



# ABOUT OXFORD ECONOMICS

Oxford Economics was founded in 1981 as a commercial venture with Oxford University's business college to provide economic forecasting and modelling to UK companies and financial institutions expanding abroad. Since then, we have become one of the world's foremost independent global advisory firms, providing reports, forecasts, and analytical tools on more than 200 countries, 100 industries, and 8,000 cities and regions. Our best-in-class global economic and industry models and analytical tools give us an unparalleled ability to forecast external market trends and assess their economic, social, and business impact.

Headquartered in Oxford, England, with regional centres in New York, London, Frankfurt, and Singapore, Oxford Economics has offices across the globe in Abu Dhabi, Belfast, Chicago, Dubai, Dublin, Hong Kong, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Milan, Paarl, Paris, Philadelphia, Sydney, Tokyo, and Toronto. We employ 700 staff, including more than 450 professional economists, industry experts, and business editors—one of the largest teams of macroeconomists and thought leadership specialists. Our global team is highly skilled in a full range of research techniques and thought leadership capabilities from econometric modelling, scenario framing, and economic impact analysis to market surveys, case studies, expert panels, and web analytics.

Oxford Economics is a key adviser to corporate, financial, and government decision-makers and thought leaders. Our worldwide client base now comprises over 2,500 international organisations, including leading multinational companies and financial institutions; key government bodies and trade associations; and top universities, consultancies, and think tanks.



## **CONTENTS**

1. Introduction	4
2. Spending associated with Airbnb in India	8
2.1 Airbnb tourism flows	9
2.2 Airbnb guest spending	11
2.3 Airbnb host spending	.14
3. Airbnb's economic impact	.16
3.1 Total Airbnb impact in India	.17
3.2 Sectoral impacts	.18
Technical Appendix	20



# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Airbnb guest:** An individual who stays at least one night in an Airbnb accommodation unit.

**Airbnb host:** An individual or business that lists an accommodation unit, whether private or shared space, for rent on the Airbnb platform.

**Gross booking value:** The value paid by guests for their Airbnb accommodation, inclusive of taxes.

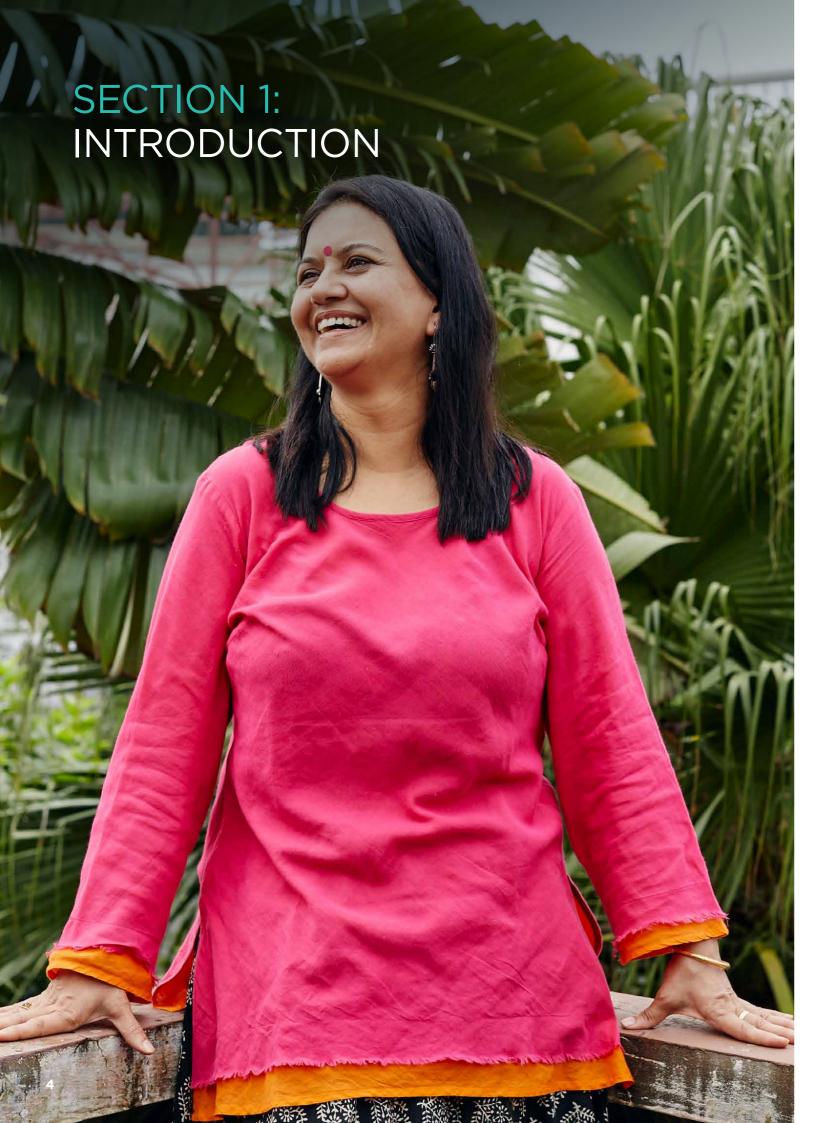
Guest spending: The amount spent by Airbnb guests during their trip to a country or region. This comprises their spending on the rental of Airbnb accommodation (including the hosts' earnings and Airbnb's revenue, but excluding sales and/or accommodation taxes), their in-destination spending (at local restaurants, shops, local transport, and other activities), plus a portion of the estimated cost of airfares to get to and from the destination country.

**Host earnings:** The portion of guest spending on the rental of Airbnb accommodation that is received by the Host (individual or business renting the unit).

