

Sunstone Hotel Investors, Inc.
Form 424B4
June 08, 2005
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Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(4)

Registration File No. 333-125123

PROSPECTUS

10,592,000 Shares

Sunstone Hotel Investors, Inc.

Common Stock

\$23.40 per share

We are offering 3,000,000 shares of our common stock and the selling stockholders are offering 7,592,000 shares of our common stock. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of any shares of common stock sold by the selling stockholders.

Our common stock currently trades on the New York Stock Exchange, or NYSE, under the symbol SHO. On June 6, 2005, the last reported sale price of our common stock was \$23.58 per share.

Shares of our common stock are subject to ownership and transfer limitations that must be applied to maintain our status as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, which are described under Description of Stock.

See Risk Factors beginning on page 12 to read about factors you should consider before buying shares of our common stock, including:

In the recent past, events beyond our control, including an economic slowdown and terrorism, have harmed the hotel industry generally and the performance of our hotels, and if these or similar

transactions referenced in Summary Recent Developments, which may impede our growth.

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events occur again, our results may be harmed.

As of March 31, 2005, we had approximately \$667.7 million of debt or \$1,022 million on a pro forma basis giving effect to the acquisitions and financing transactions described under

Summary Recent Developments. This debt is subject to covenants that impose restrictions on our business.

Our organizational documents contain no limitations on the amount of debt we may incur and, therefore, we may become too highly leveraged.

We may experience conflicts of interest with our largest stockholders and our executive officers and directors, including with respect to their sales of shares of our common stock, evaluation of acquisition opportunities and ownership of interests in other hotels.

We may not be successful in identifying or completing hotel acquisitions that meet our criteria, including our pending hotel acquisitions and financing

Most of our hotels are upper upscale and upscale hotels, and the upper upscale and upscale segments of the lodging market are highly competitive and generally subject to greater volatility than other segments of the market, which could harm our profitability.

Our hotels are geographically concentrated in California and, accordingly, we could be disproportionately harmed by an economic downturn in this area of the country or a natural disaster, such as an earthquake.

We rely heavily on our arrangements with our franchisors and management companies, including the arrangement with Interstate Hotels & Resorts, Inc., and any disruptions to those arrangements could harm our business and financial results.

If we fail to qualify as a REIT for Federal income tax purposes, our earnings will be subject to Federal income taxation, which will reduce the amount of cash available for distribution to our stockholders.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	<u>Per Share</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public offering price	\$ 23.400	\$ 247,852,800
Underwriting discount	\$ 1.053	\$ 11,153,376
Proceeds to Sunstone Hotel Investors, Inc. (before expenses)	\$ 22.347	\$ 67,041,000
Proceeds to the selling stockholders	\$ 22.347	\$ 169,658,424

The selling stockholders have granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to 1,588,800 additional shares of our common stock to cover over-allotments. The underwriters expect to deliver the shares in New York, New York on or about June 10, 2005.

Citigroup

Deutsche Bank Securities

A.G. Edwards

Banc of America Securities LLC

Merrill Lynch & Co.

Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc.

UBS Investment Bank

Wachovia Securities

Calyon Securities (USA) Inc.

**Stifel, Nicolaus & Company
Incorporated**

Prospectus dated June 6, 2005

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You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of this prospectus.

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Unless otherwise indicated, industry statistics are from Smith Travel Research, an independent statistical research service that specializes in the lodging industry. Some of the terms used in the prospectus, such as luxury, upper upscale, upscale and midscale, are consistent with Smith Travel Research terms. The category of luxury includes Fairmont; the upper upscale includes hotels such as Doubletree, Embassy Suites Hotels, Hilton, Hyatt, Marriott, Renaissance and Sheraton; the category of upscale includes hotels such as Courtyard by Marriott, Crowne Plaza, Hawthorn Suites, Hilton Garden Inn, Radisson, Residence Inn by Marriott and Wyndham; and the category of midscale includes hotels such as Four Points Sheraton, Holiday Inn, Holiday Inn Express and Holiday Inn Select.

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SUMMARY

The following summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. However, you should read this entire prospectus, including Risk Factors and our historical and pro forma financial statements and related notes appearing elsewhere in this prospectus, before deciding to invest in our common stock.

As used in this prospectus, references to the Contributing Entities are to Sunstone Hotel Investors, L.L.C., Sunstone/WB Hotel Investors IV, LLC, Sunstone/WB Manhattan Beach, LLC and WB Hotel Investors, LLC, each of which is controlled by Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C. References to we, our and us are to Sunstone Hotel Investors, Inc. and, except as the context otherwise requires, its consolidated subsidiaries, including Sunstone Hotel Partnership, LLC and its consolidated subsidiaries. Our historical information includes hotels that were sold or distributed prior to the initial public offering of our common stock in October 2004. Our pro forma financial information for 2004 gives effect to the formation and structuring transactions described in our unaudited pro forma financial statements included in this prospectus as if they occurred on January 1, 2004 and our pro forma financial information for 2004 and the first quarter of 2005 gives effect to the pending acquisition of eight hotels and the pending and completed financing transactions as described under Recent Developments. We cannot assure you that the proposed acquisitions or financings will be completed.

SUNSTONE HOTEL INVESTORS, INC.

Our Company

We are a hospitality company that owns primarily upper upscale and upscale hotels in the United States. Our hotels are operated under leading brand names franchised or licensed from others, such as Marriott, Hilton, InterContinental, Hyatt, Starwood and Wyndham. We currently own 52 hotels, comprising 12,713 rooms, located in 16 states in the United States. Giving effect to the completion of the proposed acquisitions we have announced and described below under Recent Developments, we will own 60 hotels with an aggregate of 16,686 rooms in 19 states. Our portfolio also includes luxury and midscale hotels. The terms luxury, upper upscale, upscale and midscale are classifications of hotels by brand that are defined by Smith Travel Research, an independent provider of lodging industry statistical data. Smith Travel Research classifies hotel chains into the following segments: luxury; upper upscale; upscale; midscale with food and beverage; midscale without food and beverage; economy; and independent. We are a real estate investment trust, or REIT, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code.

Although we have historically self-managed most of our hotels, in connection with our initial public offering in October 2004, we engaged Interstate Hotels & Resorts, Inc., or the Management Company or Interstate, to manage 47 of our 52 hotels. Interstate is the largest independent hotel management company in the United States not affiliated with a hotel brand. We believe operational efficiencies are realized through our relationship with Interstate, in addition to allowing us to comply with the restrictions imposed on us by the applicable rules governing lodging REITs. Our remaining five hotels continue to be managed by Marriott or Hyatt under existing management agreements.

In connection with our initial public offering, we entered into our management agreements with the Management Company in order to seek to optimize the cash flow from, and the profitability of, our hotels by aligning the Management Company's incentives with ours while maintaining, to the greatest extent practicable, the hotel management practices we employed prior to electing REIT status. Most of our current hotel management employees became employees of the Management Company and continue in their current roles at the Management Company. The Management Company maintains an office in the same building as our headquarters for many of the employees responsible for operations, sales and marketing of our hotels.

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We believe our business, and the lodging industry as a whole, is in a recovery phase after the dramatic negative effects of the economic slowdown and the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. In recent quarters, our hotel portfolio has experienced consistent increases in revenue per available room, or RevPAR, one of the key performance indicators widely used in the lodging industry. RevPAR for the 52 hotels we own increased over the prior year's comparable period by 5.4% in the first quarter of 2004, 7.7% in the second quarter of 2004, 6.4% in the third quarter of 2004 and 6.6% in the fourth quarter of 2004 and 8.4% in the first quarter of 2005.

Competitive Strengths

We believe the following competitive strengths distinguish us from other owners of lodging properties:

Positioned to Capitalize on Industry Recovery.

Significant Recent Investments. From January 1, 2003 through March 31, 2005, we have invested \$138.0 million in capital renovations throughout our portfolio which we believe will improve the competitiveness of our hotels and better position us to capitalize on a lodging industry recovery.

Luxury, Upper Upscale and Upscale Concentration. We believe the luxury, upper upscale and upscale segments, which represented approximately 93.1% of our 2004 hotel revenues (on a pro forma basis to reflect the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering and for the acquisitions described in "Recent Developments"), tend to outperform the lodging industry generally during an economic recovery.

Nationally-Recognized Brands. We operate substantially all of our hotels under nationally-recognized brands, including Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt and Fairmont.

Presence in Markets with High Barriers to Entry. We believe that our hotels are located in desirable urban and suburban markets with major demand generators and significant barriers to entry for new supply, including a strong presence in California, where our hotels generated 27.7% of our 2004 revenues (on a pro forma basis to reflect the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering and for the acquisitions described in "Recent Developments").

Proven Acquisition and Disposition Capabilities. We believe that our significant acquisition and disposition experience will allow us to continue to redeploy capital from slower growth to higher growth hotels. Currently pending acquisitions include an aggregate of 3,326 rooms at the Renaissance hotels, 444 rooms at the Sutton Place Hotel and 203 rooms at the Cerritos Sheraton Hotel, each as described in "Recent Developments."

Strategic Relationship with the Management Company. We believe that our agreements with Interstate align its interests with ours to maximize the operating performance of our hotels.

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Experienced Management Team. We have a seasoned senior management team with an average of 17 years of experience in real estate, lodging or finance.

Flexible Capital Structure. We believe our capital structure provides us with the financial flexibility required to fund our growth strategy and meet our liquidity needs.

Business and Growth Strategy

Our principal business objectives are to generate attractive returns on our invested capital and long-term growth in cash flow in order to maximize total returns to our stockholders. Our focus is to own luxury, upper upscale and upscale hotels located in urban and suburban markets with major demand generators and significant barriers to entry. Our strategies for achieving our business objectives include the following key elements:

Active Asset Management. We intend to use our extensive hotel management expertise to enhance our relationships with our hotel operators and to maximize the operating performance, cash flow and value of our hotels.

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Opportunistic Hotel Redevelopment and Rebranding. We will continue to invest capital to renovate, redevelop and rebrand our hotels when we believe doing so will increase our market share, enhance our property-level cash flow and generate attractive returns on our invested capital.

Selective Hotel Acquisition and Development. We will seek to create value by acquiring premium-branded hotels, or hotels that have the attributes to facilitate their conversion to premium brands, that we believe have been undermanaged or undercapitalized, are located in growth market or offer expansion and renovation opportunities. We may also develop hotels in markets where we believe room demand and other competitive factors support new supply.

Capital Redeployment. We intend to continue to sell hotels on an opportunistic basis and redeploy our capital to acquire or redevelop other hotels with greater cash flow growth potential.

Lodging Industry Outlook

We believe the U.S. hotel industry and our hotel portfolio are in a recovery phase following a pronounced downturn. We believe improving industry fundamentals will lead to improved operating performance of our hotels based on the following factors:

Rebound in Lodging Demand. Following the industry downturn, which began in 2001, lodging demand, measured by total rooms sold, increased by 0.3% in 2002, 1.5% in 2003 and 4.5% in 2004. According to PricewaterhouseCoopers Hospitality Directions U.S. Edition, February 2005, it is projected that lodging demand would increase by 4.1% in 2005.

Limited New Supply. New lodging supply increased by 1.6% in 2002, 1.1% in 2003 and 1.0% in 2004. According to PricewaterhouseCoopers Hospitality Directions U.S. Edition, February 2005, it is projected that lodging supply will increase by 1.6% in 2005, well below its 15-year historical average of 2.2%.

Improving Operating Performance. According to PricewaterhouseCoopers Hospitality Directions U.S. Edition, February 2005, the current favorable supply and demand environment is expected to result in continued improvement of industry operating fundamentals. RevPAR for the industry decreased by 2.6% in 2002, but increased by 0.4% in 2003 and 7.5% in 2004. According to PricewaterhouseCoopers Hospitality Directions U.S. Edition, February 2005, it is projected that RevPAR will increase by 7.3% in 2005.

Recent Developments

Acquisition Transactions. We have recently entered into agreements to acquire the following hotels:

Sutton Place Hotel

In April 2005, we announced our agreement to acquire the 444-room Sutton Place Hotel in Newport Beach, California for approximately \$72.0 million. The closing of the acquisition is scheduled for June 2005 and is subject to customary closing conditions. The hotel will be managed by Fairmont Hotels and Resorts pursuant to a management agreement to be entered into at the closing of the acquisition.

Upon the closing, we intend to commence a major renovation of the hotel, including the guest rooms and public areas, at a cost of approximately \$22.0 million. Upon completion of the renovation, we will rename the hotel the Fairmont Newport Beach. We will use cash on hand to finance the acquisition and the renovation.

Renaissance Hotels

In April 2005, we entered into an agreement with Marriott International, Inc. to acquire a portfolio of six Renaissance Hotels (which includes a 25% interest in one of those hotels) comprising 3,326 rooms for

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approximately \$419.5 million. The closing of the acquisition is scheduled for June 2005 and is subject to customary closing conditions. The hotels will continue to be operated by Marriott.

Commencing at closing, we intend to spend an additional \$35.5 million on a capital expenditure program at the hotels.

The hotels include: the Renaissance Harbor Place in Baltimore, Maryland; the Renaissance Concourse in Atlanta, Georgia; the Renaissance Long Beach in Long Beach, California; the Renaissance Westchester in White Plains, New York; an 85% ownership interest (and the lender's position in several partnership loans that collectively provide us with the entire economic interest in the hotel) in the Renaissance Orlando Resort at Sea World in Orlando, Florida; and a 25% ownership interest in the Renaissance Washington in Washington, D.C.

We will use a combination of the net proceeds of the proposed debt and equity financings with Bear Stearns Commercial Mortgage, Inc., BIP REIT Private Limited and Security Capital Preferred Growth described below to finance this acquisition.

Remaining 75% of Renaissance Washington D.C.

In May 2005, we agreed to acquire the remaining 75% interest in the Renaissance Washington in Washington D.C. that we had not initially agreed to purchase as part of the proposed acquisition described above. The aggregate purchase price for this hotel is approximately \$160 million, which includes the 25% interest we had previously agreed to acquire, closing costs, the assumption of a \$54 million fixed-rate note bearing interest at 7.5% per annum with a maturity date of April 2008 and the repayment of a partnership loan previously funded by Marriott International. The acquisition is expected to be completed simultaneously with the closing of the acquisition of the Renaissance Hotels described above and is subject to customary closing conditions. We expect to use the net proceeds to be received by the Company in this offering to finance a portion of this acquisition. See Use of Proceeds. We refer to the six Renaissance hotels collectively as the Renaissance Hotels.

Sheraton Cerritos Hotel

In May 2005, we entered into an agreement to acquire the 203 room Sheraton Hotel in Cerritos, California for approximately \$24.8 million. The closing of the acquisition is scheduled for June 2005 and is subject to customary closing conditions. We expect to use cash on hand to finance this acquisition.

Financing Transactions. We have entered into the following financing transactions since our initial public offering:

Fixed Rate Mortgage Loan Refinance

On April 29, 2005, we closed 10 individual non cross-collateralized fixed-rate mortgage loans totaling \$276.0 million. The loans are each for a term of 10 years with a fixed-rate of 5.34% per annum. We used the net proceeds of these loans to retire \$175.1 million of floating rate debt which was cross-collateralized by 13 hotels and \$37.5 million of floating rate debt which was cross-collateralized by two hotels. Following the closings, approximately 87% of our outstanding debt is fixed-rate.

Series A and Series B Preferred Offering

On March 18, 2005 we closed a public offering of 4,850,000 shares of our 8.0% series A and series B cumulative redeemable preferred stock, with a liquidation preference of \$25.00 per share, for net proceeds of \$117.5 million. All of the 750,000 outstanding shares of our series B preferred stock were subsequently exchanged for an equal number of shares of series A preferred stock.

Private Sale of Common Stock to BIP REIT Private Limited

On April 27, 2005, we entered into a stock purchase agreement with BIP REIT Private Limited, an institutional accredited investor and an affiliate of GIC Real Estate, an investment arm of the Government of

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Singapore. Pursuant to this agreement, we agreed to sell to BIP 3,750,000 shares of our common stock at \$20.65 per share, for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$77.4 million. If we complete the sale of shares contemplated by this offering, BIP will have the right to buy from us such number of additional shares of common stock as is necessary to allow BIP to maintain the same percentage ownership of our outstanding common stock. The purchase price payable for these additional shares is equal to 95% of the average daily closing price for the 10 business days immediately preceding the closing of this offering. We expect BIP to purchase an additional 294,000 shares of our common stock pursuant to this right. For more information, see [Description of Stock](#) [Common Stock](#).

