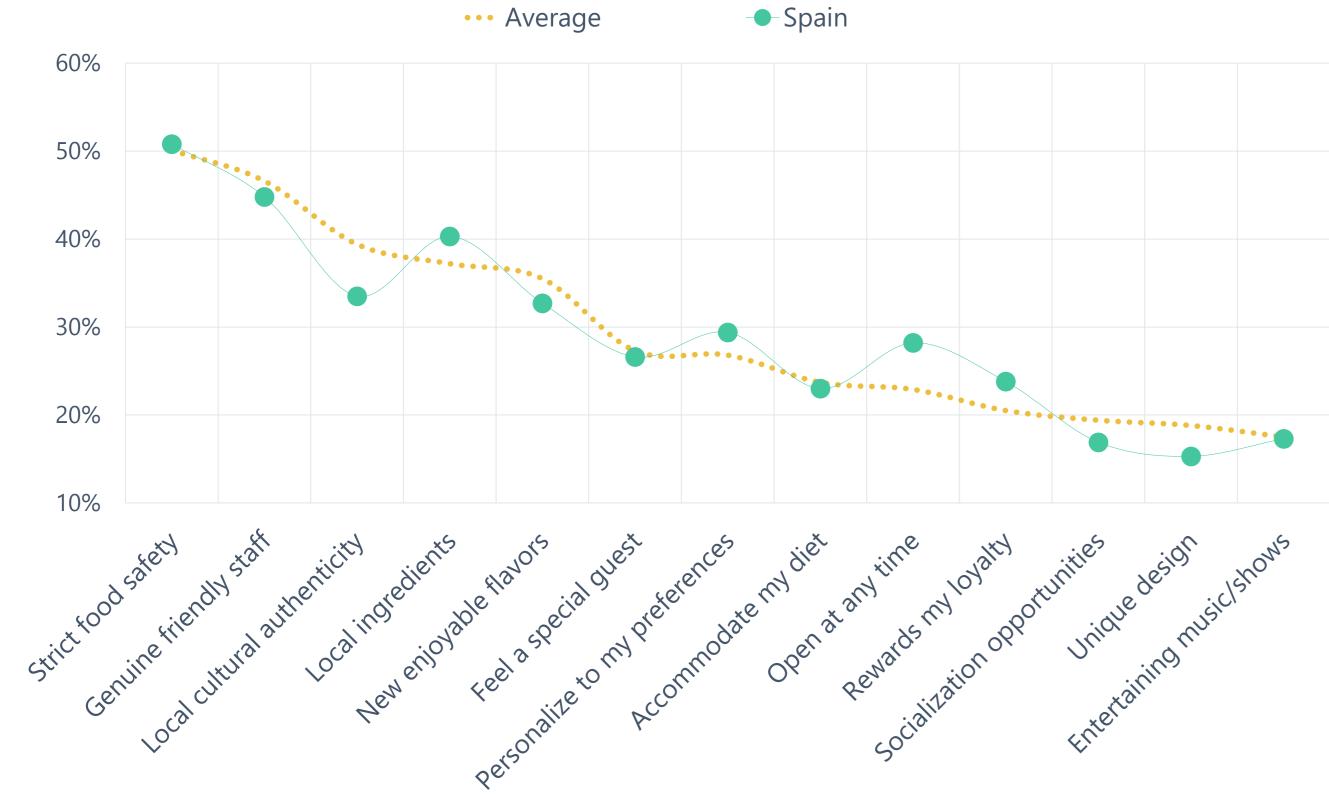
Like the French, Italians will look for **more authentic** and new local food experiences when traveling, with flexibilities in **opening time** and adaptation to personal diets.







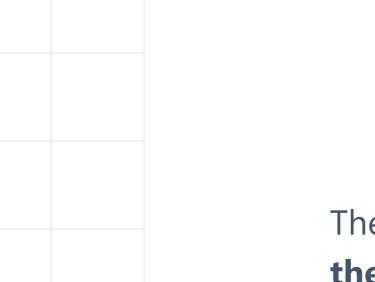
#### What Spanish expect from restaurants tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



Spanish Travelers



Dinning out at any time!

The Spanish expect restaurants to accommodate their opening hours to their famous "Spanish time", along with key top expectations with food safety and staff hospitality.