#### Travel and tourism (also simply referred to as tourism):

The activity of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year of leisure, business, and other purposes not remunerated from within the place visited.





Airbnb's unique platform connects hosts in India with tourists and travellers from all over the world. Every time a guest stays at an Airbnb listing it creates an economic impact in the local economy.

The Airbnb platform facilitates a flexible supply of accommodation in Indian destinations, attracting travellers to visit and spend money on goods and services.

Each Airbnb booking creates two distinct spending impacts:

#### **Guest spending on ancillary goods and services:**

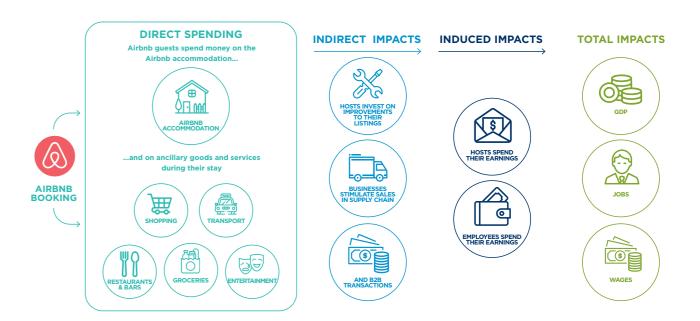
Airbnb guests spend money on transport to and from their destination. They also spend on restaurants, retail, groceries, and arts and entertainment whilst at their destination.

Host spending: Airbnb hosts receive income from hosting on Airbnb, which funds spending on the upkeep of their property, including regular services such as cleaning. Hosts also spend this income on goods and services to support their livelihoods.

These spending impacts create further ripples through the economy as hosts and tourism-facing businesses purchase goods and services from local suppliers, and the employees within these supply chains spend their income in the local economy.

Airbnb commissioned Oxford Economics to analyse these impacts as part of an assessment of its total economic footprint in India. To conduct the analysis, we combined primary data on Airbnb guest spending and Oxford Economics' tourism data with our Global Sustainability Model, which includes proprietary models of the Indian economy.

Fig. 1: Schematic of Airbnb's contribution to the Indian economy



Source: Oxford Economics





**EXPLAINER: CALCULATING THE TOTAL** 

**ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AIRBNB** 

To quantify the impact of Airbnb on a local

summarised in Fig. 1):

economy, we use a globally recognised, standard

means of analysis known as an economic impact assessment. This involves quantifying the total expenditure made by Airbnb guests and hosts in the destination economy, and estimating three types of economic activity it stimulates (also

Direct impact relates to the value added by the businesses that facilitate Airbnb guests' stays,

**Indirect impact** is the economic activity and

employment stimulated along the supply chain that

**Induced impact** comprises the wider economic benefits that arise from the spending of wages

provided to those employees of businesses serving

Airbnb guests, and other businesses in their supply chain. It also includes the share of Airbnb host income that is spent in the local economy. In our analysis, we extend our assessment to include the

economic activity stimulated in the supply chains

The sum of these tiers amounts to the total

economic impact of Airbnb, and the results are presented on a gross basis. They therefore do not

take into account any displacement of activity from Airbnb's competitors, nor what the second

most productive use of those resources would have

been. Airbnb's economic contribution is measured

Gross domestic product (GDP) or more specifically, the gross value added (GVA) contribution to GDP.1

This is defined as the value of the output produced,

minus the expenditure on inputs of bought-in

**Employment** measured on a headcount basis.

Wages earned by those employees over the course

A more detailed explanation of our methodology is

included in the Technical Appendix of this report.

goods and services used up in the production of

of retail, leisure, and other outlets.

using three metrics:

that output.

of the year.

including the value added by hosts.

supports those "front-line" businesses.