BIP's purchase price has been deposited into an escrow account with Citibank, N.A. in accordance with the stock purchase agreement and an escrow agreement and will be released to us in connection with and upon the closing of our acquisition of the Renaissance Hotels. BIP will receive the common stock through the escrow upon the closing of the acquisition of the Renaissance Hotels.

We also entered a registration rights agreement with BIP granting it the right to cause us to register the common stock they receive from us in the transaction.

Private Sale of Series C Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock to Security Capital Preferred Growth Incorporated

On April 27, 2005, we entered into a stock purchase agreement with Security Capital Preferred Growth Incorporated, an institutional accredited investor and an investment vehicle advised by Security Capital Research & Management Incorporated. Pursuant to this agreement, we agreed to sell Security Capital 4,102,564 shares of our series C convertible redeemable preferred stock at \$24.375 per share, for an aggregate purchase price of \$98,999,998, after a discount. If we complete the sale of shares contemplated by this offering, Security Capital will have the right to buy from us up to 10% of the shares of common stock sold by us in this offering at a purchase price equal to the price we receive in this offering minus the underwriting discount. For more information, see [Description of Stock](#) [Common Stock](#).

The series C preferred stock will (1) pay a dividend at a per annum rate of 6.45%, subject to increases based upon any dividend increases above a certain level on our common stock, and (2) be convertible by the holder into our common stock on a one-for-one basis at any time and will be callable at par by us after five years. For more information on the series C preferred stock, see [Description of Stock](#) [Series C Cumulative Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock](#).

The closing of the series C preferred stock offering is subject to the closing of our acquisition of the Renaissance Hotels and the common stock offering to BIP. We also agreed with Security Capital that upon the closing of the series C preferred stock offering we would enter into a registration rights agreement with Security Capital granting it the right to cause us to register the series C preferred stock it purchases in the transaction as well as the shares of common stock issuable upon the conversion thereof.

Renaissance Hotel Mortgage Debt Commitment

On April 26, 2005, we received a commitment letter from Bear Stearns Commercial Mortgage, Inc. to provide \$250 million in fixed-rate mortgage debt in the form of four separate loans each secured by one of the Renaissance Hotels being acquired from Marriott. The commitment is subject to customary conditions, including the satisfactory completion of due diligence and the negotiation of legal documents. We expect to close this loan in June 2005.

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In this prospectus, we refer to the pending acquisition and the pending and completed financing transactions described above (other than any additional shares of common stock that we may issue to BIP or Security Capital pursuant to their preemptive rights) as the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions.

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Other Recent Developments.

In November 2004, we sold the Holiday Inn, Flagstaff, Arizona and the San Marcos Resort, Chandler, Arizona to unrelated third parties for gross proceeds of \$21.3 million. In April 2005, we sold the Doubletree hotel located in Carson, California and the Holiday Inn hotel located in Mesa, Arizona to an unrelated third party. The hotels were sold for aggregate gross proceeds of \$26.1 million. We used the net proceeds of the Carson and Mesa sales to retire \$22.5 million in floating rate debt. The operating results of the hotels are included in discontinued operations in the financial statements included in this prospectus.

We are currently negotiating an amendment to our \$75.0 million subordinate term loan facility that would reduce the applicable margins from 3.00% for base rate loans and 4.00% for LIBOR loans to 1.25% for base rate loans and 2.25% for LIBOR loans. We cannot assure you that this amendment will be completed on these terms or at all.

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Our Portfolio

The charts below show the franchise affiliations, hotel chain scale segments and geographic regions of the 52 hotels included in our 2004 revenues (on a pro forma basis to reflect the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering) and the eight hotels we have agreed to acquire as described in **Recent Developments** as if the acquisitions had occurred at the beginning of 2004:

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Risk Factors

Our ability to achieve our goals and implement the strategies described above may be affected by matters discussed under Risk Factors beginning on page 12, which you should carefully consider prior to deciding whether to invest in our common stock, including:

in the recent past, events beyond our control, including an economic slowdown and terrorism, have harmed the hotel industry generally and the performance of our hotels, and if these or similar events occur again, our results may be harmed;

as of March 31, 2005, we had approximately \$667.7 million of debt, or \$1,022 million on a pro forma basis giving effect to the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions, with covenants that impose restrictions on our business;

our organizational documents contain no limitations on the amount of debt we may incur and, therefore, we may become too highly leveraged;

we may experience conflicts of interest with our largest stockholders and our executive officers and directors, including with respect to their sales of shares of our common stock, evaluation of acquisition opportunities and ownership of interests in other hotels;

we may not be successful in identifying or completing hotel acquisitions that meet our criteria, including our pending hotel acquisitions and financing transactions, which may impede our growth;

most of our hotels are upper upscale and upscale hotels, and the upper upscale and upscale segments of the lodging market are highly competitive and generally subject to greater volatility than other segments of the market, which could harm our profitability;

our hotels are geographically concentrated in California and, accordingly, we could be disproportionately harmed by an economic downturn in this area of the country or a natural disaster, such as an earthquake;

we rely heavily on our arrangements with our franchisors and management companies, including the arrangement with the Management Company, and any disruptions to those arrangements could harm our business and financial results;

we cannot assure the closing of our pending agreements, including those pertaining to (1) the acquisition of the Sutton Place Hotel, the Renaissance Hotels and the Sheraton Hotel in Cerritos, (2) the private placement of common stock to BIP REIT Private Limited, (3) the private placement of the series C preferred stock to Security Capital and (4) the loan contemplated by the commitment letter from Bear Stearns Commercial Mortgage, Inc., and if we do not close the transactions contemplated by these agreements our growth may be impeded; and

if we fail to qualify as a REIT for Federal income tax purposes, our earnings will be subject to Federal income taxation, which will reduce the amount of cash available for distribution to our stockholders.

Corporate Information

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On June 28, 2004, Sunstone Hotel Investors, Inc. was formed as a Maryland corporation with perpetual existence, and on June 29, 2004 Sunstone Hotel Partnership was formed as a Delaware limited liability company.

Our principal executive offices are at 903 Calle Amanecer, Suite 100, San Clemente, California 92673. Our telephone number is (949) 369-4000. Our website is located at www.sunstonehotels.com. Information on the website is not deemed to be a part of this prospectus.

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THE OFFERING

Common stock offered by us 3,000,000 shares

Common stock offered by selling stockholders 7,592,000 shares

Total shares of common stock and membership units outstanding immediately after this offering⁽¹⁾ 41,232,893 shares and membership units

Use of proceeds We estimate the net proceeds to us from this offering will be approximately \$65.3 million, based on the public offering price of \$23.40 per share. We will contribute the net proceeds that we receive to our operating partnership in exchange for additional membership units. Our operating partnership will subsequently use those net proceeds to finance a portion of the acquisition of the remaining 75% ownership interest in the Renaissance Washington in Washington, D.C. as described under Recent Developments. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of any shares sold by the selling stockholders.

Risk factors See Risk Factors beginning on page 12 and other information included in this prospectus for a discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in shares of our common stock.

Distribution policy To maintain our qualification as a REIT, we intend to make quarterly distributions to our stockholders of at least 90% of our REIT taxable income (which excludes net capital gains and does not necessarily equal net income as calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP). We paid a quarterly distribution of \$0.285 per share on April 15, 2005 and have declared a quarterly distribution of \$0.285 per share payable on July 15, 2005 to stockholders of record on June 30, 2005.

New York Stock Exchange symbol SHO

(1) This number is based on 34,533,321 shares of our common stock and 3,699,572 membership units in Sunstone Hotel Partnership outstanding at March 31, 2005 (not including membership units in Sunstone Hotel Partnership owned by us) and does not include:

2,032,053 additional shares of our common stock available for future issuance under our 2004 long-term incentive plan, of which approximately 448,382 have been granted to our employees and are unvested at the closing of this offering; and

3,750,000 shares of our common stock and 4,102,564 shares of our series C preferred stock (or any shares of common stock issuable upon conversion thereof) issuable as part of the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions and, as a result of our conducting this offering of 3,000,000 shares of our common stock, 294,000 additional shares of our common stock that we expect to issue to BIP pursuant to preemptive rights we granted to BIP and up to 300,000 additional shares of common stock that we may issue to Security Capital pursuant to preemptive rights we granted to Security Capital if Security Capital exercises those rights. For more information, see Recent Developments.

Table of Contents**SUMMARY HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA FINANCIAL AND OPERATING DATA**

The summary historical financial data as of December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004 and March 31, 2005, and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2003 and for the period January 1, 2004 through October 25, 2004, and for the period October 26, 2004 through December 31, 2004, and the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2005, has been derived from our audited annual and unaudited interim consolidated and combined financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus.

The unaudited pro forma financial information presented for 2004 gives effect to (1) the formation and structuring transactions that took place at the time of our initial public offering, (2) the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions and (3) this offering. It presents the unaudited pro forma statement of operations data for the year ended December 31, 2004 as if these transactions had occurred as of the beginning of that period. The unaudited pro forma financial information presented for the first quarter of 2005 gives effect to the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions and this offering. It presents the unaudited pro forma balance sheet data as of March 31, 2005 as if the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions had occurred as of March 31, 2005 and it presents the unaudited pro forma statement of operations data for the three months ended March 31, 2005 as if these transactions had occurred as of the beginning of that period. The adjustments are discussed in detail in our unaudited pro forma financial statements included in this prospectus. The unaudited pro forma financial data does not purport to represent our financial position or results of operations if these items had occurred on the dates discussed above. You should read the assumptions on which the unaudited pro forma financial data is based from pages F-3 through F-16 in connection with the pro forma financial data contained in this summary.

You should read the following summary historical and pro forma financial and operating data together with Selected Financial and Operating Data, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our unaudited pro forma financial statements and our consolidated and combined financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

	Year ended or as of December 31, 2002	Year ended or as of December 31, 2003	Period January 1, through October 25, 2004	Period October 26, through or as of December 31, 2004	Pro forma year ended December 31, 2004	Quarter ended March 31, 2004	Quarter ended March 31, 2005	Pro forma quarter ended or as of March 31, 2005
					(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
	(in thousands, except per share and statistical data)							
Statement of operations data:								
Total revenues	\$ 249,054	\$ 447,868	\$ 408,579	\$ 82,710	\$ 718,648	\$ 112,971	\$ 116,557	\$ 176,853
Operating costs and expenses:								
Hotel operating expenses	150,453	291,118	250,409	54,996	439,140	71,442	73,556	107,906
General and administrative	37,844	62,923	58,309	17,424	120,722	14,542	15,971	27,860
Depreciation and amortization	32,844	52,068	47,218	11,192	73,372	13,839	14,063	18,266
Impairment loss	6,176	11,382	7,439		7,439	7,439		
Total operating expenses	227,317	417,491	363,375	83,612	640,673	107,262	103,590	154,032
Operating income (loss)	21,737	30,377	45,204	(902)	77,975	5,709	12,967	22,821
Interest and other income	2,080	796	561	154	715	102	306	306
Interest expense	(27,932)	(53,974)	(43,881)	(19,606)	(66,766)	(13,342)	(12,168)	(16,692)
Income (loss) before minority interest, income taxes and discontinued operations	(4,115)	(22,801)	1,884	(20,354)	11,924	(7,531)	1,105	6,435
Minority interest		(17)	125	2,706	314	8	(151)	(182)

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Income tax benefit (provision)	4,707	2,876	(272)			(1,303)		
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	Year ended or as of December 31, 2002	Year ended or as of December 31, 2003	Period January 1, through October 25, 2004	Period October 26, through or as of December 31, 2004	Pro forma year ended December 31, 2004	Quarter ended March 31, 2004	Quarter ended March 31, 2005	Pro forma quarter ended or as of March 31, 2005
					(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
	(in thousands, except per share and statistical data)							
Income (loss) from continuing operations before discontinued operations	592	(19,942)	1,737	(17,648)	12,238	(8,826)	954	6,253
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(10,978)	(2,324)	(19,940)	(249)		(16,519)	843	
Net income (loss)	\$ (10,386)	\$ (22,266)	\$ (18,203)	\$ (17,897)	12,238	\$ (25,345)	1,797	6,253
Preferred stock dividends					(16,085)		(388)	(4,021)
Income (loss) to common stockholders					\$ (3,847)		\$ 1,409	\$ 2,232
Cash flows from operating activities	\$ 26,720	\$ 60,034	\$ 38,971	\$ 2,620		\$ 9,345	\$ 16,239	
Balance sheet data:								
Investment in hotel properties, net	\$ 1,316,659	\$ 1,227,537		\$ 1,127,272			\$ 1,104,034	\$ 1,776,534
Total assets	1,445,889	1,364,942		1,253,745			1,312,049	1,910,839
Total debt ⁽¹⁾	942,423	917,652		712,461			653,027	1,022,240
Total liabilities	1,047,147	1,033,993		791,583			741,368	1,094,474
Equity	398,742	330,345		417,332			526,754	673,438
Common stock/membership unit information:								
Common stock outstanding				34,519			34,533	41,283
Membership units outstanding				3,700			3,700	3,700
Unvested restricted stock issuable ⁽²⁾				293			289	335
Total diluted common stock, membership units and unvested restricted stock units outstanding				38,512			38,522	45,318

(1) Excludes debt of discontinued operations.

(2) Shares of our common stock issuable in connection with unvested restricted stock units.

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RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock presents risks. You should consider the material risks discussed in this section in addition to the other information contained in this prospectus before making your investment decision. If any of the material risks described below actually occurs, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be harmed. In that event, the trading price of shares of our common stock could decline and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Risks Related to Our Business

In the recent past, events beyond our control, including an economic slowdown and terrorism, harmed the operating performance of the hotel industry generally and the performance of our hotels, and if these or similar events occur again, our operating and financial results may be harmed by declines in average daily room rates or occupancy.

The performance of the lodging industry has traditionally been closely linked with the performance of the general economy and, specifically, growth in the United States gross domestic product. RevPAR in the lodging industry declined 6.9% in 2001 and 2.6% in 2002. RevPAR for our 52 hotels decreased 1.2% in 2002. The majority of our hotels are classified as upper upscale or upscale hotels. In an economic downturn, these types of hotels may be more susceptible to a decrease in revenue, as compared to hotels in other categories that have lower room rates. This characteristic may result from the fact that upper upscale and upscale hotels generally target business and high-end leisure travelers. In periods of economic difficulties, business and leisure travelers may seek to reduce travel costs by limiting travel or seeking to reduce costs on their trips. In addition, the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 had a dramatic adverse effect on business and leisure travel, and on our occupancy and average daily rate, or ADR. Future terrorist activities could have a similarly harmful effect on both the industry and us.

As of March 31, 2005, we had approximately \$667.7 million of outstanding debt, or \$1,022 million on a pro forma basis giving effect to the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions. Carrying such debt may harm our financial flexibility or harm our business and financial results by imposing requirements on our business.

Carrying our outstanding debt may harm our business and financial results by:

requiring us to use a substantial portion of our funds from operations to make required payments on principal and interest, which will reduce the amount of cash available to us for distributions to our stockholders and for our operations and capital expenditures, future business opportunities and other purposes;

making us more vulnerable to economic and industry downturns and reducing our flexibility in responding to changing business and economic conditions;

limiting our ability to borrow more money for operations, capital expenditures or to finance acquisitions in the future; and

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requiring us to sell one or more properties, possibly on disadvantageous terms, in order to make required payments of interest and principal.

We also intend to incur additional debt in connection with future acquisitions of real estate, which may include loans secured by a portfolio of some or all of the hotels we acquire. If necessary or advisable, we may also borrow funds to satisfy the requirement that we distribute to our stockholders at least 90% of our annual REIT taxable income or otherwise to ensure that we maintain our qualification as a REIT for Federal income tax purposes. In addition, at March 31, 2005, we had \$35.6 million in outstanding letters of credit.

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If we were to default on our secured debt in the future, the loss of our property securing the debt would harm our ability to satisfy other obligations.