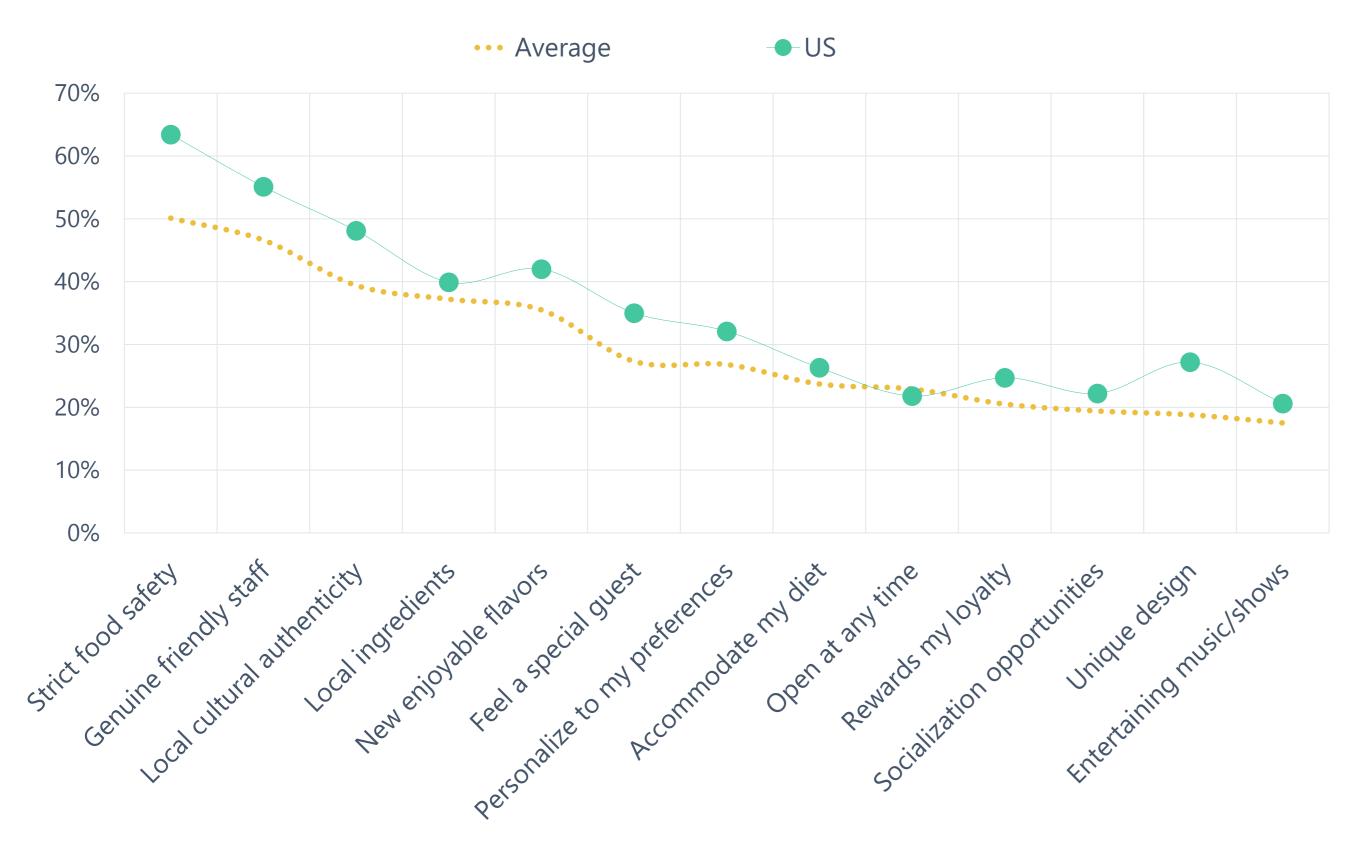








#### What Americans expect from restaurants tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



## **Addressing Market specific Needs**

## **US** Travelers

Service and design

U.S. travelers will expect **the highest level of standard** for **food safety** and **hospitality** from restaurants' staff, including consideration to specific dietary concerns (e.g. vegan, gluten free). Design is also seen as an important facet of the food experience.