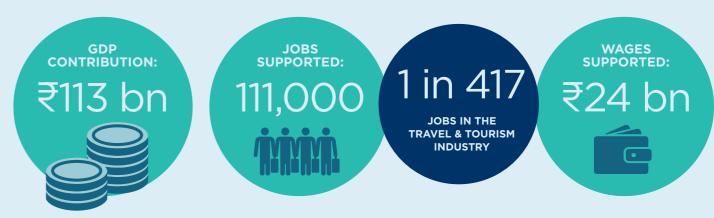


# AIRBNB IN INDIA

#### **AIRBNB TOURISM FLOWS IN 2024**



#### **ECONOMIC IMPACT**



#### JOBS SUPPORTED, BY INDUSTRY



#### **NON-URBAN ACCOMMODATION SPENDING**



- TRANSPORT & STORAGE

- ARTS ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATION
  - OTHERS

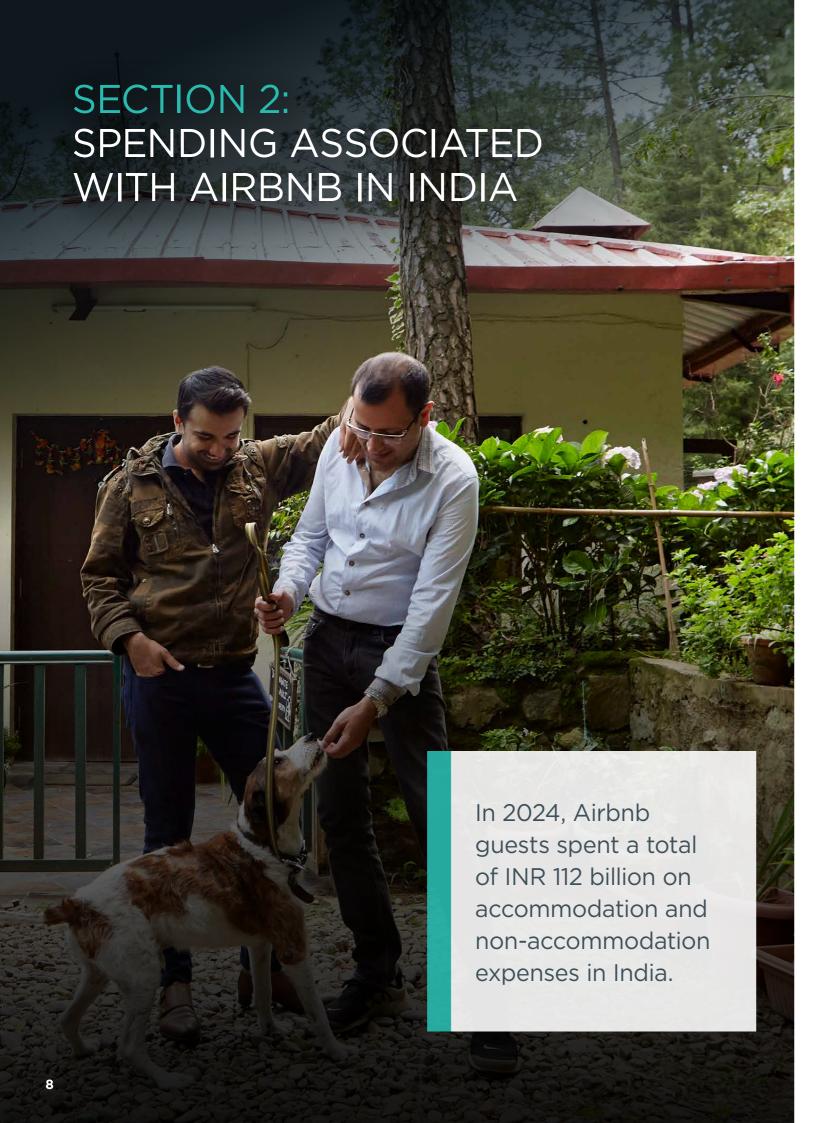
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHING

All ₹ figures in 2024 prices. Figures may not sum due to rounding \*"Others" refers to Latin America, Africa, Middle East or other regions



- FOOD & BEVERAGE
- WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE BUSINESS SERVICES
- MANUFACTURING





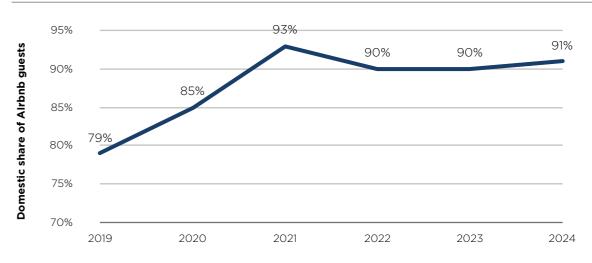
#### **2.1 AIRBNB TOURISM FLOWS**

In 2024, domestic travellers comprised around 91% of Airbnb guests in India, a notable rise from the 79% share in 2019.<sup>2</sup> This is fuelled by a surge in domestic travel, corresponding to stronger demand from younger Indian Airbnb guests, and has positioned India as one of Airbnb's fastest growing markets.<sup>3</sup>

This strong domestic momentum is complemented by consistent interest from international markets, with North America continuing to lead inbound travel to India. North American guests made up nearly half of all international Airbnb arrivals to India in 2024, accounting for around 4% of total Airbnb guests in India. While the share of Asia Pacific guests stood at 1% in 2024, this signals potential for future growth from neighbouring markets, laying the groundwork for strategic opportunities to further boost inbound travel from the region.

In 2024, the United States was the leading inbound source market for Airbnb guests, contributing 36% of all international guests, up from 33% in 2019. The United Kingdom was India's next largest origin market for Airbnb, representing 14% of total inbound guests. This was followed by Canada and Australia, which accounted for 8% and 7% respectively.

Fig. 2: Domestic share of Airbnb guests in India, 2019 to 2024



Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise specified, all year references in this report pertain to calendar years.

<sup>3</sup> The Economic Times, 'India is a long game; over time, it will become one of the biggest markets for us,' says Airbnb CEO Brian Chesky (2025).

The Economic Impact of Airbnb in India

The Economic Impact of Airbnb in India

Fig. 3: Airbnb guests staying in India, by origin, 2019 to 2024<sup>4</sup>

Origin	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Domestic	79%	85%	93%	90%	90%	91%
International	21%	15%	7%	10%	10%	9%
Asia Pacific	4%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%
Europe	7%	5%	2%	2%	3%	3%
North America	8%	6%	4%	5%	5%	4%
Others	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics. Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Fig. 4. Top 10 origin markets of Airbnb guests staying in India, 2019 to 2024

United States United Kingdom Canada	33% 13%	33% 14%	41%	44%	39%	36%
		14%	15%			
Canada			. 370	10%	12%	14%
	8%	9%	10%	7%	7%	8%
Australia	6%	6%	3%	6%	7%	7%
Germany	5%	5%	5%	5%	6%	5%
United Arab Emirates	3%	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%
France	4%	4%	2%	3%	4%	3%
Singapore	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%
Netherlands	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%
New Zealand	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Australia Germany United Arab Emirates France Singapore Netherlands	Australia 6%  Germany 5%  United Arab Emirates 3%  France 4%  Singapore 2%  Netherlands 2%	Australia       6%       6%         Germany       5%       5%         United Arab Emirates       3%       3%         France       4%       4%         Singapore       2%       2%         Netherlands       2%       2%	Australia       6%       6%       3%         Germany       5%       5%       5%         United Arab Emirates       3%       3%       4%         France       4%       4%       2%         Singapore       2%       2%       2%         Netherlands       2%       2%       2%	Australia       6%       6%       3%       6%         Germany       5%       5%       5%       5%         United Arab Emirates       3%       3%       4%       4%         France       4%       4%       2%       3%         Singapore       2%       2%       2%       3%         Netherlands       2%       2%       2%       1%	Australia       6%       6%       3%       6%       7%         Germany       5%       5%       5%       5%       6%         United Arab Emirates       3%       3%       4%       4%       3%         France       4%       4%       2%       3%       4%         Singapore       2%       2%       2%       3%       2%         Netherlands       2%       2%       2%       1%       2%

Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics

#### 2.2 AIRBNB GUEST SPENDING

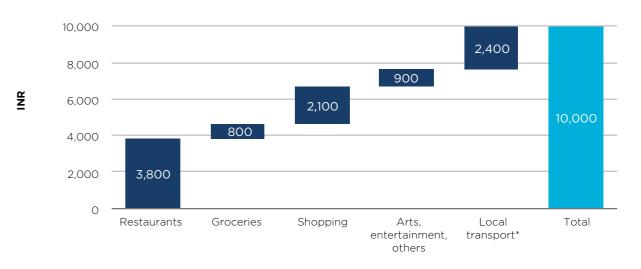
Airbnb guests spent a total of INR 112 billion in India in 2024, including both accommodation and non-accommodation expenses. Notably, a significant majority of this spending was directed towards local businesses beyond accommodation, underscoring Airbnb's role in distributing the economic benefits of tourism across a broader set of stakeholders.

The typical Airbnb guest in India in 2024 stayed for an average of two days in their Airbnb accommodation and spent an average of INR 11,000 per day on non-accommodation spending, such as purchases in restaurants, retail stores, and on transport.<sup>5</sup>

We analysed Airbnb guest spending patterns to understand what sort of tourism-facing businesses were recipients of this spending.

Restaurants was the largest in-destination spend category, accounting for more than a third of every INR 10,000 spent on non-accommodation expenses in 2024. Local transport followed as the second largest category, accounting for almost a quarter of the total. Shopping came next, accounting for INR 2,100 of every INR 10,000 spent, followed by arts and entertainment (INR 900) and groceries (INR 800).

Fig. 5: Distribution of Airbnb in-destination guest spending by category, India, 2024



Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics. Figures may not sum due to rounding.

10 11

<sup>\*</sup> This excludes airfares.

 $<sup>\,\,4\,\,\,</sup>$  "Others" refers to Latin America, Africa, Middle East or other regions.

<sup>5</sup> The average length of stay refers to the average (mean) number of nights that guests stay in Airbnb accommodations in the local destination. The spending per day figure refers to specifically the spending by Airbnb guests for each guest night.



# DISTRIBUTION OF AIRBNB GUEST SPENDING IN NON-URBAN DESTINATIONS

In recent years there has been a significant increase in the non-urban gross booking revenue (GBV) from Airbnb guests in India. Between 2019 and 2024 the non-urban GBV tripled, reflecting a marked increase among Airbnb guests in visiting rural destinations outside of India's major cities.

In 2020, during the Covid-19 pandemic, the non-urban GBV remained relatively resilient compared to urban GBV. This resilience may have been driven by health and safety considerations, as well as a greater desire amongst domestic tourists to explore rural destinations. As Covid-19 restrictions were removed non-urban GBV also recovered and grew at a faster rate than urban GBV, reaching 26% higher than the 2019 level by 2021 and 93% higher in 2022.