A majority of our debt is secured by first deeds of trust on our properties. Using our properties as collateral increases our risk of property losses because defaults on indebtedness secured by properties may result in foreclosure actions initiated by lenders and ultimately our loss of the property that secures any loans for which we are in default. For tax purposes, a foreclosure on any of our properties would be treated as a sale of the property for a purchase price equal to the outstanding balance of the debt secured by the mortgage. If the outstanding balance of the debt secured by the mortgage exceeds our tax basis in the property, we would recognize taxable income on foreclosure but would not receive any cash proceeds. As a result, we may be required to identify and utilize other sources of cash for distributions to our stockholders. In addition, because of various cross-collateralization provisions in our notes payable, our default under some of our mortgage debt obligations may result in a default on our other indebtedness. If this occurs, our financial condition, cash flow and ability to satisfy our other debt obligations or ability to pay dividends may be harmed.

We anticipate that we will refinance our indebtedness from time to time to repay our debt, and our inability to refinance on favorable terms, or at all, could harm our operating results.

Since we anticipate that our internally generated cash will be adequate to repay only a portion of our indebtedness prior to maturity, we expect that we will be required to repay debt from time to time through refinancings of our indebtedness and/or offerings of equity or debt. The amount of our existing indebtedness may harm our ability to repay our debt through refinancings. If we are unable to refinance our indebtedness on acceptable terms, or at all, we might be forced to sell one or more of our properties on disadvantageous terms, which might result in losses to us and reduce the amount of cash available to us for distributions to our stockholders. If prevailing interest rates or other factors at the time of any refinancing result in higher interest rates on refinancing, our interest expense would increase, which would harm our operating results.

Financial covenants in our existing notes payable and those notes we may assume may restrict our operating or acquisition activities.

Some of our existing notes payable and some of those notes we may assume as part of the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions contain restrictions, requirements and other limitations on our ability to incur additional debt on specific properties, as well as financial covenants relating to the performance of those properties. Our ability to borrow under these agreements is subject to compliance with these financial and other covenants. If we are unable to engage in activities that we believe would benefit those properties or we are unable to incur debt to pursue those activities, our growth may be limited. If we need to obtain consents or waivers from compliance with these covenants, it may take time or cause us to incur additional expenses.

Our revolving credit facility and term loan facility contain financial covenants that could harm our financial condition.

Our revolving credit facility and term loan facility contain financial and operating covenants, including net worth requirements, fixed charge coverage and debt ratios and other limitations on our ability to make distributions or other payments to our stockholders (other than those required by the Code), as well as limitations on our ability to sell all or substantially all of our assets and engage in mergers, consolidations and certain acquisitions. Failure to meet our financial covenants could result from, among other things, changes in our results of operations, the incurrence of debt or changes in general economic conditions. Advances under the revolving credit facility are subject to borrowing base requirements based on the hotels securing the facility. These covenants may restrict our ability to engage in transactions that we believe would otherwise be in the best interests of our stockholders. Failure to comply with any of the covenants in our revolving credit facility or term loan facility could result in a default under one or more of our debt instruments. This could cause one or more of our lenders to accelerate the timing

of our payment obligations and could harm our business, operations, financial condition or liquidity.

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Our failure to complete the presently contemplated acquisitions may impede our growth.

As described in Summary Recent Developments, we have agreed to acquire eight hotels representing 3,973 rooms. We cannot assure you that we will complete those acquisitions. We have entered into a loan commitment with Bear Stearns Commercial Mortgage, Inc. to provide us with \$250 million in fixed-rate mortgage debt to assist us in the financing of the contemplated Renaissance Hotels acquisition. In addition, we have entered into pending agreements with institutional accredited investors to issue (1) 3,750,000 shares of our common stock and (2) 4,102,564 shares of our series C convertible redeemable preferred stock. In the event that any of these financing transactions do not close as contemplated, our ability to close our pending acquisition of the Renaissance Hotels will be harmed. Our failure to complete the pending acquisitions may impede our growth.

Our organizational documents contain no limitations on the amount of debt we may incur, so we may become too highly leveraged.

Our organizational documents do not limit the amount of indebtedness that we may incur. If we become highly leveraged, then the resulting increase in cash flow that must be used for debt service would reduce cash available for distribution and could harm our ability to make payments on our outstanding indebtedness and our financial condition.

Some of our directors and officers have economic interests in other real estate investments, including hotels, which may result in conflicts and competing demands on their time.

Four of our directors, Messrs. Kazilionis, Paul, Wolff and Dona, are actively involved in the management of entities that invest in real estate, including hotels. Accordingly, these directors may have a conflict of interest in evaluating acquisition opportunities in which we and those entities both have a potential interest. In addition, our executive officers, Messrs. Alter, Kline and Stougaard, have economic interests in other hotel investments and, therefore, may have competing demands on their time.

Some of our directors have conflicts of interest involving Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C.

Two of our directors, Messrs. Kazilionis and Paul, are Managing Principals of Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C. In addition, one of our directors, Ms. Behar, is employed by an entity that has investments in funds managed by Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C. that own interests in the Contributing Entities. Accordingly, these directors may have conflicts of interest in evaluating situations in which we and Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C. or its affiliates have a conflicting interest.

The Contributing Entities and their affiliates own interests in hotels that compete with us.

The Contributing Entities and their affiliates, including our executive officers, own interests in other hotels in which we have no interest or rights. Some of these hotels are located in the same geographic area as our hotels, and hotels we acquire in the future also may be located in the same geographic area as the hotels owned by the Contributing Entities and their affiliates. Hotels located in the same geographic area compete for business, and this competition may harm our results of operations.

Sales of our common stock by the Contributing Entities may reduce or eliminate the desire of two of our directors to serve on our board.

Messrs. Kazilionis and Paul are Managing Principals of Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C., which is the managing member of entities that have controlling ownership interests in the Contributing Entities. If the Contributing Entities sell their shares of our common stock, Messrs. Kazilionis and Paul, in light of their role at Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C., may resign from our board if Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C., which controls each of the Contributing Entities, no longer has an indirect ownership interest in us. Prior to this offering, the Contributing Entities and their affiliates beneficially owned approximately 28.9% of our common

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stock and 35.8% of our common stock assuming full conversion of their membership units of Sunstone Hotel Partnership into shares of our common stock. Not giving effect to the full conversion of their membership units, the Contributing Entities will own approximately 6.4% of our common stock after this offering (or 2.2% if the underwriters exercise their overallotment option) and will beneficially own 5.3% of our common stock if we complete the financing transactions described in Summary Recent Developments (or 1.8% if the underwriters exercise their overallotment option).

We face competition for the acquisition of hotels, and we may not be successful in identifying or completing hotel acquisitions that meet our criteria, which may impede our growth.

One component of our business strategy is expansion through acquisitions, and we may not be successful in identifying or completing acquisitions that are consistent with our strategy. We compete with institutional pension funds, private equity investors, other REITs, owner-operators of hotels, franchise-owned hotels and others who are engaged in the acquisition of hotels. These competitors may affect the supply/demand dynamics and, accordingly, increase the price we must pay for hotels or hotel companies we seek to acquire, and these competitors may succeed in acquiring those hotels or hotel companies themselves. Furthermore, our potential acquisition targets may find our competitors to be more attractive suitors because they may have greater marketing and financial resources, may be willing to pay more or may have a more compatible operating philosophy. In addition, the number of entities competing for suitable hotels may increase in the future, which would increase demand for these hotels and the prices we must pay to acquire them. If we pay higher prices for hotels, our profitability may be reduced. Also, future acquisitions of hotels or hotel companies may not yield the returns we expect and, if financed using our equity, may result in stockholder dilution. In addition, our profitability may suffer because of acquisition-related costs or amortization costs for acquired goodwill and other intangible assets, and the integration of such acquisitions may cause disruptions to our business and may strain management resources.

In particular, we have entered into agreements to acquire the Renaissance Hotels, the Sutton Place Hotel and the Sheraton Cerritos Hotel. Our failure to acquire one or more of these hotels could give rise to our breach under these agreements and may impede our growth.

The acquisition of a portfolio of hotels presents more risks to our business and financial results than the acquisition of a single hotel.

We have focused, and may continue to focus, on the acquisition of multiple hotels in single transactions to seek to reduce acquisition costs per hotel and enable us to expand our hotel portfolio more rapidly. Multiple hotel acquisitions such as the proposed Renaissance Hotels transaction described in Summary Recent Developments, however, are generally more complex than single hotel acquisitions and, as a result, the risk that they will not be completed is greater. These acquisitions may also result in our owning hotels in geographically dispersed markets, which places additional demands on our ability to actively asset manage the hotels. In addition, we may be required by a seller to purchase a group of hotels as a package, even though one or more of the hotels in the package does not meet our investment criteria. In those events, we expect to attempt to sell the hotels that do not meet our investment criteria, but may not be able to do so on acceptable terms. These hotels may harm our operating results if they operate at a loss or we sell them at a loss. Also, a portfolio of hotels may be more difficult to integrate with our existing hotels than a single hotel, may strain our management resources and may make it more difficult to find one or more management companies to operate the hotels. Any of these risks could harm our operating results.

Most of our hotels are upper upscale and upscale hotels, and the upper upscale and upscale segments of the lodging market are highly competitive and generally subject to greater volatility than other segments of the market, which could harm our profitability.

The upper upscale and upscale segments of the hotel business are highly competitive. Our hotels compete on the basis of location, room rates and quality, service levels, reputation and reservations systems, among many

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other factors. There are many competitors in our hotel chain scale segments, and many of these competitors have substantially greater marketing and financial resources than we have. This competition could reduce occupancy levels and rental revenue at our hotels, which would harm our operations. Over-building in the hotel industry may increase the number of rooms available and may decrease occupancy and room rates. We also face competition from nationally recognized hotel brands with which we are not associated. In addition, in periods of weak demand, profitability is negatively affected by the relatively high fixed costs of operating upper upscale and upscale hotels when compared to other classes of hotels. For example, from 1998 to 2003, upscale RevPAR growth was lower than RevPAR growth for the overall lodging industry, and from 2001 to 2003, upper upscale RevPAR growth was lower than RevPAR growth for the overall lodging industry.

Rising operating expenses could reduce our cash flow and funds available for future distributions.

Our hotels, and any hotels we buy in the future, are and will be subject to operating risks common to the lodging industry in general. If any hotel is not occupied at a level sufficient to cover our operating expenses, then we could be required to spend additional funds for that hotel's operating expenses. In the future, our hotels will be subject to increases in real estate and other tax rates, utility costs, operating expenses, insurance costs, repairs and maintenance and administrative expenses, which could reduce our cash flow and funds available for future distributions.

Our hotels are geographically concentrated in California and, accordingly, we could be disproportionately harmed by an economic downturn in this area of the country or a natural disaster, such as an earthquake.

Approximately 34.6% of our hotels, the largest concentration of our hotels in any state, representing 30.1% of our rooms and 31.6% of our 2004 revenues (on a pro forma basis to reflect the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering), are located in California. Giving effect to the completion of the proposed acquisitions we have announced and described under Summary Recent Developments, approximately 35.0% of our hotels, representing 29.0% of our rooms and 27.7% of our pro forma revenues, would be located in California. The concentration of our hotels in California makes our business disproportionately affected by economic conditions, competition and real and personal property tax rates in California. Natural disasters in California, such as earthquakes, fires or mudslides, would disproportionately affect our hotel portfolio. The California economy and tourism industry, in comparison to other parts of the country, is negatively affected to a greater extent by changes and downturns in certain industries, including the entertainment and high technology industries. It is also possible that because of our California concentration, a change in California laws applicable to hotels and the lodging industry may have a greater impact on us than a change in comparable laws in another geographical area in which we have hotels. Adverse developments in California could harm our revenue or increase our operating expenses in that state.

The results of some of our individual hotels are significantly impacted by group contract business and other large customers, and the loss of such customers for any reason could harm our operating results.

Group contract business and other large customers, or large events, can significantly impact the results of operations of our hotels. These contracts and customers vary from hotel to hotel and change from time to time. The impact and timing of large events, such as the 2002 Winter Olympics, are not always easy to predict and are often episodic in nature. In addition, we incurred a \$1.4 million provision for bad debt expense related to a customer at one of our hotels in 2004. As a result, the operating results for our individual hotels can fluctuate as a result of these factors, possibly in adverse ways, and these fluctuations can affect our overall operating results.

Because most of our hotels are operated under franchise agreements with national franchisors, termination of franchise agreements or circumstances that negatively affect the franchisor itself could cause us to lose business at hotels operated under the franchisor's name or lead to a default or acceleration of our obligations under certain of our notes payable.

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As of March 31, 2005, approximately 94.2% of our hotels, representing 90.3% of our rooms, are operated under franchise or management agreements with national franchisors. In general, under franchise arrangements,

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the franchisor provides marketing services and room reservations and certain other operating assistance, but requires us, as the franchisee, to pay significant fees to it, and to maintain the hotel in a required condition. If the Management Company or other management companies fail to maintain these required standards, then the franchisor may terminate the franchise agreement and obtain damages for any liability we may have caused. Moreover, from time to time, we may receive notices from franchisors regarding our alleged non-compliance with the franchise agreements, and we may disagree with a franchisor's claim that we are not in compliance with applicable franchise agreements. Any disputes arising under our franchise agreements could also lead to a termination of a franchise agreement and a payment of liquidated damages. Such a termination may trigger a default or acceleration of our obligations under some of our notes payable. In addition, as our agreements expire, we may not be able to renew them on favorable terms or at all. If we were to lose a franchise on a particular hotel, it could harm the operation, financing, financeability or value of that hotel due to the loss of the franchise name, marketing support and centralized reservation system. Moreover, negative publicity affecting a franchisor in general could reduce the revenue we receive from the hotels subject to that particular franchise. Any loss of revenue at a hotel could harm the ability of Sunstone Hotel TRS Lessee Inc., our wholly owned subsidiary, or the TRS Lessee, to whom we have leased our hotels as a result of certain Federal income tax restrictions on lodging REITs, to pay rent to Sunstone Hotel Partnership and could harm our ability to pay dividends on our common stock.

Our franchisors require us to make capital expenditures pursuant to property improvement plans, or PIPs, under our franchise agreements, and the failure to make the expenditures required under the PIPs could cause the franchisors to terminate the franchise agreements.

As a result of our initial public offering, some of our franchisors required that new franchise agreements be executed with the TRS Lessee or its subsidiaries. As a condition to receiving the new franchise agreements, some of our franchisors required that we make renovations to some of our hotels, which we expect to do as part of our ordinary capital expenditure programs. In addition, upon regular inspection of our hotels, our franchisors may determine that additional renovations are required to bring the physical condition of our hotels into compliance with the specifications and standards each franchisor has developed in connection with the operation of our hotels. In connection with the acquisitions of hotels, franchisors may also require PIPs. The franchisors generally set forth their renovation requirements in PIPs and if we do not satisfy the PIP renovation requirements pursuant to the franchisor's criteria, the franchisor will have the right to terminate the applicable franchise agreement. In addition, in the event that we are in default under any franchise agreement as a result of our failure to comply with the PIP requirements, in general, we will be required to pay the franchisor liquidated damages, generally equal to a percentage of gross room revenue for the preceding two-, three- or five-year period for the hotel or a percentage of gross room revenue for the preceding twelve-month period for all hotels operated under the franchised brand if the hotel has not been operating for at least two years.

Our hotels have an ongoing need for renovations and other capital improvements, some of which are mandated by applicable laws or regulations or agreements with third parties, and the costs of such improvements may exceed our expectations or cause other problems.

In addition to capital expenditures required by our franchise and loan agreements, we will need to make capital expenditures to comply with applicable laws and regulations, remain competitive with other hotels and maintain the economic value of our hotels. In connection with our recently announced acquisitions described under Summary Recent Developments, we expect to make a total of \$57.5 million of capital expenditures. Occupancy and ADR are often affected by the maintenance and improvements at a hotel. The costs of capital improvements we need or choose to make could harm our financial condition and reduce amounts available for distribution to our stockholders. These capital improvements may give rise to the following additional risks, among others:

construction cost overruns and delays;

a possible shortage of available cash to fund capital improvements and the related possibility that financing for these capital improvements may not be available to us on affordable terms;

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uncertainties as to market demand or a loss of market demand after capital improvements have begun;

disruption in service and room availability causing reduced demand, occupancy and rates;

possible environmental problems; and

disputes with franchisors regarding our compliance with the requirements under the relevant franchise agreement.