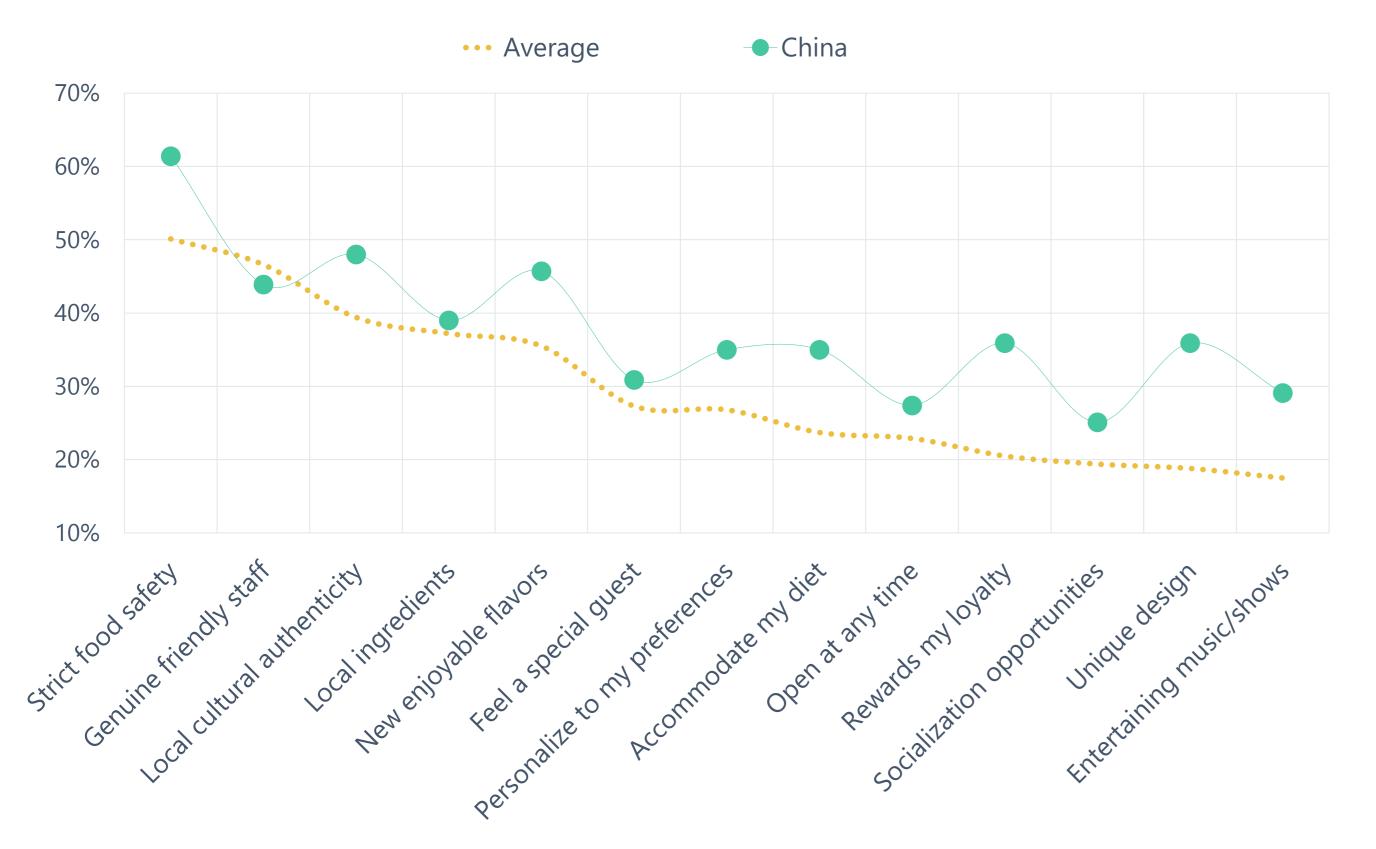






## **Addressing Market specific Needs** China Travelers

#### What Chinese expect from restaurants tomorrow...



% of score 5 on an importance rating scale from 1 to 5



Discovering new food experiences while being considered

Chinese have special expectations. While sharing the same **concern for food safety**, they show clear appetite for exploring new local flavors... yet demanding more **personalized attention** to their preferences. **Design** also raises high interest.





# Conclusions Take-Aways

RALD BREEK BARRA



## **Take-Aways for European Hotels** Key learning from the survey

The accommodation plays, as never before, a central role in the visitor experience, acting as an "epicenter" that spreads over the destination overall quality perception. Thus, the ability to manage clients' aspirations "around" the hotel experience can bring further consumer value.



European hotels' value for money perceptions are challenged by the global competition, particularly those impacting satisfaction among intra-European and budget travelers. On a positive note, efforts to better welcome Chinese visitors seem to be paying off!



The « Scaring economy » impacts as much as the « Sharing economy »! While socializing in hotels is expected by some, a safety is a priority to all visitors. In this respect, the hotel industry has full legitimacy in taking measures to ensure the safety of its visitors.

Distinctive differentiation strategies exists focusing on unique design, entertainment offerings, all-in-on-place amenities, socializing spaces). However, they all require that basic expectations are met first, including ensuring safety, genuine hospitality, privacy, respect and flexibility.