Fig. 6. Non-urban share of gross booking value in India, 2019 to 2024

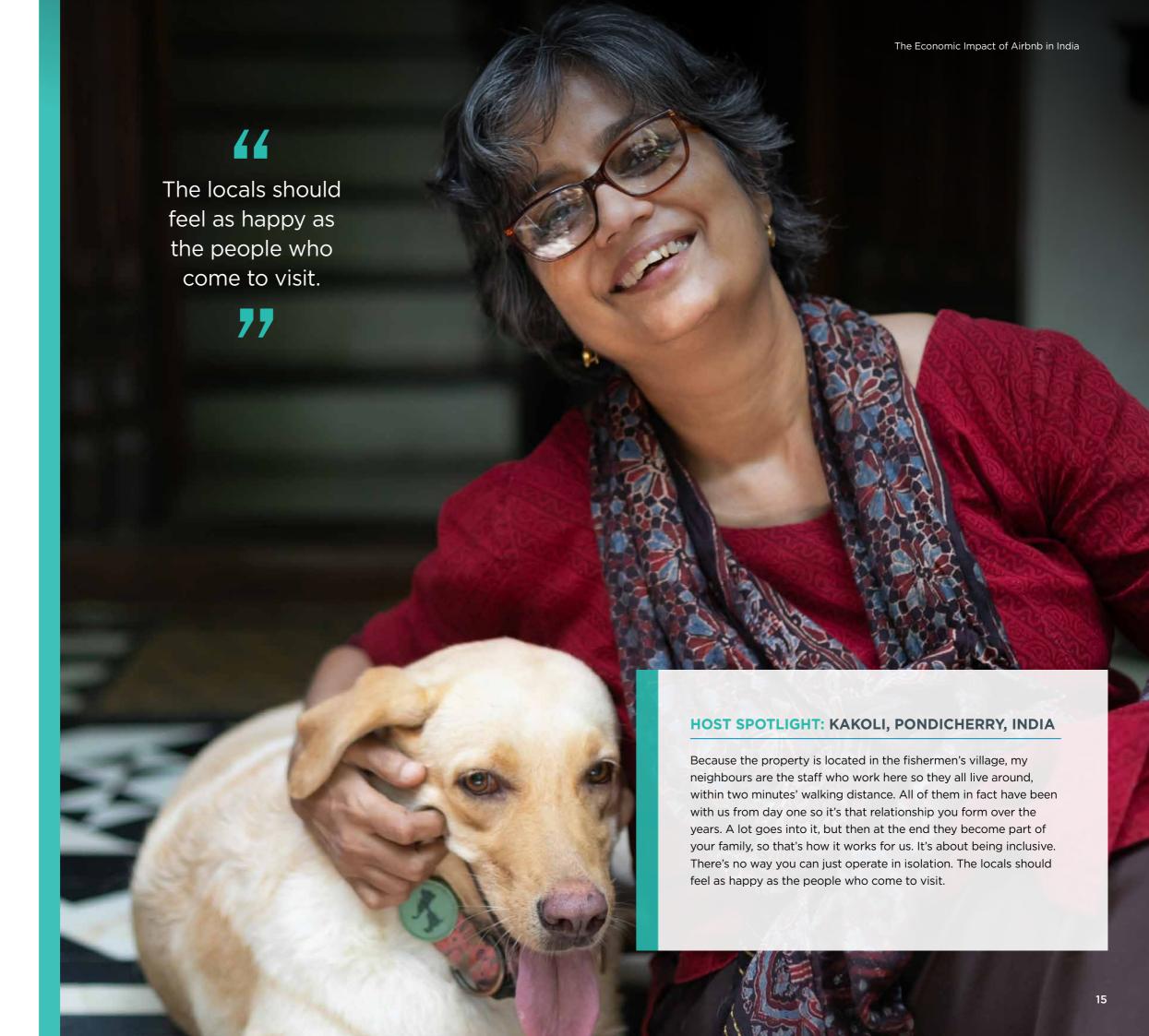


Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics

#### 2.3 AIRBNB HOST SPENDING

The combined spending of Airbnb guests and hosts stimulates a large and far-reaching chain of additional activity in the Indian economy.

While guest spending accounts for most of the spending associated with Airbnb in India, Airbnb hosts themselves also generate considerable spending impacts in their local communities. Some of the earnings received by Airbnb hosts were used to maintain and improve their properties. This may involve purchases of goods and services from businesses in the local economy, for example operational expenses on cleaning services and utilities, or capital expenses with local construction firms or tradespeople to upgrade and maintain properties. The earnings received by Airbnb hosts may also be used for discretionary purchases to support their livelihoods.



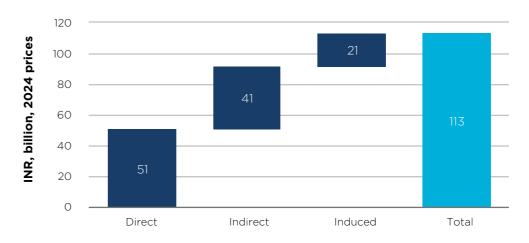
# **SECTION 3:** AIRBNB'S ECONOMIC IMPACT In 2024, the spending associated with Airbnb led to an estimated INR 113 billion contribution to India's GDP.

#### **3.1 TOTAL AIRBNB IMPACT IN INDIA**

In 2024, the spending associated with Airbnb led to an estimated INR 113 billion contribution to India's economy. This was driven by guest expenditures, hosts' investments in their properties, the supply chain impact from supporting these activities, and the induced impact from wage expenditure of workers associated with this supply chain. Through the economic activity stimulated by Airbnb, a total of 111,000 jobs were supported<sup>6</sup> and an estimated INR 24 billion was paid in wages and salaries for these jobs.

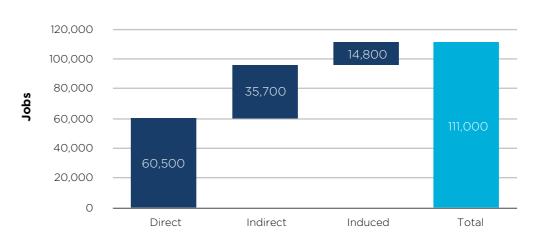
We analysed the scale of Airbnb's economic impact in India in relation to the total economic footprint of travel and tourism in the country, based on World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) estimates. Our analysis suggests that Airbnb was responsible for 0.5% of the broader travel and tourism sector's contribution to GDP and 0.2% of its total employment in the country. This means that one in every 417 jobs supported by the travel and tourism industry was associated with Airbnb in 2024.

Fig. 7: Airbnb's economic impact in India, 2024



Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics

Fig. 8: Jobs supported by Airbnb in India, 2024



Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics

<sup>6</sup> Economic footprint analysis captures the gross economic impacts of Airbnb activity, as opposed to its net impacts. Our estimates therefore make no net adjustment for jobs that might have been supported by other sources of demand in the absence of Airbnb. As a gross measure, we refer to jobs "supported" by Airbnb activity, not created by it. Please see the Technical Appendix for further details.

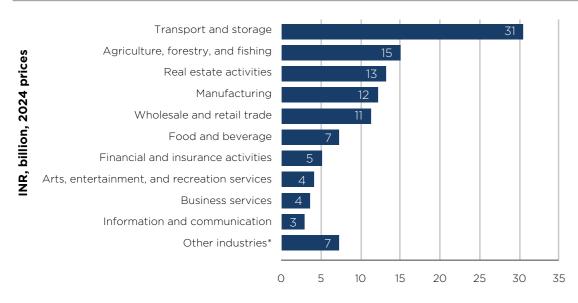
The Economic Impact of Airbnb in India

#### **3.2 SECTORAL IMPACTS**

The largest GDP impact from Airbnb activity in India was in the sectors that directly serve Airbnb guests. The transport and storage sector<sup>7</sup> saw the largest sectoral impact, accounting for INR 31 billion of Airbnb's total economic footprint in India. The direct spending by Airbnb guests on local transport and airfares accounted for 83% of this impact.