Our returns depend on management of our hotels by third parties and, in particular, on the performance of Interstate Hotels & Resorts, Inc., or the Management Company.

In order to qualify as a REIT under the Code, we cannot directly operate our hotels or participate in the decisions affecting the daily operations of our hotels. Accordingly, we must enter into management agreements with eligible independent contractors to manage the hotels. Thus, independent management companies, including, among others, the Management Company, under management agreements with us, control the daily operations of our hotels.

The Management Company manages 47 of our 52 hotels, with five hotels being independently managed under franchise/management agreements with Marriott and two hotels being independently managed under franchise/management agreements with Hyatt. The hotels we have agreed to acquire from Marriott as described under Summary Recent Developments will be managed under franchise/management agreements with Renaissance. Of the other hotels we have agreed to acquire, one will be managed under a franchise/management agreement with Fairmont and one will be managed by the Management Company. Under the terms of these management agreements, although we actively participate in setting operating strategies, we do not have the authority to require any hotel to be operated in a particular manner or to govern any particular aspect of the daily operations of any hotel (e.g., setting room rates, etc.). We depend on these independent management companies to adequately operate our hotels as provided in the applicable management agreements. Thus, even if we believe a hotel is being operated inefficiently or in a manner that does not result in satisfactory ADR, occupancy rates and RevPAR, we may not have a contractual right to cause an independent management company to change its method of operation at our hotels. We can only seek redress if a management company violates the terms of its applicable management agreement with us or fails to meet performance objectives set forth in the applicable management agreement, and then only to the extent of the remedies provided in the management agreement. Additionally, while our management agreements typically provide for limited contractual penalties in the event that we terminate the applicable management agreement upon an event of default and, therefore, need to replace any of our management companies, those events could result in significant disruptions at the affected hotels upon the termination of a manager. If any of the foregoing occurs, our relationships with franchisors may be damaged, and we may be in breach of one or more of our franchise agreements.

Therefore, we are dependent to a large degree on the operating performance of the Management Company and its ability to generate revenue at our hotels in excess of our operating expenses. We cannot assure you that the Management Company will successfully manage our hotels. A failure by the Management Company to successfully manage our hotels could lead to an increase in our operating expenses or a decrease in our revenue, which would reduce the amount available for dividends on the common stock and the preferred stock. In addition, the management companies may operate other hotels that may compete with our hotels or divert attention away from the management of our hotels.

Our contractual arrangements with the Management Company are relatively new. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that our relationship with the Management Company will be satisfactory to us, or that our expectations regarding the quality and effectiveness of its performance will be met. As a result, the management agreements with the Management Company could be terminated by us prior to the expiration of their respective terms, which would be disruptive to our business and could harm our profitability and cash flow.

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Because we are a REIT, we depend on the TRS Lessee to make rent payments to us, and its inability to do so could harm our revenue and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

Due to certain Federal income tax restrictions on hotel REITs, we cannot directly operate our hotel properties. Therefore, we leased our hotel properties to the TRS Lessee, who contracted with the Management Company and other third party hotel managers to manage our hotels. Our revenue and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders will depend solely upon the ability of the TRS Lessee to make rent payments under these leases. In general, under the leases with the TRS Lessee, we will receive from the TRS Lessee both base rent and percentage rent based upon a percentage of gross revenue above a certain minimum level. As a result, we participate in the economic operations of our hotels only through our share of gross revenue under the leases.

The TRS Lessee's ability to pay rent will be affected by factors beyond its control, such as changes in general economic conditions, the level of demand for hotels and the related services of our hotels, competition in the lodging and hospitality industry, the ability to maintain and increase gross revenue at our hotels and other factors relating to the operations of our hotels.

Although failure on the part of the TRS Lessee to materially comply with the terms of a lease (including failure to pay rent when due) will give us the right to terminate the lease, repossess the hotel and enforce the payment obligations under the lease, such steps may not provide us with any substantive relief since the TRS Lessee is our subsidiary. If we were to terminate a lease, we would then be required to find another lessee to lease the hotel since we cannot operate hotel properties directly and remain qualified as a REIT. We cannot assure you that we would be able to find another lessee or that, if another lessee were found, we would be able to enter into a new lease on terms as favorable to us.

Because land underlying seven of our hotels is held by ground leases, termination of these leases by the ground lessors could cause us to lose the ability to operate these hotels altogether and incur substantial costs in restoring the premises.

Our rights to use the land underlying seven of our hotels is based upon our interest under long-term ground leases. The Renaissance Atlanta, Georgia, the Renaissance Orlando, Florida, the Renaissance Baltimore, Maryland and the Sheraton Cerritos Hotel that we have agreed to acquire are also operated pursuant to ground or air leases. Pursuant to the terms of the ground leases for these hotels, we are required to pay all rent due and comply with all other lessee obligations under the ground leases. As of December 31, 2004, the terms of these ground leases (including renewal options) range from 43 to 92 years. Any pledge of our interest in a ground lease may also require the consent of the applicable ground lessor and its lenders. As a result, we may not be able to sell, assign, transfer or convey our lessee's interest in any hotel subject to a ground lease in the future absent consent of such third parties even if such transactions may be in the best interest of our stockholders.

The ground lessor may require us, at the expiration or termination of the ground leases, to surrender or remove any improvements, alterations or additions to the land at our own expense. The ground leases also generally require us to restore the premises following a casualty or taking and to apply in a specified manner any proceeds received in connection therewith. We may have to restore the premises if a material casualty, such as a fire or an act of God, occurs and the cost thereof exceeds available insurance proceeds.

Our hedging strategies may not be successful in mitigating our risks associated with interest rates.

We use various derivative financial instruments to provide a level of protection against interest rate risks, but no hedging strategy can protect us completely. When rates change, we expect to record a gain or loss on derivatives. Our hedging activities may include entering into interest rate

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swaps, caps and floors and options to purchase these items. We currently use interest rate caps to manage our interest rate risks related to our variable rate indebtedness; however, our actual hedging decisions will be determined in light of the facts and circumstances existing at the time and may differ from our currently anticipated hedging strategy. We cannot assure you that our hedging strategy and the derivatives that we use will adequately offset the risk of interest rate

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volatility or that our hedging transactions will not result in losses, and such losses could harm our results of operations, financial condition and business prospects.

In addition, we also may be limited in the type and amount of hedging transactions we may use in the future by our need to satisfy the REIT income tests under the Code. Only income from certain hedging transactions qualifies for purposes of the 95% gross income test, and no hedging income qualifies for purposes of the 75% gross income test. As a result, our ability to effectively hedge against changes in interest rates could be limited, and our earnings could be reduced and could vary more from period to period.

Risks Related to This Offering

Immediately after this offering, there will be 6,392,133 shares restricted from immediate resale or issuable upon exchange of membership units in Sunstone Hotel Partnership, but these shares may be sold into the market in the near future. These sales could cause the market price of our common stock to drop significantly, even if our business is doing well.

Immediately after this offering, we will have 41,232,893 shares of our common stock and membership units outstanding. Of the common stock, 10,592,000 are being sold in this offering and 24,625,000 shares were sold in connection with our initial public offering, all of which are or will be freely tradable without restriction, except for any shares purchased by our affiliates, as that term is used in Rule 144 of the Securities Act. Affiliates may only sell their shares pursuant to the requirements of Rule 144, in a registered public offering or pursuant to an exemption under the Securities Act. Unless sold earlier pursuant to a registered public offering, 6,392,133 shares of our common stock, which includes the 3,699,572 shares of common stock issuable to the Contributing Entities upon exchange of their membership units in Sunstone Hotel Partnership, will become available for resale in the public market at various times in the future. In addition, all shares of our common stock that we may issue under our 2004 long-term incentive plan have been registered and can be freely sold in the public market after vesting.

Additionally, if our proposed private placements to institutional accredited investors of our common stock and series C preferred stock, as described under Summary Recent Developments, are consummated, 3,750,000 shares of our common stock will be issued and 4,102,564 shares of our common stock will be issuable upon conversion of the series C preferred stock and up to an additional 594,000 shares of common stock in the aggregate are issuable to the investors in those private placements as a result of the sale of shares by us contemplated by this offering. Following any contractual lock-up with respect to those shares, the investors may sell those shares of common stock or series C preferred stock or shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion of the series C preferred pursuant to an exemption under the Securities Act subject to compliance with applicable securities laws.

The sale of these shares, or in the case of the private placements the possibility of the sale of these shares, could cause the market price of our common stock to decline significantly and could impair our ability to raise capital through the sale of additional stock.

The Contributing Entities may sell their shares of our common stock at times or in amounts that could cause our stock price to decline.

The Contributing Entities received 9,990,932 shares of our common stock in connection with the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering, 7,592,000 of which are being offered hereby. In addition, the Contributing Entities are finite life investment entities and beginning on October 27, 2005, one year from the date of our initial public offering, may seek to convert their membership units in Sunstone Hotel Partnership in an amount up to 3,699,572 shares of our common stock. The Contributing Entities may sell

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these shares of our common stock pursuant to an exemption under the Securities Act and also have the right to cause us to file registration statements related to these shares. These sales may cause our stock price to decline.

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The terms of our management agreements with the Management Company were negotiated by us and Sunstone Hotel Investors, L.L.C., which had a conflict of interest because of the payment it received from the Management Company for its interests in the subsidiary that managed our hotels prior to the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering.

The terms of the management agreements with the Management Company are the result of negotiations among us, Sunstone Hotel Investors, L.L.C. and the Management Company. At the time of the formation and structuring transactions, the Management Company purchased from Sunstone Hotel Investors the corporate subsidiary that managed our hotels and employed the employees of our hotels and paid \$8.0 million in cash to Sunstone Hotel Investors, L.L.C.; this payment was not contributed to us in the formation and structuring transactions that took place at the time of our initial public offering. As a result of this payment, Sunstone Hotel Investors, L.L.C. had a conflict of interest with us in negotiating the management agreements with the Management Company.

We could be exposed to substantial liabilities for events or circumstances that predate the consummation of our initial public offering.

In connection with the contribution by the Contributing Entities of the hotel properties and entities to us in connection with the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering, we assumed the liabilities (known and unknown) associated with those properties and entities that were incurred prior to the consummation of the formation and structuring transactions. In addition, in connection with the Management Company's agreement to purchase the corporate subsidiary of Sunstone Hotel Investors, L.L.C. that managed our hotels and employed the employees of our hotels, the Management Company required that we indemnify it from any liabilities of the corporate subsidiary that accrued prior to the consummation of our initial public offering. These potential liabilities may include, without limitation, liabilities associated with the employees who currently work or previously worked for the corporate subsidiary. At this time, we are not aware of, or able to quantify, any potential liabilities which may arise as a result of our acquisition of the hotel properties and entities in these formation and structuring transactions or the indemnification of the Management Company. Any such claims could give rise to economic liabilities which could be substantial and for which we would have no recourse. If any such liability is established against us, our financial condition could be harmed.

The market price of our equity securities may vary substantially.

The trading prices of equity securities issued by REITs may be affected by changes in market interest rates. One of the factors that may influence the price of our common stock or preferred stock in public trading markets is the annual yield from distributions on our common stock or preferred stock, if any, as compared to yields on other financial instruments. An increase in market interest rates, or a decrease in our distributions to stockholders, may lead prospective purchasers of our stock to demand a higher annual yield, which could reduce the market price of our equity securities.

Other factors that could affect the market price of our equity securities include the following:

actual or anticipated variations in our quarterly or annual results of operations;

changes in market valuations of companies in the hotel or real estate industries;

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changes in expectations of our future financial performance or changes in our estimates by securities analysts;

the trading volumes of our stock;

the reputation and performance of our franchisors;

the reputation and performance of the Management Company and our other management companies;

additional issuances of our common stock or other securities in the future;

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the addition or departure of key personnel or board members;

announcements by us or our competitors of acquisitions, investments or strategic alliances;

adverse market reaction to any increased indebtedness we incur in the future; and

general market, economic and political conditions and world events.

Our distributions to stockholders may change.

We paid a quarterly distribution of \$0.285 per share on April 15, 2005 and have declared a quarterly distribution of \$0.285 per share payable on July 15, 2005 to stockholders of record on June 30, 2005. Distributions will be authorized and determined by our board of directors in its sole discretion from time to time and will be dependent upon a number of factors, including restrictions under applicable law and our capital requirements. Consequently, our dividend levels may fluctuate.

Risks Related to Our Organization and Structure

The Contributing Entities are our largest stockholders and may exercise significant control over our company and possibly delay, prevent or cause us to defer taking actions that would be beneficial to our other stockholders.

As of April 1, 2005, our largest stockholders, the Contributing Entities and their affiliates, beneficially owned approximately 28.9% of our common stock and 35.8% of our common stock assuming full conversion of their membership units of Sunstone Hotel Partnership into shares of our common stock, and will own approximately 14.8% of our common stock after this offering also giving effect to such conversion. Accordingly, the Contributing Entities and their affiliates are able to exercise significant control over the outcome of substantially all matters required to be submitted to our stockholders for approval, including decisions relating to the election of our board of directors, and influence the determination of our day-to-day corporate and management policies, the appointment of executive officers, the amount of distributions, the timing of additional offerings (including offerings of our securities held by them) and the terms of the management agreements with the Management Company and the other independent management companies and the leases with the TRS Lessee. In addition, we have entered into an agreement with the Contributing Entities pursuant to which the Contributing Entities, acting as a group, have the right to require our board of directors and nominating and corporate governance committee to nominate up to two of their designees to our board of directors with the actual number at any time dependent on their percentage ownership interest in us at that time. Also, the Contributing Entities and their affiliates are able to exercise significant control over the outcome of any proposed merger or consolidation of our company under Maryland law. The Contributing Entities and their affiliates' ownership interest in our company may discourage third parties from seeking to acquire control of our company, which may harm the market price of our shares of common stock.

Provisions of Maryland law and our organizational documents may limit the ability of a third party to acquire control of our company and may depress our stock price.

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Provisions of Maryland law and our charter and bylaws could have the effect of discouraging, delaying or preventing transactions that involve an actual or threatened change of control of us, and may have the effect of entrenching our management and members of our board of directors, regardless of performance. These provisions include the following:

Aggregate Share and Common Share Ownership Limits. In order for us to qualify as a REIT, no more than 50% of the value of outstanding shares of our stock may be owned, actually or constructively, by five or fewer individuals at any time during the last half of each taxable year. To assure that we will not fail to qualify as a REIT under this test, subject to some exceptions, our charter prohibits any stockholder from owning actually or constructively more than 9.8% (in number or value, whichever is more restrictive) of the outstanding shares of our common stock or more than 9.8% of the value of the outstanding shares of our capital stock. Any attempt to own or transfer shares of our capital stock in excess of the ownership limit without the consent of our board of

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directors will be void and could result in the shares (and all dividends thereon) being automatically transferred to a charitable trust. This ownership limitation may prevent a third party from acquiring control of us if our board of directors does not grant an exemption from the ownership limitation, even if our stockholders believe the change of control is in their best interests. The Contributing Entities and their affiliates constructively own approximately 28.9% of the outstanding shares of our common stock prior to this offering, which exceeds the ownership limit. Our board of directors has granted an exemption from the ownership limit to the Contributing Entities and their affiliates.

Authority to Issue Stock. Our charter authorizes our board of directors to cause us to issue up to 500,000,000 shares of common stock and up to 100,000,000 shares of preferred stock. Our charter authorizes our board of directors to amend our charter without stockholder approval to increase or decrease the aggregate number of shares of stock or the number of shares of any class or series of our stock that it has authority to issue, to classify or reclassify any unissued shares of our common stock or preferred stock and to set the preferences, rights and other terms of the classified or reclassified shares. Issuances of additional shares of stock may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of our company, including change of control transactions offering a premium over the market price of shares of our common stock, even if our stockholders believe that a change of control is in their interest.

Number of directors, board vacancies, term of office. Under our charter and bylaws, we have elected to be subject to certain provisions of Maryland law which vest in the board of directors the exclusive right to determine the number of directors and the exclusive right, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors, to fill vacancies on the board even if the remaining directors do not constitute a quorum. Any director elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office until the next annual meeting of stockholders, and until his or her successor is elected and qualifies. As a result, stockholder influence over these matters is limited.