Adapting the style of hospitality according to guest's profiles will remain paramount in the future, with particular focus on the **generational shift** (Millennials expect more than Boomers!), gender and cultural market-specific needs.











## Four Key Hotel Guests' Expectations to Address in the Future

#### Amaze me!

A unique place that quenches my search for discovery, with new design, entertaining digital and rewarding personalized experiences.

#### Give me all in one place

An all-in-one place I am happy to spend time in, where I can get rewarded and given token of appreciation. Local immersion is less my priority: let's have fun and digital experiences inside first!

#### AMAZE ME!

#### **GIVE ME ALL IN ONE PLACE**

This specific principle component statistical analysis reflects a segmentation of future hotel guests' expectations, summarizing approx. 70% of the 15 tested criteria variance into 4 axis. It helps mapping core transverse pillars of consumers' needs that the industry should address in the future so to gain competitiveness.



## Summarizing Consumers' Needs



#### Take good care of me

A safe retreat that offers privacy, comforts me and takes good care of me with genuine hospitality that makes me feel at home... away from home.

#### My space for socializing

A place that offers amenities and atmosphere that allow me to better socialize with my family, my friends, and possibly with local people.





# **Take-Aways for European Restaurants** Key learning from the survey

The local food experience has a growing impact in international visitors' overall satisfaction, making the restaurant industry a key pillar of destination reputation.



Like for hotels, European restaurants' value for money perceptions are challenged by the global competition which tends to offer more diverse and hospitable food experiences. However, **Foodies** –though representing a minority part of visitors- are more delighted.

Restaurants are expected to be a **perfect place and moment for living the "local experience"** while travelling, offering genuine stories, locally produced ingredients and new flavors. As such, restaurants can be great **ambassadors of destinations' sustainability**.

The "scaring economy" also impact the local food visitor experience: guests from all nationalities expect restaurants to provide the highest food safety level, calling for more transparency and communication about product origins, open kitchens, chefs story etc...



**Cultural specificities** will continue to massively impact guests' expectations, with growing needs of adaptations to personal tastes or diets, while keeping intact the immersive and discovery facets of the experience.













# Annex – Questionnaire





# Ad hoc questions used in the survey Mapping Future Guest Expectations

While travelling abroad, visitors have a wide range of accommodation options. Regarding hotels in particular, what ideal experience would you expect from a hotel in the future?

Please use a scale from 1 to 5 to rate the importance of the following aspects:

The ideal future hotel ...

1=not important - 5=very important

- Displays unique architecture and design characteristics
- Reflects local and cultural authenticity
- Offers opportunities to socialize with other guests and locals
- Provides "insider tips" for exploring the destination.
- Has complete onsite amenities (sleeping, dining, gym, activities, wellness, entertainment...)
- Rewards my loyalty
- Can host me at any time
- Makes me feel at home
- Personalizes my experiences
- Allows flexibility to host family and friends
- Is a place where I can take care of myself
- Employs staff who are genuinely friendly and hospitable
- Respects my privacy and peace
- Makes me feel safe
- Provide entertainment options with high-tech and digital innovations



While travelling abroad, visitors have a wide range of dining options. Regarding <u>restaurants</u> in particular, what ideal experience would you expect from a <u>restaurant</u> in the future?

Please use a scale from 1 to 5 to rate the importance of the following aspects:

The ideal future restaurant ...

1=not important - 5=very important

- Reflects local and cultural authenticity
- Displays unique architecture and design characteristics
- Rewards my loyalty
- Is open at any time
- Offers opportunities to socialize with other guests and locals
- Uses locally produced ingredients in its cuisine
- Personalizes the dining experience to my tasting preferences
- Makes me feel like a special and distinctive guest
- Employs staff who are genuinely friendly and hospitable
- Adheres to strict food safety requirements
- Provides entertainment with music and shows
- Accommodates my personal diet choices
- Offers opportunity to discover new enjoyable flavors







## **About TCI Research** Competitive insights for smart destinations

#### **MISSION**

We provide local and international destinations in the world with competitive insights covering the whole visitor experience, by using standard and custom advanced research solutions based on conventional surveys and controlled Big Data integration

#### VISION

Research is instrumental to efficient destination marketing and management. We help you navigate the complex and competitive visitor economy, measure your performance, detect trends and opportunities for making your destination brand stand out from the competition

#### **ENDORSMENTS**

In 2011, our TRAVELSAT© Index global survey was given the UNWTO Innovation Award. Since then, 100+ destinations and travel organizations have trusted us, fostering our team to constantly innovate in quality research solutions for destination leaders



request@tci-research.com

+ 32476701125



www.tci-research.com



**@TRAVELSAT\_index** 