The real estate sector<sup>8</sup> represented another INR 13 billion of Airbnb's total footprint. The impact in the sector came predominantly from the guest spending on their Airbnb accommodation, and from the wage expenditure (i.e., induced impact) of the employees supported by Airbnb activities, who spend a proportion of their wages on housing.

Fig. 9: Airbnb's economic impact in India, by sector, 2024



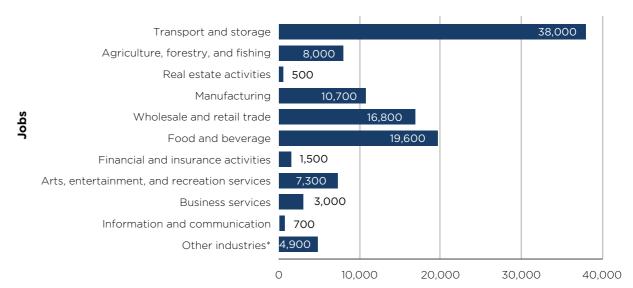
Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics.

Airbnb's economic impact also flows from the supply chain spending of "front-line" businesses that directly service Airbnb guests. The agriculture, forestry, and fishing sector accounted for INR 15 billion of Airbnb's impact in the country, the majority of which resulted from the procurement of these food products by restaurants and other dining establishments that serve Airbnb guests. Another INR 12 billion is supported in the manufacturing sector, with 54% of this impact resulting from the procurement spending on intermediate goods by tourism-facing businesses like retail outlets, grocery stores, and hospitality services.

Airbnb's employment footprint was most prominent in sectors that were the largest direct recipients of Airbnb guest spending.9 In the transport and storage sector, roughly 38,000 jobs were supported by Airbnb activity, the majority of which was directly supported by guest spending on local transport and airfares. Another 19,600 jobs were supported in the food and beverage services sector—90% of which is associated with supplying dining experiences to Airbnb guests during their stay.

In other sectors, the indirect supply chain impacts that flow from Airbnb activity are more pronounced. Some 16,800 jobs were supported in India's wholesale and retail trade sector<sup>10</sup> in 2024, and 10,700 jobs in manufacturing.

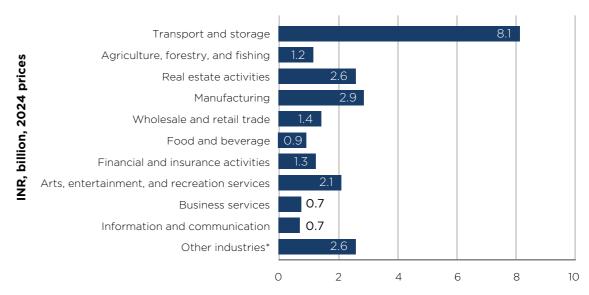
Fig. 10: Jobs supported by Airbnb in India, by sector, 2024



Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics.

This broad employment footprint means wage earnings derived from Airbnb activity were also dispersed across the economy. The distribution of wage earnings by sector broadly aligns with the sectoral distribution of jobs. The transport and storage sector benefited from the largest total wage impacts of any sector, with INR 8.1 billion in wage payments supported by Airbnb-related activity. This was followed by manufacturing (INR 2.9 billion in wage payments), and real estate activities (INR 2.6 billion).

Fig. 11: Wages supported by Airbnb in India, by sector, 2024



Source: Airbnb, Oxford Economics.

<sup>\*</sup> Includes electricity, gas and water supply, and mining etc

<sup>7</sup> This sector includes services such as land, air, and water transport, as well as warehousing and storage facilities.

<sup>8</sup> This sector includes services such as the renting or leasing of residential and commercial properties, services of property agents, and imputed rent for owner-occupied housing.

<sup>9</sup> Sectors which saw the largest share of employment could differ from the sectors which contributed most to India's GDP, due to varying productivity levels across sectors.

<sup>\*</sup> Includes electricity, gas and water supply, and mining etc

 $<sup>\</sup>ensuremath{^*}$  Includes electricity, gas and water supply, and mining etc

<sup>10</sup> This sector includes services such as the commission based buying and selling of goods, without significant transformation, by merchants and brokers to businesses, as well as by retail units to the general public.

The Economic Impact of Airbnb in India

The Economic Impact of Airbnb in India

### TECHNICAL APPENDIX

#### **DATA SOURCES**

Our analysis drew on detailed data from Airbnb, WTTC, UNWTO, national tourism agencies, third party providers (e.g., hotel and industry associations), and Oxford Economics databanks.

#### **AIRBNB**

Data provided by Airbnb included the volume of Airbnb guest activity (guests and accommodation revenue) and the number of Airbnb listings. This data covered each geography for 2024. Additional data covered the number of guests travelling to each destination by origin market.

Airbnb also provided guest spending results based on guest surveys it has conducted annually using a randomised sample of guest accounts in each country or region. The survey is administered through Qualtrics and sent via email. No payment or other incentive is provided in exchange for completing the survey.

## WTTC AND OXFORD ECONOMICS GLOBAL ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Oxford Economics has been working for over 30 years with the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) to produce annual economic impact studies for 185 countries and regions, quantifying the socio-economic benefits that travel and tourism brings to the world economy on a global, regional, country, and city level. These figures were incorporated into our analysis.

WTTC is the only global organisation that studies and publishes research on the sector's direct, indirect, and induced impact at a national, regional, and global level on jobs, GDP, and trade and investment. These can be found at https://www.wttc.org/economic-impact/. Oxford Economics has recently undertaken further work to benchmark tourism's economic impact versus other sectors, as well as analyse issues such as youth and female tourism employment patterns.