Limitation on stockholder requested special meetings. Our bylaws provide that our stockholders have the right to call a special meeting only upon the written request of the stockholders entitled to cast not less than a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast by the stockholders at such meeting. This provision makes it more difficult for stockholders to call special meetings.

Advance notice provisions for stockholder nominations and proposals. Our bylaws require advance written notice for stockholders to nominate persons for election as directors at, or to bring other business before, any meeting of our stockholders. This bylaw provision limits the ability of our stockholders to make nominations of persons for election as directors or to introduce other proposals unless we are notified in a timely manner prior to the meeting.

Exclusive authority of our board to amend our bylaws. Our bylaws provide that our board of directors has the exclusive power to adopt, alter or repeal any provision of the bylaws or to make new bylaws, except with respect to amendments to the provision of our bylaws regarding our opt out of the Maryland business combination and control share acquisition statutes. Thus, our stockholders may not effect any changes to our bylaws.

Duties of directors. Maryland law requires that a director perform his or her duties (1) in good faith, (2) in a manner he or she reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the corporation and (3) with the care that an ordinary prudent person in a like position would use in similar circumstances. Maryland law provides protection for Maryland corporations against unsolicited takeovers because the duties of directors of Maryland corporations do not require them to (1) accept, recommend or respond to any proposal by a person seeking to acquire control of the corporation, (2) authorize the corporation to redeem any rights under, of modify or render inapplicable, any stockholders rights plan, (3) make a determination under the Maryland business combination act or the Maryland control share acquisition act or (4) act or fail to act solely because of the effect the act or failure to act may have on an acquisition or potential acquisition of control of the corporation or the amount or type of consideration that may be offered or paid to the stockholders in an acquisition. Moreover, under Maryland law the act of the directors of a Maryland corporation relating to or affecting an acquisition or potential acquisition of

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control is not subject to any higher duty or greater scrutiny than is applied to any other act of a director. Maryland law also contains a statutory presumption that an act of a director of a Maryland corporation satisfies the applicable standards of conduct for directors under Maryland law. This provision increases the ability of our directors to respond to a takeover and makes it more difficult for a third party to effect a takeover.

Unsolicited Takeover Provisions. Provisions of Maryland law permit the board of a corporation with a class of equity securities registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and at least three independent directors, without stockholder approval, to implement possible takeover defenses, such as a classified board. These provisions may make it more difficult for a third party to effect a takeover.

Our management team has a limited history of operating a REIT and managing a public company, which may give rise to inefficiencies or strain our operations and resources.

We have recently been organized and we have a limited operating history as a REIT. Our management team operated our business as a privately-owned company for the five years prior to our initial public offering in October 2004 and, therefore, other than Mr. Alter, had no experience operating a REIT and managing a publicly-owned company. We will need to continue to develop control systems and procedures adequate to support a public REIT, and this transition could place a significant strain on our management systems, infrastructure, financial condition and other resources.

We rely on our executive officers, the loss of whom could significantly harm our business.

Our continued success will depend to a significant extent on the efforts and abilities of our executive officers, especially Messrs. Alter, Kline and Stougaard. These individuals are important to our business and strategy and to the extent that any of them departs and is not replaced with an experienced substitute, such person's departure could harm our operations, financial condition and operating results.

Because we made changes to our operations and to qualify and elect to be treated as a REIT, our future financial performance may be affected by unanticipated changes and may differ materially from our historical and pro forma performance.

The historical financial data presented in this prospectus is the historical financial data for us and our predecessor companies. Our initial public offering resulted in changes to our assets and operations that are reflected in our pro forma financial data for 2004. We are unable to predict all changes that will result under our new structure, including our agreements with the Management Company. Accordingly, you should not rely on our historical or pro forma financial data as a predictor of our future performance.

Our insurance arrangements with affiliates of Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C. expose us to expense and coverage risks.

Our environmental insurance coverage also relates to affiliates of Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C. and other hotels owned by them and our executive officers. We expect to obtain our own insurance, which we expect to be more expensive. In addition, if claims or losses are experienced under the current policy that do not relate to us, the amount of coverage available to us would be reduced.

Risks Related to the Lodging and Real Estate Industries

A number of factors, many of which are common to the lodging industry and beyond our control, could affect our business, including the following:

increased threat of terrorism, terrorist events, airline strikes or other factors that may affect travel patterns and reduce the number of business and commercial travelers and tourists and other factors that may not be offset by increased room rates;

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increased competition from other hotels in our markets;

new hotel supply in our markets, which could harm our occupancy levels and revenue at our hotels;

dependence on business and commercial travel, leisure travel and tourism;

increases in operating costs due to inflation, labor costs (including the impact of unionization), workers' compensation and health-care related costs, utility costs, insurance and unanticipated costs such as acts of nature and their consequences and other factors that may not be offset by increased room rates;

changes in interest rates and in the availability, cost and terms of debt financing and other changes in our business that adversely affect our ability to comply with covenants in our debt financing;

changes in our relationships with, and the performance and reputation of, the Management Company and our other management companies and franchisors;

changes in governmental laws and regulations, fiscal policies and zoning ordinances and the related costs of compliance with laws and regulations, fiscal policies and ordinances;

adverse effects of international market conditions, which may diminish the desire for leisure travel or the need for business travel, as well as national, regional and local economic and market conditions in which our hotels operate and where our customers live; and

adverse effects of a downturn in the lodging industry.

These factors could harm our financial condition, results of operations and ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

The hotel business is seasonal and seasonal variations in revenue at our hotels can be expected to cause quarterly fluctuations in our revenue.

Our revenue is generally highest in the second and third quarters. Quarterly revenue also may be harmed by events beyond our control, such as extreme weather conditions, terrorist attacks or alerts, contagious diseases, airline strikes, economic factors and other considerations affecting travel. To the extent that cash flow from operations is insufficient during any quarter due to temporary or seasonal fluctuations in revenue, we may have to enter into short-term borrowings to make distributions to our stockholders.

The threat of terrorism has harmed the hotel industry generally, including our results of operations, and these harmful effects may continue or worsen, particularly if there are further terrorist events.

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The threat of terrorism has had a negative impact on hotel operations and caused a significant decrease in hotel occupancy and ADRs due to disruptions in business and leisure travel patterns and concerns about travel safety. Hotels in major metropolitan areas and near airports, such as many of our hotels, have been harmed due to concerns about air travel safety and a significant overall decrease in the amount of air travel, particularly transient business travel, which includes the corporate and premium business segments that generally pay the highest average room rates. Future terrorist acts, terrorism alerts or outbreaks of hostilities could have a negative effect on travel and, correspondingly, on our business.

The attacks of September 11, 2001 had a dramatic adverse impact on business and leisure travel, hotel occupancy and RevPAR. While there have been recent improvements, the uncertainty associated with the continuing war on terrorism and the possibility of future attacks may continue to hamper business and leisure travel patterns and, accordingly, the performance of our business.

The use of Internet travel intermediaries by consumers may harm our profitability as a result of increased commissions or lower room rates.

Some of our hotel rooms are booked through independent, third party Internet travel intermediaries such as Travelocity.com, Expedia.com, Orbitz.com and Hotels.com. For the year 2004, 1.7% of our room revenues (on a

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pro forma basis to reflect the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering) were attributable to bookings through these intermediaries. As we may continue to selectively use these third party Internet intermediaries to generate sales, they may be able to obtain higher commissions, reduced room rates or other significant contract concessions from us. If the amount of sales made through Internet intermediaries increases significantly and we fail to appropriately price room inventory in a manner that maximizes yields, or we are unable to do so, our room revenue may flatten or decrease and our profitability may decline.

The illiquidity of real estate investments and the lack of alternative uses of hotel properties could significantly limit our ability to respond to adverse changes in the performance of our hotels and harm our financial condition.

Because real estate investments are relatively illiquid, our ability to promptly sell one or more of our hotels in response to changing economic, financial and investment conditions is limited. The real estate market, including our hotels, is affected by many factors, such as general economic conditions, availability of financing, interest rates and other factors, including supply and demand, that are beyond our control. We may not be able to sell any of our hotels on favorable terms. It may take a long time to find a willing purchaser and to close the sale of a hotel if we want to sell. Should we decide to sell a hotel during the term of that particular hotel's management agreement, we may have to pay termination fees, which could be substantial, to the appropriate management company.

In addition, hotels may not readily be converted to alternative uses if they were to become unprofitable due to competition, age of improvements, decreased demand or other factors. The conversion of a hotel to alternative uses would also generally require substantial capital expenditures and may give rise to substantial payments to our franchisors, management companies and lenders.

We may be required to expend funds to correct defects or to make improvements before a hotel can be sold. We may not have funds available to correct those defects or to make those improvements and, as a result, our ability to sell the hotel would be restricted. In acquiring a hotel, we may agree to lock-out provisions that materially restrict us from selling that hotel for a period of time or impose other restrictions on us, such as a limitation on the amount of debt that can be placed or repaid on that hotel to address specific concerns of sellers. These lock-out provisions would restrict our ability to sell a hotel. These factors and any others that would impede our ability to respond to adverse changes in the performance of our hotels could harm our financial condition and results of operations.

Claims by persons relating to our properties could affect the attractiveness of our hotels or cause us to incur additional expenses.

We could incur liabilities resulting from loss or injury to our hotels or to persons at our hotels. These losses could be attributable to us or result from actions taken by a management company, including the Management Company. Claims such as these, whether or not they have merit, could harm the reputation of a hotel or cause us to incur expenses to the extent of insurance deductibles or losses in excess of policy limitations, which could harm our results of operations.

Uninsured and underinsured losses could harm our financial condition, results of operations and ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

Various types of catastrophic losses, such as losses due to wars, terrorist acts, earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, pollution or environmental matters, generally are either uninsurable or not economically insurable, or may be subject to insurance coverage limitations, such as large deductibles or co-payments. Of our 52 hotels, 18 are located in California (21 if our presently pending acquisitions are consummated), which has

been historically at greater risk to certain acts of nature (such as fires and earthquakes) than other states.

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In the event of a catastrophic loss, our insurance coverage may not be sufficient to cover the full current market value or replacement cost of our lost investment. Should an uninsured loss or a loss in excess of insured limits occur, we could lose all or a portion of the capital we have invested in a hotel, as well as the anticipated future revenue from the hotel. In that event, we might nevertheless remain obligated for any notes payable or other financial obligations related to the property, in addition to obligations to our ground lessors, franchisors and managers. Inflation, changes in building codes and ordinances, environmental considerations and other factors might also keep us from using insurance proceeds to replace or renovate a hotel after it has been damaged or destroyed. Under those circumstances, the insurance proceeds we receive might be inadequate to restore our economic position on the damaged or destroyed hotel.

Since September 11, 2001, it has generally become more difficult and expensive to obtain property and casualty insurance, including coverage for terrorism. When our current insurance policies expire, we may encounter difficulty in obtaining or renewing property or casualty insurance on our hotels at the same levels of coverage and under similar terms. Such insurance may be more limited and for some catastrophic risks (e.g., earthquake, fire, flood and terrorism) may not be generally available at current levels. Even if we are able to renew our policies or to obtain new policies at levels and with limitations consistent with our current policies, we cannot be sure that we will be able to obtain such insurance at premium rates that are commercially reasonable. If we are unable to obtain adequate insurance on our hotels for certain risks, it could cause us to be in default under specific covenants on certain of our indebtedness or other contractual commitments we have to our ground lessors, franchisors and managers which require us to maintain adequate insurance on our properties to protect against the risk of loss. If this were to occur, or if we were unable to obtain adequate insurance and our properties experienced damages which would otherwise have been covered by insurance, it could harm our financial condition and results of operations.

Laws and governmental regulations may restrict the ways in which we use our hotel properties and increase the cost of compliance with such regulations. Noncompliance with such regulations could subject us to penalties, loss of value of our properties or civil damages.

Our hotel properties are subject to various Federal, state and local laws relating to the environment, fire and safety and access and use by disabled persons. Under these laws, courts and government agencies have the authority to require us, if we are the owner of a contaminated property, to clean up the property, even if we did not know of or were not responsible for the contamination. These laws also apply to persons who owned a property at the time it became contaminated. In addition to the costs of cleanup, environmental contamination can affect the value of a property and, therefore, an owner's ability to borrow funds using the property as collateral or to sell the property. Under such environmental laws, courts and government agencies also have the authority to require that a person who sent waste to a waste disposal facility, such as a landfill or an incinerator, to pay for the clean-up of that facility if it becomes contaminated and threatens human health or the environment.

Furthermore, various court decisions have established that third parties may recover damages for injury caused by property contamination. For instance, a person exposed to asbestos while staying in or working at a hotel may seek to recover damages for injuries suffered. Additionally, some of these environmental laws restrict the use of a property or place conditions on various activities. For example, some laws require a business using chemicals (such as swimming pool chemicals at a hotel) to manage them carefully and to notify local officials that the chemicals are being used.

We could be responsible for the types of costs discussed above. The costs to clean up a contaminated property, to defend against a claim or to comply with environmental laws could be material and could reduce the funds available for distribution to our stockholders. Future laws or regulations may impose material environmental liabilities on us, or the current environmental condition of our hotel properties may be affected by the condition of the properties in the vicinity of our hotels (such as the presence of leaking underground storage tanks) or by third parties unrelated to us.

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Our hotel properties are also subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, or the ADA. Under the ADA, all public accommodations must meet various Federal requirements related to access and use by disabled persons. Compliance with the ADA's requirements could require removal of access barriers and non-compliance could result in the U.S. government imposing fines or in private litigants winning damages. If we are required to make substantial modifications to our hotels, whether to comply with the ADA or other changes in governmental rules and regulations, our financial condition, results of operations and the ability to make distributions to our stockholders could be harmed. In addition, we are required to operate our hotel properties and laundry facilities in compliance with fire and safety regulations, building codes and other land use regulations, as they may be adopted by governmental agencies and become applicable to our properties.

Tax and Employee Benefit Plan Risks

Your investment has various Federal income tax risks.

Although the provisions of the Code relevant to your investment are generally described in U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations, we strongly urge you to consult your own tax advisor concerning the effects of Federal, state and local income tax law on an investment in our common stock and on your individual tax situation.

If we fail to qualify as a REIT, our distributions will not be deductible by us and our income will be subject to Federal taxation, reducing our cash available for distribution.

We are a REIT under the Code which affords us significant tax advantages. The requirements for qualifying as a REIT, however, are complex. If we fail to meet these requirements, our distributions will not be deductible by us and we will have to pay a corporate Federal level tax on our income. This would substantially reduce our cash available to pay distributions and your yield on your investment in our common stock. In addition, such a tax liability might cause us to borrow funds, liquidate some of our investments or take other steps which could negatively affect our results of operations. Moreover, if our REIT status is terminated because of our failure to meet a technical REIT requirement or if we voluntarily revoke our election, we would generally be disqualified from electing treatment as a REIT for the four taxable years following the year in which REIT status is lost.

Even as a REIT, we may become subject to Federal, state or local taxes on our income or property, reducing our cash available for distribution.

Even as a REIT, we may become subject to Federal income taxes and related state taxes. For example, if we have net income from a prohibited transaction, that income will be subject to a 100% tax. A prohibited transaction is, in general, the sale or other disposition of inventory or property, other than foreclosure property, held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business. We may not be able to make sufficient distributions to avoid excise taxes applicable to REITs. We may also decide to retain income we earn from the sale or other disposition of our property and pay Federal income tax directly on that income. In that event, our stockholders would be treated as if they earned that income and paid the tax on it directly. However, stockholders that are tax-exempt, such as charities or qualified pension plans, would have no benefit from their deemed payment of that tax liability.

We may also be subject to state and local taxes on our income or property, either directly or at the level of our operating partnership or at the level of the other companies through which we indirectly own our assets. We cannot assure you that we will be able to continue to satisfy the

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REIT requirements, or that it will be in our best interests to continue to do so.

In view of the complexity of the tax aspects of this offering, particularly in light of the fact that some of the tax aspects of this offering will not be the same for all investors, prospective investors are strongly advised to consult their own tax advisors with specific reference to their own tax situation prior to an investment in shares of our common stock.

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If the leases of our hotels to our taxable REIT subsidiary are not respected as true leases for Federal income tax purposes, we would fail to qualify as a REIT.

To qualify as a REIT, we must satisfy two gross income tests, under which specified percentages of our gross income must be passive income, like rent. For the rent paid pursuant to the leases of our hotels to Sunstone Hotel Partnership by our taxable REIT subsidiary, the TRS Lessee, which constitutes substantially all of our gross income, to qualify for purposes of the gross income tests, the leases must be respected as true leases for Federal income tax purposes and not be treated as service contracts, joint ventures or some other type of arrangement. If the leases are not respected as true leases for Federal income tax purposes, we would fail to qualify as a REIT.

Our taxable REIT subsidiary is subject to special rules that may result in increased taxes.

Several Code provisions ensure that a taxable REIT subsidiary is subject to an appropriate level of Federal income taxation. For example, a taxable REIT subsidiary, such as the TRS Lessee, is limited in its ability to deduct interest payments made to an affiliated REIT. In addition, the REIT has to pay a 100% penalty tax on some payments that it receives if the economic arrangements between us and the taxable REIT subsidiary are not comparable to similar arrangements between unrelated parties. The IRS may successfully assert that the economic arrangements of any of our inter-company transactions, including the hotel leases, are not comparable to similar arrangements between unrelated parties.

We may be required to pay a penalty tax upon the sale of a hotel.

The Federal income tax provisions applicable to REITs provide that any gain realized by a REIT on the sale of property held as inventory or other property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business is treated as income from a prohibited transaction that is subject to a 100% penalty tax. Under current law, unless a sale of real property qualifies for a safe harbor, the question of whether the sale of a hotel (or other property) constitutes the sale of property held primarily for sale to customers is generally a question of the facts and circumstances regarding a particular transaction. We may make sales that do not satisfy the requirements of the safe harbors or the IRS may successfully assert that one or more of our sales are prohibited transactions and, therefore, we may be required to pay a penalty tax.

We also may be subject to corporate level income tax on certain built-in gains.

We hold certain properties acquired from C corporations (and may acquire additional such properties in the future), in which we must adopt the C corporation's tax basis in that asset as our tax basis. If we sell any such property within ten years of the date on which we acquire it, then we will have to pay tax on the gain at the highest regular corporate tax rate.

An investment in our common stock may not be suitable for every employee benefit plan.

When considering an investment in our common stock, an individual with investment discretion over assets of any pension plan, profit-sharing plan, retirement plan, individual retirement account under Section 408(a) of the Code or other employee benefit plan covered by the Employee

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Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, or ERISA, should consider whether the investment satisfies the requirements of Section 404 of ERISA or other applicable laws. In particular, attention should be paid to the diversification requirements of Section 404(a)(1)(C) of ERISA in light of all the facts and circumstances, including the portion of the plan's portfolio of which the investment will be a part. All plan investors should also consider whether the investment is prudent and meets plan liquidity requirements as there may be only a limited market in which to sell or otherwise dispose of our common stock, and whether the investment is permissible under the plan's governing instrument. We have not, and will not, evaluate whether an investment in our common stock is suitable for any particular plan.

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SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements contained in this prospectus constitute forward-looking statements, as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act. Forward-looking statements relate to expectations, beliefs, projections, future plans and strategies, anticipated events or trends and similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as may, will, should, expects, plans, anticipates, believes, estimates, predicts, potential or the negative of these terms or comparable terminology.

The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus reflect our current views about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties, assumptions and changes in circumstances that may cause our actual results to differ significantly from those expressed in any forward-looking statement. The factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from expected results include changes in economic, business, competitive market and regulatory conditions. Important risks and factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from any forward-looking statements include, without limitation, the following:

the factors discussed in this prospectus set forth under the sections titled "Risk Factors" and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations";

downturns in economic and market conditions, particularly levels of spending in the travel and leisure industries in the markets in which we invest;

hostilities, including future terrorist attacks, or fear of hostilities that affect travel within or to the United States;

the performance and reputation of the Management Company and the other independent hotel management companies with whom we contract;

unknown liabilities and our indemnity of the Management Company;

the performance and reputation of our franchisors;

increases in interest rates and operating costs;

difficulties in identifying hotels to acquire and completing and integrating acquisitions;

our ability to sell existing hotels in a manner consistent with our business strategy;

changes in our board and executive officers;

risks related to natural disasters, including earthquakes;

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general volatility of the capital markets and the market price of our shares of common stock;

our failure to qualify and maintain our status as a REIT;

changes in real estate and zoning laws or regulations;

increases in real property tax rates;

the presently contemplated consummation of the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions;

contemplated dividend payment rates and amounts;

the performance of acquired properties after they are acquired;

necessary expenditures on acquired properties; and

changes in the competitive environment in our industry.

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We do not intend, and disclaim any duty or obligation, to update or revise any industry information or forward-looking statements set forth in this prospectus to reflect new information, future events or otherwise. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the events described by our forward-looking statements might not occur. We qualify any and all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary factors. Please keep this special note in mind as you read this prospectus.

This prospectus contains market data, industry statistics and other data that have been obtained from, or compiled from, information made available by third parties. We have not independently verified their data.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate we will receive gross proceeds from this offering of \$70.2 million, based on the public offering price of \$23.40 per share. After deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and the estimated expenses of this offering, we estimate the net proceeds to us from this offering will be approximately \$65.3 million. We will contribute the net proceeds that we receive to our operating partnership in exchange for 3,000,000 membership units. Our operating partnership will subsequently use these net proceeds to finance a portion of the acquisition of the remaining 75% ownership interest in the Renaissance Washington in Washington D.C. as described under Summary Recent Developments.

Pending application of cash proceeds, our operating partnership will invest the net proceeds in interest-bearing accounts and short-term, interest-bearing securities which are consistent with our intention to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes.

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of any shares of our common stock sold by the selling stockholders.

Table of Contents**PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK**

Our common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SHO. The following table sets forth the quarterly range of high and low closing prices per share of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange for the periods indicated:

	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Year ended December 31, 2004		
Fourth Quarter (since October 26, 2004)	\$ 20.81	\$ 16.70
Year ended December 31, 2005		
First Quarter	\$ 22.49	\$ 20.20
Second Quarter (through June 6, 2005)	\$ 23.58	\$ 21.20

On June 6, 2005, the last reported sale price of our common stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange was \$23.58 per share. As of April 1, 2005, there were approximately 18 record holders of our common stock.

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DISTRIBUTION POLICY

In order to qualify as a REIT, we must annually distribute to our stockholders an amount at least equal to:

90% of our REIT taxable income (determined before the deduction for dividends paid and excluding any net capital gain); plus

90% of the excess of our net income from foreclosure property over the tax imposed on such income by the Code; less

any excess non-cash income (as determined under Sections 856 through 860 of the Code).

We paid a quarterly distribution of \$0.285 per share on April 15, 2005 and have declared a quarterly distribution of \$0.285 per share payable on July 15, 2005 to stockholders of record on June 30, 2005. The amount, timing and frequency of distributions will be authorized by our board of directors from time to time and declared by us out of assets legally available therefor based upon a number of factors, including:

our actual results of operations;

distributions we receive from Sunstone Hotel Partnership, which depends on payments received by it from the TRS Lessee;

our debt service requirements;

capital expenditure requirements for our hotels;

unforeseen expenditures at the hotels;

unforeseen liabilities arising from acts or omissions prior to or after this offering;

our taxable income;

the annual distribution requirement under the REIT provisions of the Code;

our operating expenses; and

other factors that our board of directors may deem relevant.

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Our cash available for distributions may be less than 90% of our REIT taxable income in which case we could be required to either sell assets or borrow funds to make distributions. In addition, our ability to pay quarterly distributions is limited pursuant to our revolving credit and term loan facilities to 95% of our funds from operations (as defined in the facilities), which limit would have been \$71.2 million for the twelve months ended December 31, 2004. Those facilities also contain financial covenants that limit our ability to sell assets or borrow funds.

Distributions to our stockholders will generally be taxable to our stockholders as ordinary income. Because a significant portion of our investments will be equity ownership interests in hotels, which will result in depreciation and non-cash charges against our income, a portion of our distributions may constitute a tax-free return of capital. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits and not treated by us as a dividend will not be taxable to a taxable U.S. stockholder under current Federal income tax law to the extent those distributions do not exceed the stockholder's adjusted tax basis in his or her common stock, but rather will reduce the adjusted basis of the common stock. Therefore, the gain (or loss) recognized on the sale of that common stock or upon our liquidation will be increased (or decreased) accordingly. To the extent those distributions exceed a taxable U.S. stockholder's adjusted tax basis in his or her common stock, they generally will be treated as a capital gain realized from the taxable disposition of those shares. Sunstone Hotel Partnership intends to make quarterly distributions to holders of membership units, including us. The TRS Lessee intends to distribute cash it does not need in its business to us, which will then be available for distribution by us to our stockholders and will generally be taxable to our stockholders as dividends.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of March 31, 2005, on a historical basis, on a pro forma basis to give effect to the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions described under Summary Recent Developments and on a pro forma as adjusted basis to give effect to this offering and the use of the estimated net proceeds from this offering as described in Use of Proceeds.

	March 31, 2005		
	Historical	Pro forma for Acquisitions and Financing Transactions ⁽¹⁾ (unaudited) (dollars in thousands)	Pro forma As Adjusted (unaudited)
Cash	\$ 69,898	\$ (48,435)	\$ 16,856
Total long-term debt ^{(2) (3)}	\$ 437,954	\$ 1,017,992	\$ 1,017,992
Minority interests	43,927	43,927	43,927
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 4,102,564 shares issued and outstanding, pro forma and pro forma as adjusted ⁽⁴⁾		99,000	99,000
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 4,850,000 issued and outstanding, historical, pro forma and pro forma as adjusted	121,250	121,250	121,250
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 500,000,000 shares authorized, 34,533,321 shares issued and outstanding, historical ⁽⁵⁾ ; 38,283,321 shares issued and outstanding, pro forma; and 41,283,321 shares issued and outstanding, pro forma as adjusted	345	383	413
Additional paid-in capital	448,648	530,003	595,264
Unearned and accrued stock compensation	(7,070)	(7,070)	(7,070)
Accumulated deficit	(16,100)	(16,100)	(16,100)
Cumulative dividends	(20,319)	(20,319)	(20,319)
Total stockholders' equity	526,754	608,147	673,438
Total capitalization	\$ 1,008,635	\$ 1,769,066	\$ 1,834,357

(1) Reflects the effects of the issuance of 3,750,000 shares of our common stock to BIP and 4,102,564 shares of our series C convertible redeemable preferred to Security Capital as part of the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions. Does not reflect the 294,000 additional shares of our common stock that we expect to issue to BIP pursuant to preemptive rights we granted to BIP and up to 300,000 additional shares of our common stock we may issue to Security Capital pursuant to preemptive rights we granted to Security Capital if Security Capital exercises those rights, in each case as a result of the offering of shares by us contemplated hereby. Also reflects the net effect of the cash received in those financing transactions and the application of those proceeds and additional cash on hand to the pending hotel acquisitions and the assumption of debt in connection with those acquisitions. See our unaudited pro forma financial statements and Summary Recent Developments for additional information.

(2) See Outstanding Indebtedness for a description of our revolving credit facility, our term loan facility certain other material debt of ours.

(3) Excludes current portion of long-term debt as of March 31, 2005.

(4) Represents the 4,102,564 shares of series C convertible redeemable preferred stock issuable to Security Capital as part of the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions.

(5) Common stock issued and outstanding, historical, excludes:

2,032,053 additional shares of our common stock available for future issuance under our 2004 long-term incentive plan, of which 448,382 have been reserved for issuance pursuant to grants of restricted stock units to our employees;

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3,699,572 shares of our common stock reserved for issuance with respect to membership units of Sunstone Hotel Partnership that may, subject to limits in the operating agreement for Sunstone Hotel Partnership, be exchanged for cash or, at our option, shares of our common stock generally commencing on October 27, 2005; and

3,750,000 shares of our common stock and 4,102,564 shares of our series C preferred stock (or any shares of common stock issuable upon conversion thereof) issuable as part of the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions or any additional shares of common stock issuable to BIP and Security Capital as a result of the offering of shares by us contemplated hereby as described in Recent Developments.

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SELECTED FINANCIAL AND OPERATING DATA

The summary historical financial data as of December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004 and March 31, 2005, and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2003 and for the period January 1, 2004 through October 25, 2004, and for the period October 26, 2004 through December 31, 2004, and the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2005, has been derived from our audited annual and unaudited interim consolidated and combined financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus.

The unaudited pro forma financial information presented for 2004 gives effect to (1) the formation and structuring transactions that took place at the time of our initial public offering, (2) the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions and (3) this offering. It presents the unaudited pro forma statement of operations data for the year ended December 31, 2004 as if these transactions had occurred as of the beginning of that period. The unaudited pro forma financial information presented for the first quarter of 2005 gives effect to the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions and this offering. It presents the unaudited pro forma balance sheet data as of March 31, 2005 as if the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions had occurred as of March 31, 2005 and it presents the unaudited pro forma statement of operations data for the three months ended March 31, 2005 as if these transactions had occurred as of the beginning of that period. The adjustments are discussed in detail in our unaudited pro forma financial statements included in this prospectus. The unaudited pro forma financial data does not purport to represent our financial position or results of operations if these items had occurred on the dates discussed above. You should read the assumptions on which the unaudited pro forma financial data is based from pages F-3 through F-16 in connection with the pro forma financial data contained in this summary.

You should read the following selected historical and pro forma financial and operating data together with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our unaudited pro forma financial statements and our consolidated and combined financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

We acquired 15 hotels in December 2002, as discussed in more detail in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, which affects the comparability of the data reflected herein.

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	Year ended December 31,				Period	Period	Pro forma	Quarter	Quarter	Pro forma
	2000	2001	2002	2003	January 1, through October 25, 2004	October 26, through December 31, 2004	year ended December 31, 2004	ended March 31, 2004	ended March 31, 2005	quarter ended March 31, 2005
	(unaudited)				(unaudited)					
	(in thousands)									
Operating data:										
Revenues:										
Room	\$ 155,439	\$ 171,692	\$ 182,522	\$ 306,239	\$ 282,583	\$ 53,110	\$ 472,338	\$ 75,982	\$ 79,624	\$ 116,309
Food and beverage	35,833	39,301	45,034	104,416	89,270	21,960	188,058	25,538	25,775	45,979
Other operating	17,679	19,861	21,304	36,508	36,038	7,636	58,248	11,074	11,158	14,565
Management and other fees from affiliates			194	705	688	4	4	377		
Total revenues	208,951	230,854	249,054	447,868	408,579	82,710	718,648	112,971	116,557	176,853
Operating expenses:										
Room	33,463	38,915	41,004	72,083	62,129	13,004	110,363	17,380	17,784	26,902
Food and beverage	28,228	31,322	33,081	74,642	62,318	15,057	138,542	17,669	18,291	33,623
Other hotel operating	59,762	60,290	76,368	144,393	125,962	26,935	190,235	36,393	37,481	47,381
General administrative	29,163	45,226	37,844	62,923	58,309	17,424	120,722	14,542	15,971	27,860
Depreciation and amortization	25,014	28,807	32,844	52,068	47,218	11,192	73,372	13,839	14,063	18,266
Impairment loss			6,176	11,382	7,439		7,439	7,439		
Goodwill amortization	6,797	4,925								
Total operating expenses	182,427	209,485	227,317	417,491	363,375	83,612	640,673	107,262	103,590	154,032
Operating income (loss)	26,524	21,369	21,737	30,377	45,204	(902)	77,975	5,709	12,967	22,821
Interest and other income	658	1,070	2,080	796	561	154	715	102	306	306
Interest expense	(40,851)	(40,238)	(27,932)	(53,974)	(43,881)	(19,606)	(66,766)	(13,342)	(12,168)	(16,692)
Income (loss) before minority interest, income taxes, cumulative effect of change in accounting principle and discontinued operations	(13,669)	(17,799)	(4,115)	(22,801)	1,884	(20,354)	11,924	(7,531)	1,105	6,435
Minority interest	(424)			(17)	125	2,706	314	8	(151)	(182)
Income tax benefit (provision)		8,804	4,707	2,876	(272)			(1,303)		
Loss from continuing operations before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle and discontinued operations	(14,093)	(8,995)	592	(19,942)	1,737	(17,648)	12,238	(8,826)	954	6,253
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle		(1,249)								
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	5,359	(8,563)	(10,978)	(2,324)	(19,940)	(249)		(16,519)	843	
Net (loss) income	\$ (8,734)	\$ (18,807)	\$ (10,386)	\$ (22,266)	\$ (18,203)	\$ (17,897)	12,238	\$ (25,345)	1,797	6,253
Preferred stock dividends							(16,085)		(388)	(4,021)
Income available to common stockholders							\$ (3,847)		\$ 1,409	\$ 2,232
Cash flows from operating activities	\$ 45,510	\$ 43,317	\$ 26,720	\$ 60,034	\$ 38,971	\$ 2,620		\$ 9,345	\$ 16,239	



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	As of December 31,					As of March 31, 2005	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Historical	Pro forma
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)				(unaudited)	(unaudited)
Balance sheet data:							
Investment in hotel properties, net	\$ 992,509	\$ 821,588	\$ 1,316,659	\$ 1,227,537	\$ 1,127,272	\$ 1,104,034	\$ 1,776,534
Total assets	1,132,312	915,654	1,445,889	1,364,942	1,253,745	1,312,049	1,910,839
Total debt ⁽¹⁾	665,157	515,407	942,423	917,652	712,461	653,027	1,022,240
Total liabilities	773,196	616,869	1,047,147	1,033,993	791,583	741,368	1,094,474
Equity	359,116	298,785	398,742	330,345	417,332	526,754	673,438

(1) Excludes debt of discontinued operations.