#### **OXFORD ECONOMICS**

Oxford Economics, through its Tourism Economics subsidiary, maintains a global database on travel and tourism activity across 185 countries and regions. Data used in this Airbnb study included transport expenditures per international visitor, distances between origin and destinations, and an analysis of selected tourism satellite accounts.

#### **GUEST SPENDING ANALYSIS**

We quantified total Airbnb guest expenditures based on a database we developed containing detailed information on Airbnb guest activity, surveys of Airbnb guest spending patterns, and transport costs estimated by each source market. This analysis leveraged highly detailed transaction-based data provided by Airbnb across 10 APAC countries and regions, and Oxford Economics' proprietary databases and research.

The key components to Airbnb guest expenditures are 1) accommodation spending (i.e., gross booking value based on Airbnb data), 2) in-destination guest spending outside of Airbnb, and 3) portion of airfare revenues that goes to each market.

**Gross booking value (GBV)** is sourced directly from Airbnb and reviewed by Oxford Economics to check for consistency in terms of GBV per guest and international versus domestic breakdowns. GBV is attributed to host earning and revenue on the night of stay, thus it excludes cancelled bookings. The GBV figures reported are different to those used in the 2023 study which included the total GBV on the Airbnb platform, of which a proportion may have been cancelled bookings. There may be slight variations in the historical non-urban share of GBV in this study compared to the previous study, due to revisions in the GBV data. GBV data was provided with a breakdown by "urban" versus "non-urban", the latter referring to listings in locations that do not appear to be urbanised based on satellite imagery data.

**In-destination spending by guests** covers their purchases of goods and services in the local economy. To estimate non-accommodation guest spending such as on restaurants, shopping, and activities, we modelled guest spending by category using the Airbnb guest survey data. We also use Oxford Economics' data on country-level and city-level travel flows and spending to guide our estimates. These are informed by data from the UNWTO, national tourism agencies, third-party providers (e.g., hotel and industry associations), balance of payments data and OE's own estimates.

Airfares including the travel to and from the Airbnb destination, is a sum of three components. We estimated inbound and outbound transport spending of international travellers based on the estimated distance travelled between origin and destination for each country/region pair, and transport spending ratios from tourism satellite accounts and balance of payments data. We adjusted transport cost estimates to reflect only that portion of expenditures with an impact on the origin and destination countries and regions of analysis. For domestic guests, we calculated the total airfare revenue by taking the residual from total local transport spending (including airfares) compared to Airbnb's survey data on in-destination local transport spending of domestic guests. At the subnational level, we estimate using each smaller regions' share of corresponding country's air traffic, based on airport locations and third-party data on air travel.

The results provide a detailed platform for quantifying the scope and scale of Airbnb guest spending and support a detailed assessment of the corresponding economic impacts.

20 21

The Economic Impact of Airbnb in India

The Economic Impact of Airbnb in India

#### **ECONOMIC IMPACT METHODOLOGY**

In this report, we have designed an economic impact framework with a focus on the way in which Airbnb supports local tourism businesses. The bulk of the calculated economic benefits are from non-accommodation spending within the destination.

However, we also consider some of the economic impact supported by the total accommodation income a host receives. We estimate a) the economic impact generated by the host's procurement of intermediate inputs to maintain the property, such as cleaning services, and the onward supply chain that supports this, b) the economic impact of the boost to host spending that is induced from accommodation incomes, after accounting for costs and savings, and c) the economic impact created as employees in the hosts' supply chains spend out of their own earnings. We also consider Airbnb's own activity in the destination economy.

#### The tiers of impact

When assessing the economic contribution of Airbnb's presence in APAC countries and regions, we considered three main tiers of impact:

- At the centre of any economic impact assessment is the direct impact. This is the impact generated by
  the direct recipients of the spending associated with Airbnb's presence in a given country or region. In
  this framework, the primary driver of the direct impact is the guest spending on goods and services,
  stimulating activity in tourist-facing industries. It also includes hosts' and Airbnb's own activity in the
  destination economy.
- The second tier of impact focuses on the supply chain that is required to support the direct purchases. This indirect impact represents the activity created in other parts of the economy from the procurement of inputs in the form of goods and services. Examples include the manufacturing of goods that travellers buy and sourcing of raw food inputs through agriculture and fishing. It also includes support services for Airbnb accommodations such as cleaning and maintenance providers, as well as operating expenses for the upkeep of the online Airbnb platform such as spending on infocommunications providers and other business services.
- The final tier of impact is known as the induced impact. This captures the activity stimulated by the consumer spending of people employed through the direct and indirect activity associated with Airbnb. It also captures the additional demand sustained along the domestic supply chain from those transactions. In addition, it includes the proportion of income of hosts that is spent in the local economy, after adjusting for business costs and deductions. In this framework, the economic footprint of host earnings is captured primarily through the induced impact, recognised as a boost to host spending power.

Brought together, these three tiers present a complete picture of **total economic impact** of Airbnb, as it ripples from the direct effect out through the rest of the economy.

To effectively quantify Airbnb's economic impact, it is necessary to evaluate the contribution it makes in the same terms used to measure the size of the economy. As such, impact assessments typically focus on two different metrics: gross value added (GVA) contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) and employment.

The first of these metrics—GVA contribution to GDP—is a measure of net output. Three different approaches are available to calculate the GVA contribution to GDP of a business: the production (or output) approach, income approach, and expenditure approach. United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) clearly defines the different methodologies:

"The production approach [...] measures GDP as the difference between the value of output less the value of goods and services used in producing these outputs in an accounting period".