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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

You should read the following discussion together with Selected Financial and Operating Data, our unaudited pro forma financial statements and our consolidated and combined financial statements and related notes appearing elsewhere in this prospectus.

Overview

We own primarily upper upscale and upscale hotels in the United States operated under leading brand names franchised or licensed from others, such as Marriott, Hilton, InterContinental, Hyatt, Starwood, Carlson and Wyndham.

Operations

Our financial data prior to October 26, 2004, is for our predecessor companies, who owned and operated the hotels during the periods presented. In conjunction with our initial public offering in October 2004, we made substantial changes to our operations to effect the formation and structuring transactions as further described in our unaudited pro forma financial statements and to qualify and elect to be treated as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code. As a result, our historical results of operations prior to October 26, 2004 are not indicative of our current results of operations.

Formation and Structuring transactions and our initial public offering. The following items occurred or will affect our future results of operations as a result of (1) the formation and structuring transactions that took place immediately preceding our initial public offering and/or (2) our initial public offering:

the payment of management fees to Interstate Hotels and Resorts, the Management Company, which has assumed responsibility for our hotel operations pursuant to the management agreements with us;

the reduction of corporate general and administrative costs as a result of the employee transfers to the Management Company;

the reflection of a minority interest to give effect to the interests in Sunstone Hotel Partnership owned by the predecessor companies;

the exclusion of two hotels that were not contributed to us;

the reduction in interest expense as a result of the repayment of some of our notes payable;

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the reduction in ground lease expense reflecting the acquisition of the ground lessor's interest in the land under the Embassy Suites Hotel, Chicago, Illinois; and

the incremental costs associated with operating as a public company, which are estimated to be approximately \$2.2 million per year.

The effects of these matters are described in our unaudited pro forma financial statements.

REIT structure. For us to continue to qualify as a REIT, our income cannot be derived from our operation of hotels. Therefore, consistent with the provisions of the Code, Sunstone Hotel Partnership and its subsidiaries have leased our hotel properties to our taxable REIT subsidiary lessee, Sunstone Hotel TRS Lessee, Inc., or the TRS Lessee, who has in turn contracted with eligible independent contractors to manage our hotels. Under the Code, an eligible independent contractor is an independent contractor who is actively engaged in the trade or business of operating qualified lodging facilities for any person unrelated to us and the TRS Lessee. Sunstone Hotel Partnership and the TRS Lessee will be consolidated into our financial statements for accounting purposes. Since we control both Sunstone Hotel Partnership and our TRS Lessee, our principal source of funds on a consolidated basis will be from the performance of our hotels. The earnings of the TRS Lessee will be subject to taxation like other C corporations, which will reduce our operating results, funds from operations and the cash otherwise available for distribution to our stockholders.

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Factors Affecting Our Results of Operations

Revenues. Substantially all of our revenues are derived from the operation of our hotels. Specifically, our revenues consist of the following:

Room revenue, which is primarily driven by occupancy and average daily rate;

Food and beverage revenue, which is primarily driven by occupancy and banquet/catering bookings;

Other operating revenue, which consists of ancillary hotel revenue such as telephone, transportation, parking, spa, golf, entertainment and other guest services and is primarily driven by occupancy. Additionally, this category includes operating revenue from our two commercial laundry facilities located in Rochester, Minnesota and Salt Lake City, Utah and our electronic purchasing platform, Buy Efficient, L.L.C.; and

Management and other fees from affiliates, which consists of other non-operating income and management and other fees from our affiliates prior to our initial public offering.

The following performance indicators are commonly used in the hotel industry:

occupancy;

average daily rate, or ADR; and

revenue per available room, or RevPAR, which is the product of occupancy and ADR, but does not include food and beverage revenue, other operating revenue or management and other fees from affiliates.

Operating costs and expenses. Our operating costs and expenses consist of the following:

Room expense, which like room revenue, is primarily driven by occupancy and, therefore, has a significant correlation with room revenue;

Food and beverage expense, which like food and beverage revenue, is primarily driven by occupancy and banquet and catering bookings and, therefore, has a significant correlation with food and beverage revenue;

Other operating expense, which consists of the corresponding expense of other operating revenue, advertising and promotion, repairs and maintenance, utilities, and franchise fees and assessments categories;

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Property tax, ground lease and insurance expense, which consists of the expenses associated with property tax, ground lease and insurance payments, each of which are primarily fixed expenses;

Property general and administrative expense, which consists of our property-level general and administrative expenses, such as payroll and related costs, professional fees, and travel expenses, as well as management fees with respect to our hotels;

Corporate general and administrative expense, which consists of our corporate-level expenses such as payroll and related costs, professional fees, travel expenses and office rent; and

Depreciation and amortization expense, which consists of depreciation on our hotel buildings, improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment (since January 1, 2002, we have not amortized our goodwill).

Most categories of variable operating expenses, such as utilities and certain labor costs, such as housekeeping, fluctuate with changes in occupancy. Increases in RevPAR attributable to improvements in occupancy are accompanied by increases in most categories of variable operating costs and expenses. Increases in RevPAR attributable to improvements in ADR typically only result in increases in limited categories of operating costs and expenses, primarily credit card commissions, franchise fees and franchise assessments. Thus, improvements in ADR have a more significant impact on improving our operating margins than occupancy.

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We continually seek to improve our operating leverage, which generally refers to the ability to generate incremental profit based on limited variable costs. Notwithstanding our efforts to reduce variable costs, there are limits to how much we or the Management Company and our other operators can accomplish in that regard without affecting the competitiveness of our hotels and our guests' experiences at our hotels. Furthermore, we have significant fixed costs, such as depreciation and amortization, insurance and other expenses associated with owning hotels that do not necessarily decrease when circumstances such as market factors cause a reduction in our hotel revenue. For example, we have experienced increases in wages, employee benefits (especially workers' compensation in our California hotels and health insurance) and utility costs, which negatively affected our operating margin. Our historical performance may not be indicative of future results, and our future results may be worse than our historical performance.

Acquisition, Sale and Major Redevelopment Activity

Our results during the periods discussed have been, and our future results will be, affected by our acquisition, sale and redevelopment activity during the applicable period.

Acquisition of hotels. The following table sets forth the hotels that we have acquired or developed since the beginning of 2002 through March 31, 2005 and indicates their room count and acquisition date:

Hotel	Rooms	Acquisition Date
2004		
Residence Inn by Marriott, Rochester, Minnesota	80	June 18, 2004 ⁽¹⁾
JW Marriott, Cherry Creek, Colorado ⁽²⁾	196	April 28, 2004
2003		
Residence Inn by Marriott, Manhattan Beach, California	176	June 20, 2003
Marriott, Ontario, California	299	January 24, 2003
2002		
Crowne Plaza, Grand Rapids, Michigan	320	December 18, 2002
Wyndham, Houston, Texas	472	December 18, 2002
Embassy Suites Hotel, Chicago, Illinois	358 ⁽³⁾	December 18, 2002
Marriott, Woodland Hills, California	473	December 6, 2002
Doubletree, Minneapolis, Minnesota	230	December 5, 2002
Hilton, Del Mar, California	251 ⁽³⁾	December 5, 2002
Hilton, Huntington, New York	302	December 5, 2002
Hyatt, Newport Beach, California	403	December 5, 2002
Marriott, Troy, Michigan	350	December 5, 2002
Marriott, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	286	December 5, 2002
Marriott, Houston, Texas	391	December 5, 2002
Marriott, Tysons Corner, Virginia	390	December 5, 2002
Radisson, Englewood, New Jersey	194	December 5, 2002
Radisson, Williamsburg, Virginia	303	December 5, 2002
Valley River Inn, Eugene, Oregon	257	December 5, 2002
Total January 1, 2002 to March 31, 2005	5,731	

(1) Opening date of developed hotel.

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- (2) Following our initial public offering, this hotel is not a part of our hotel portfolio.
- (3) Original acquisition room count prior to room expansions.

The aggregate cost for these 19 hotel acquisitions was approximately \$618.0 million, or \$108 thousand per room.

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Sale of hotels. The following table sets forth the hotels that since the beginning of 2002 and through March 31, 2005 have been sold or are currently held for sale and indicates their room count and sale date:

Hotel	Rooms	Sale Date
2004		
San Marcos Resort, Chandler, Arizona	295	November 18, 2004
Holiday Inn, Flagstaff, Arizona	156	November 10, 2004
Concord Hotel and Conference Center, Concord, California	324	September 30, 2004
Four Points Sheraton, Silverthorne, Colorado	160	August 27, 2004
Holiday Inn, Anchorage, Alaska	247	May 27, 2004
Holiday Inn, La Mirada, California	292	May 18, 2004
Hawthorn Suites, Anaheim, California	129	April 15, 2004
2003		
Marriott, Woodland Hills, California	473	December 10, 2003
Hampton Inn, Clackamas, Oregon	114	October 30, 2003
Hilton Garden Inn, Sacramento, California	154	July 31, 2003
Hampton Inn, Denver, Colorado	152	July 24, 2003
Hampton Inn, Pueblo, Colorado	112	July 24, 2003
Hampton Inn, Mesa, Arizona	118	July 22, 2003
Hampton Inn, Tucson, Arizona	126	July 22, 2003
2002		
Hilton Garden Inn, Rio Rancho, New Mexico	129	March 27, 2002
Total January 1, 2002 to March 31, 2005	2,981	

The aggregate net sale proceeds for the 15 hotel dispositions consummated through March 31, 2005 was \$183.8 million, or \$62 thousand per room. The results of operations of all of the hotels identified above and the gains or losses on dispositions through March 31, 2005 are included in discontinued operations for all periods presented through the time of sale. The net proceeds from the sales through March 31, 2005 are included in our cash flows from investing activities for the respective periods.

The following table summarizes our portfolio and room data since the beginning of 2002 adjusted for the hotels acquired and sold during the respective periods.

	2002	2003	2004	March 31, 2005
Portfolio Data Hotels				
Number of hotels beginning of period	52	66	61	54
Add: Acquisitions	15	2		
Add: Developments			2 ⁽¹⁾	
Less: Sales	1	7	7	
Less: Assets not included			2 ⁽²⁾	
Number of hotels end of period	66	61	54	54
Portfolio Data Rooms				

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Number of rooms beginning of period	10,804	15,664	14,901	13,183
Add: Acquisitions	4,980	475		
Add: Developments			276	
Add: Room expansions	9	11	20	
Less: Sales	129	1,249	1,603	
Less: Assets not included			411 ⁽²⁾	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Number of rooms end of period	15,664	14,901	13,183	13,183
Average rooms per hotel end of period	237	244	244	244

(1) Reflects the opening of the Residence Inn by Marriott, Rochester, Minnesota and the acquisition of the JW Marriott, Cherry Creek, Colorado.

(2) Reflects the exclusion of the JW Marriott, Cherry Creek, Colorado (196 rooms) and the Embassy Suites Hotel, Los Angeles, California (215 rooms) in connection with our initial public offering.

Table of Contents**Operating Results****Comparison of Three Months Ended March 31, 2005 to Three Months Ended March 31, 2004**

The following table presents our unaudited operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2005 and 2004, including the amount and percentage change in the results between the two periods. The operating results for 2004 have been derived by combining the predecessor companies' results for the period January 1, 2004 through March 31, 2004.

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2005	Three Months Ended March 31, 2004	Change \$	Change %
(dollars in thousands, except statistical data)				
Revenues				
Room	\$ 79,624	\$ 75,982	\$ 3,642	4.8%
Food and beverage	25,775	25,538	237	0.9
Other operating	11,158	11,074	84	0.8
Management and other fees from affiliates		377	(377)	(100.0)
Total revenues	116,557	112,971	3,586	3.2
Operating expenses				
Room	17,784	17,380	404	2.3
Food and beverage	18,291	17,669	622	3.5
Other hotel	37,481	36,393	1,088	3.0
Property general and administrative	12,452	9,920	2,532	25.5
Corporate general and administrative	3,519	4,622	(1,103)	(23.9)
Depreciation and amortization	14,063	13,839	224	1.6
Impairment loss		7,439	(7,439)	(100.0)
Total operating expenses	103,590	107,262	(3,672)	(3.4)
Operating income	12,967	5,709	7,258	127.1
Interest and other income	306	102	204	200.0
Interest expense	(12,168)	(13,342)	1,174	8.8
Income (loss) before minority interest, income taxes and discontinued operations	1,105	(7,531)	8,636	NA
Minority interest	(151)	8	(159)	NA
Income tax provision		(1,303)	1,303	100.0
Income (loss) from continuing operations before discontinued operations	954	(8,826)	9,780	NA
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	843	(16,519)	17,362	NA
Net income (loss)	1,797	\$ (25,345)	\$ 27,142	NA

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Preferred stock dividends	(388)			
Income available to common stockholders	\$ 1,409			
Operating statistics				
Occupancy ⁽¹⁾	68.8%	66.6%	2.2%	3.3%
Average daily rate ⁽¹⁾	\$ 101.75	\$ 96.90	\$ 4.85	5.0%
RevPAR ⁽¹⁾	\$ 70.00	\$ 64.54	\$ 5.46	8.5%

(1) Excludes hotels held in discontinued operations, which are described under Income (loss) from discontinued operations.

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Room revenue. Room revenue increased \$3.6 million net, primarily attributable to (1) organic growth in our existing portfolio base of \$5.4 million due to increases in ADR and occupancy, and (2) \$0.5 million related to a mid-year 2004 acquisition, partially offset by \$2.3 million related to properties included in our first quarter 2004 results of operations that were not contributed by the predecessor companies.

Food and beverage revenue. The food and beverage revenue increase was primarily driven by higher occupancy during 2005, a mid-year 2004 acquisition and new banquet and catering menus, partially offset by properties included in our first quarter 2004 results of operations that were not contributed by the predecessor companies.

Other operating revenue. Our increased occupancy led to increases in other operating revenue, including from parking, entertainment and guest services. Operating revenue also increased due to a mid-year 2004 acquisition, partially offset by properties included in our first quarter 2004 results of operations that were not contributed by the predecessor companies, and the continuing trend of declining telephone revenue.

Management and other fees from affiliates. Management and other fees from affiliates in 2004 relate to the Doubletree, Nashville, Tennessee and Residence Inn by Marriott, Beverly Hills, California, which are properties owned by related parties. As a result of our initial public offering, we no longer receive any management or other fees from these hotels.

Other hotel expenses. Increase in other hotel expenses was primarily driven by higher occupancy and a mid-year 2004 acquisition, partially offset by properties included in our first quarter 2004 results of operations that were not contributed by the predecessor companies, and ground lease expense related to the ground lease purchased as a part of our 2004 formation and structuring transactions.

Property general and administrative expense. Property general and administrative expense increased as a result of the \$2.1 million in management and accounting fees payable to the Management Company as well as other hotel specific expenses, such as increased credit card commissions and franchise fees associated with the overall increase in revenue, and a mid-year 2004 acquisition, partially offset by properties included in our first quarter 2004 results of operations that were not contributed by the predecessor companies.