"The income approach measures GDP as the sum of the factor incomes generated to the economy [wages, salaries and bonuses payable to employees, taxes on production, and operating surplus for the producers]".

"The expenditure approach measures the final uses of the produced output as the sum of final consumption, gross capital formation and exports less imports".

Whichever approach is used, gross value added measures the contribution to the economy of each individual producer. When aggregated across all firms in a national economy, GVA sums to GDP. GDP is one of the main summary indicators of a country or region's economic performance. References to economic growth (or when the economy enters recession) typically relate to the rate of change of GDP.

Employment is the second metric by which the economic contribution of a firm can be measured. It can be defined in three ways: headcount, full-time equivalent, or job-years. A headcount employment measure corresponds to the number of people employed, irrespective of whether employment is full or part time. An adjustment was made to agriculture employment estimates to account for the presence of subsistence farming. This is a portion of the agriculture workforce that essentially does not take part in the market economy and therefore has been removed from the employment estimates.

#### **Gross versus net economic impact studies**

The total core contribution of any given entity to the economy is the sum of its direct, indirect, and induced impacts. In line with standard practices, we present Airbnb's impact on a gross rather than a net basis. This means that in measuring the value of Airbnb's contribution, we estimate the total value added by businesses and wage earners in supporting Airbnb's economic activity, but we do not deduct for how those resources might otherwise have been used in the absence of that activity, i.e., their next most productive use. A net approach to such an assessment is more complex and controversial, as it requires many assumptions about counterfactual scenarios.

22 23

#### **MEASURING AIRBNB'S CORE IMPACT**

An I-O model is a detailed representation of an economy, showing the major interactions and spending flows between different industries, households, government, and the external sector. An I-O model is a table which shows who buys what, and from whom, in the economy. The global I-O model used in this study offered a platform to analyse all countries and regions through the same structure, ensuring that our analysis of each country and region was completely comparable.

#### **Direct impact**

Understanding the direct impact involves analysing the industries that are direct beneficiaries of the expenditure related to Airbnb accommodations. This includes:

- Revenue for tourism-facing businesses receiving Airbnb guest spending
- Revenue for Airbnb from platform commission
- Revenue for Airbnb hosts.

These revenue figures represent the total direct gross output. The I-O tables were then used to analyse the direct impact by quantifying the share of revenues that should be considered part of their direct GVA contribution to GDP, calculated as the sum of their costs of employment, operating surplus, and taxes on production (i.e., using the income approach).

Airbnb's direct employment footprint was estimated based on the relationship between the GVA contributions and employment of different industries within each country or region. Source data were gathered from a range of national statistics agencies and Oxford Economics estimates.

#### Indirect and induced economic impact

We estimated the structure of intermediate purchases of goods and services that flowed from our direct impacts, using I-O tables. We traced the entire supply chain that supported this spending, accounting for wages, profit margins, taxes, and imports along the way. From this, the GVA contribution to GDP from the indirect effect was estimated. The employment that those impacts support were analysed using the same methodology described above, for direct impacts.

The induced impact considers the value accrued in the economy as wage earners spend the wages they derive via the direct and indirect impacts, and as Airbnb hosts, and employees of businesses along the supply chain, spend their incomes. Employee wage spending was adjusted to account for the value of household spending as a share of total earnings, in order to account for taxes and savings. We also adjusted for savings and the tax wedge to the earnings of hosts, based on OECD data. The value of this spending was distributed across different industry sectors based on the structure of household spending in each country or region, sourced from the I-O tables, and we traced the impact that this had through the economy. The employment impacts were derived from this estimate, as explained above.

#### **Rounding convention**

Note that employment figures are rounded to the nearest hundred. All other reported statistics are rounded to the nearest integer, while values containing decimals are rounded to one decimal place.



# OXFORD ECONOMICS

#### May 2025

All data shown in tables and charts are Oxford Economics' own data, except where otherwise stated and cited in footnotes, and are copyright © Oxford Economics Ltd.

This report is confidential to Airbnb and may not be published or distributed without their prior written permission.

The modelling and results presented here are based on information provided by third parties, upon which Oxford Economics has relied in producing its report and forecasts in good faith. Any subsequent revision or update of those data will affect the assessments and projections shown.

To discuss the report further please contact:

#### **Liam Cordingley**

lcordingley@oxfordeconomics.com

Oxford Economics 6 Battery Road, #38-05 Singapore 049909

**Tel:** +65 6850 0125

www. oxforde conomics. com



#### **CONTACT**

#### **Global headquarters**

Oxford Economics Ltd 60 St Aldates, Oxford, OX1 1ST, UK

**Tel:** +44 (0)1865 268900

#### London

4 Millbank, London, SWIP 3JA, UK

Tel: +44 (0)203 910 8000

#### **Frankfurt**

Marienstr. 15 60329 Frankfurt am Main Germany

**Tel:** +49 69 96 758 658

#### **New York**

5 Hanover Square, 8th Floor, New York NY 10004, USA

**Tel:** +1 (646) 786 1879

#### **Singapore**

6 Battery Road #38-05 Singapore 049909 **Tel:** +65 6850 0110

#### **Email:**

mailbox@oxfordeconomics.com

#### Website:

www.oxfordeconomics.com

#### **Further contact details:**

www.oxfordeconomics.com/ about-us/worldwide-offices

EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA: OXFORD . LONDON . BELFAST . DUBLIN . FRANKFURT . PARIS . MILAN . STOCKHOLM . CAPE TOWN . DUBAI . AMERICAS: NEW YORK . PHILADELPHIA . BOSTON . CHICAGO LOS ANGELES . TORONTO . MEXICO CITY . ASIA PACIFIC: SINGAPORE . HONG KONG . TOKYO . SYDNEY