Corporate general and administrative expense. Corporate general and administrative expense decreased as a result of the expected decrease in salaries and wages attributable to the transfer of certain employees to the Management Company as a part of the 2004 formation and structuring transactions, partially offset by the increased costs of being a public company.

Depreciation and amortization expense. Depreciation and amortization increased as a result of the increase in our depreciable asset base and a mid year 2004 acquisition, partially offset by properties included in our first quarter 2004 results of operations that were not contributed by the predecessor companies.

Interest expense. Interest expense decreased primarily as a result of lower average borrowings resulting from the repayment of a portion of our outstanding debt in connection with our initial public offering.

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Our total notes payable, including the current portion, was \$667.7 million at March 31, 2005 and \$712.5 million at December 31, 2004, with a weighted average interest rate per annum for the same period of approximately 6.5% at March 31, 2005 and 6.1% at December 31, 2004. At March 31, 2005, 51.6% of the amount outstanding under our notes payable was fixed, and 48.4% of the amount outstanding under our notes payable was floating.

Impairment loss. The impairment loss in 2004 consists of hotel impairment losses of \$7.4 million at three hotels and does not include any goodwill impairment loss. The hotel impairment loss in 2004 related to our determination that the current carrying values of the hotels were no longer recoverable based on estimated future

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cash flows to be generated by the hotels. This determination resulted from certain depressed hotel markets. The fair values of the hotels were determined by our management using factors such as net operating cash flows, terminal capitalization rates and replacement costs as described under Critical Accounting Policies Impairment of Long-lived Assets.

Provision for income taxes. As limited liability companies, the predecessor companies were pass-through entities and not liable for Federal and certain state income taxes, which were the responsibility of their respective members. However, some of our predecessor companies were corporations that were liable for taxes on their earnings. We maintain a taxable REIT subsidiary which is liable for taxes on its earnings. The change in the tax provision is attributable to the historical tax benefit for our predecessor companies being eliminated.

Income (loss) from discontinued operations. As described under Acquisition, Sale and Major Redevelopment Activity Sale of Hotels, we sold seven hotels in 2004 and have two hotels held for sale at March 31, 2005 (which were subsequently sold). Consistent with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, we have reclassified the results of operations for these hotels as discontinued operations. The decrease in loss from discontinued operations between the periods was primarily due to impairment losses on disposals of \$17.0 million in 2004.

Table of Contents**Comparison of 2004 to 2003**

The following table presents our operating results for 2004 and 2003, including the amount and percentage change in the results between the two periods. The operating results for 2004 have been derived by combining the results of our predecessors for the period of January 1, 2004 through October 25, 2004, and our results for the period October 26, 2004 through December 31, 2004.

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>Change \$</u>	<u>Change%</u>
(dollars in thousands, except statistical data)				
Revenues				
Room	\$ 335,693	\$ 306,239	\$ 29,454	9.6%
Food and beverage	111,230	104,416	6,814	6.5
Other operating	43,674	36,508	7,166	19.6
Management and other fees from affiliates	692	705	(13)	(1.8)
Total revenues	<u>491,289</u>	<u>447,868</u>	<u>43,421</u>	<u>9.7</u>
Operating expenses				
Room	75,133	72,083	3,050	4.2
Food and beverage	77,375	74,642	2,733	3.7
Other hotel	152,897	144,393	8,504	5.9
General and administrative	75,733	62,923	12,810	20.4
Depreciation and amortization	58,410	52,068	6,342	12.2
Impairment loss	7,439	11,382	(3,943)	(34.6)
Total operating expenses	<u>446,987</u>	<u>417,491</u>	<u>29,496</u>	<u>7.1</u>
Operating income	44,302	30,377	13,925	45.8
Interest and other income	715	796	(81)	(10.2)
Interest expense	(63,487)	(53,974)	(9,513)	(17.6)
Loss before minority interest, income taxes and discontinued operations	(18,470)	(22,801)	4,331	19.0
Minority interest	2,831	(17)	2,848	16,752.9
Income tax benefit (provision)	(272)	2,876	(3,148)	N/A
Loss from continuing operations before discontinued operations	(15,911)	(19,942)	4,031	20.2
Loss from discontinued operations	(20,189)	(2,324)	(17,865)	(768.7)
Net loss	<u>\$ (36,100)</u>	<u>\$ (22,266)</u>	<u>\$ (13,834)</u>	<u>(62.1)</u>
Operating statistics				
Occupancy ⁽¹⁾	71.2%	68.1%	3.1%	4.5%
Average daily rate ⁽¹⁾	\$ 98.05	\$ 95.49	\$ 2.56	2.7%
RevPAR ⁽¹⁾	\$ 69.77	\$ 65.03	\$ 4.74	7.3%

(1) Excludes hotels held in discontinued operations, which are described under Income (loss) from discontinued operations.

Room revenue. Room revenue increased primarily as a result of increases in occupancy, particularly at our newly renovated hotels, along with a moderate increase in ADR due to improving pricing ability at our fully renovated hotels. The strong operating improvements in 2004 compared to 2003 are primarily attributable to five factors:

a number of our hotels were under renovation, causing significant operating disruption in 2003, and the hotels were fully renovated by the beginning of 2004;

a number of our hotels had new property-level management teams in 2003, and the management teams were in place for more than one year at the beginning of 2004 with a stronger understanding of their respective local markets and hotels;

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short-term transient demand increased as both the general economy and the respective local economies started to recover in 2004 compared to 2003;

new long-term group contract business enabled us to establish a base occupancy at some of our hotels; and

an additional operating day in February 2004 due to the leap year.

Food and beverage revenue. The food and beverage revenue increase was primarily driven by higher occupancy during 2004 and the factors described above that drove our room revenue increase, as well as new banquet and catering menus and pricing programs primarily at our newly renovated hotels.

Other operating revenue. Our increased occupancy led to increases in other operating revenue, including from parking, entertainment and guest services. Through the increase in occupancy, we generated increases in banquet and conference room rental and ancillary services attributable to the banquet and catering business. We also generated increases from other services we provided to some of our group customers, including transportation. However, these increases were partially offset by the continuing trend of declining telephone revenue and the availability of complimentary Internet access.

Management and other fees from affiliates. Management and other fees from affiliates were comparable in both periods presented. These fees relate to the acquisition fees and management fees related to the Doubletree, Nashville, Tennessee and Residence Inn by Marriott, Beverly Hills, California, which are properties owned by related parties.

Other hotel expenses. Increase in other hotel expenses was primarily driven by higher occupancy during 2004. Also, increases in employee benefits (especially workers' compensation for our California hotels and health insurance) and utility costs, led to the increase in hotel operating expense for 2004 as compared to 2003. Other hotel expenses also increased as a result of the final increase in franchise fees pursuant to the terms of a multi-year agreement for our full-service Marriott hotels. These increases were partially offset by decreases in property tax expense, resulting from successful appeals with the local taxing jurisdictions, as well as reductions in our property insurance premiums after our most recent renewal in 2004.

General and administrative expense. General and administrative expense increased as a result of one-time charges of \$5.1 million associated with our initial public offering, a \$1.4 million increase in bad debt expense relating to a long-term customer at one of our hotels, pre-opening expenses for the JW Marriott, Cherry Creek, Colorado and hotel specific expenses, such as increased credit card commissions and franchise fees associated with the overall increase in revenue. General and administrative expense also increased due to increased expenses at Buy Efficient, L.L.C. and our laundry facility in Salt Lake City, Utah resulting from significant revenue improvements over the prior year. Overall, the increases in general and administrative expenses were partially offset by lower corporate expenses.

Depreciation and amortization expense. Depreciation and amortization increased as a result of the increase in our depreciable asset base following completion of major renovations at some of our hotels throughout 2003 and a one-time expense of \$1.7 million in connection with our initial public offering.

Interest expense. Interest expense increased primarily as a result of higher average borrowings from two mortgage refinancings, both of which closed in the third quarter of 2003 and a one-time expense of \$11.9 million associated with our initial public offering. Primarily offsetting the

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increases in interest expense are reductions in the interest payable due to reductions in the LIBOR index, the base rate for all of our floating rate debt.

Our total notes payable, including current portion, was \$712.5 million at December 31, 2004 and \$917.7 million at December 31, 2003, with a weighted average interest rate per annum of approximately 5.9% at December 31, 2004 and 5.4% at December 31, 2003. At December 31, 2004, 48.4% of the amount outstanding under our notes payable was fixed and 51.6% of the amount outstanding under our notes payable was floating.

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Impairment loss. Impairment loss in 2004 consists of hotel impairment losses of \$7.4 million at three hotels and does not include any goodwill impairment loss. The impairment loss in 2003 consists of hotel impairment losses of \$9.3 million at three of our hotels and goodwill impairment losses of \$2.1 million. The hotel impairment losses in 2004 and 2003 related to our management's determination that the current carrying values of the hotels were no longer recoverable based on their estimates of future cash flows to be generated by the hotels. This determination was based in part on our management's assessment that certain of our hotel markets are depressed. The fair values of the hotels were determined by our management using factors such as net operating cash flows, terminal capitalization rates and replacement costs as described under Critical Accounting Policies Impairment of Long-lived Assets.

Provision for income taxes. As limited liability companies, the predecessor companies were pass-through entities and not liable for Federal and certain state income taxes, which were the responsibility of their respective members. However, some of our predecessor companies were corporations that were liable for taxes on their earnings. We maintain a taxable REIT subsidiary which is liable for taxes on its earnings. The change in the tax provision is attributable to the historical tax benefit for our predecessor companies being eliminated.

Income (loss) from discontinued operations. As described under Acquisition, Sale and Major Redevelopment Activity Sale of Hotels, we sold seven hotels in 2003 and seven hotels in 2004. Consistent with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, we have reclassified the results of operations for these hotels as discontinued operations. The increase in loss from discontinued operations between the periods was primarily due to net gains on hotel dispositions of \$15.1 million in 2003 compared to losses on hotel dispositions of \$660,000 in 2004.

Table of Contents**Comparison of 2003 to 2002**

The following table presents our operating results for 2003 and 2002, including the amount and percentage change in these results between the two periods:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>Change \$</u>	<u>Change%</u>
(dollars in thousands except statistical data)				
Revenues				
Room	\$ 306,239	\$ 182,522	\$ 123,717	67.8%
Food and beverage	104,416	45,034	59,382	131.9
Other operating	36,508	21,304	15,204	71.4
Management and other fees from affiliates	705	194	511	263.4
Total revenues	<u>447,868</u>	<u>249,054</u>	<u>198,814</u>	<u>79.8</u>
Operating expenses				
Room	72,083	41,004	31,079	75.8
Food and beverage	74,642	33,081	41,561	125.6
Other hotel	144,393	76,368	68,025	89.1
General and administrative	62,923	37,844	25,079	66.3
Depreciation and amortization	52,068	32,844	19,224	58.5
Impairment loss	11,382	6,176	5,206	84.3
Total operating expenses	<u>417,491</u>	<u>227,317</u>	<u>190,174</u>	<u>83.7</u>
Operating income	30,377	21,737	8,640	39.7
Interest and other income	796	2,080	(1,284)	(61.7)
Interest expense	(53,974)	(27,932)	(26,042)	(93.2)
Loss before minority interest, income taxes and discontinued operations	<u>(22,801)</u>	<u>(4,115)</u>	<u>(18,686)</u>	<u>(454.1)</u>
Minority interest	(17)		(17)	
Income tax benefit	2,876	4,707	(1,831)	(38.9)
Loss from continuing operations before discontinued operations	<u>(19,942)</u>	<u>592</u>	<u>(20,534)</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Loss from discontinued operations	(2,324)	(10,978)	8,654	78.8
Net loss	<u>\$ (22,266)</u>	<u>\$ (10,386)</u>	<u>\$ (11,880)</u>	<u>(114.4)</u>
Operating statistics				
Occupancy ⁽¹⁾	68.1%	67.9%	0.2%	0.0%
Average daily rate ⁽¹⁾	\$ 95.49	\$ 87.88	\$ 7.61	8.7%
RevPAR ⁽¹⁾	\$ 65.03	\$ 59.71	\$ 5.32	8.9%

(1) Excludes hotels held in discontinued operations, which are described under Income (loss) from discontinued operations.

We acquired 15 hotels in December 2002, one hotel in January 2003 and one hotel in June 2003. We refer to the hotels we acquired in 2002 and 2003 as the Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels.

Revenues. Revenues increased primarily as a result of an additional \$214.5 million of hotel operating revenue generated by the Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels. Offsetting this increase was a decline of \$15.2 million, or 5.8%, in the balance of the portfolio resulting from the generally weak economic environment at that time, renovation disruption and the reduction in travel due to terrorist activities and the war in Iraq.

RevPAR increased primarily as a result of an increase in ADR from the Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels, which generate some of our portfolio's higher ADRs. However, occupancy remained flat as a result of continued soft economic conditions and operational disruption to the Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels due to the extensive

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renovation programs and installation of new property-level management teams. In addition, RevPAR decreased in 2003 for our Utah hotels primarily as a result of the positive impact of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. The RevPAR declines from the Utah hotels were partially offset by RevPAR increases from our California and Texas hotels primarily as a result of our ability to attract incremental short-term transient demand and secure new long-term group contract business.

Room revenue. The Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels represented an additional \$135.9 million of room revenue, which was partially offset by a \$11.9 million, or 6.2%, decrease in room revenue for the balance of our portfolio. The decline in room revenue was primarily attributable to reduction in travel caused by terrorism concerns and the war in Iraq and renovation disruption at some of our hotels. We, as well as the industry in general, continued to have difficulty maintaining average daily rates in 2003. The diminished ability to achieve increases in room rates at the hotels during 2003 compared to 2002 was caused by several factors, including soft economic conditions, increased supply, a shorter booking cycle for group business and the impact of the electronic distribution channels available via the Internet. Securing new group business continued to be a challenge throughout 2003 as companies that typically utilize upper upscale and upscale hotels remained focused on reducing costs and shopped for the most favorable room rates and concessions.

Food and beverage revenue. The net increase of \$59.5 million in food and beverage revenue from the Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels was offset by a decrease of \$9.1 million, or 19.1%, from the balance of our hotel portfolio. The major factors contributing to the offsetting decline were the substantial decline in banquet revenue as a result of a decrease in group demand and a decrease in the demand for the ancillary services provided during banquet and catering events.

Other operating revenue. The Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels accounted for \$10.0 million of the increase in other operating revenue. The remaining increase is attributable to a number of factors, including the newly-installed Starbucks coffee retail outlets at three of our hotels, an increase in revenues at Buy Efficient, L.L.C. from both increased existing customer usage and additions of new third-party hotel contracts, and the acquisition of the Salt Lake City laundry business. However, consistent with trends in the lodging industry, the increases were partially offset by declines in our telephone revenue due to increased use of cellular telephones rather than in-room telephones and the trend towards providing complimentary Internet access.

Management and other fees from affiliates. The increase of \$0.5 million in management and other fees from affiliates is primarily attributable to the receipt of a one-time disposition fee from the sale of one hotel by one of our affiliates.

Hotel operating expenses. The Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels accounted for \$142.2 million of the increase in our hotel operating expenses, which was partially offset by a \$1.1 million, or 0.7%, decrease in the balance of our portfolio representing realized expense savings at those hotels.

General and administrative expense. General and administrative expense increased primarily as a result of the addition of personnel relating to the Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels.

Depreciation and amortization expense. Depreciation and amortization expense increased primarily as a result of the Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels, as well as the increase in the depreciable asset base from their respective renovation programs during 2003.

Interest and other income. Our interest and other income was higher in 2002 than 2003 as a result of the forgiveness of \$0.7 million of accrued franchise fees by one of our franchisors related to the final settlement and termination of a contract.

Interest expense. Interest expense increased as a result of the debt incurred to finance the acquisition of the Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels. Partly offsetting the increases in interest expense were reductions in the interest rate as a result of continued reductions in the LIBOR index, the base rate for all of our floating rate debt.

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Our total notes payable, including current portion, was \$917.7 million at December 31, 2003 and \$942.4 million at December 31, 2002. The weighted average interest rates per annum were 5.4% and 4.7%, respectively. At December 31, 2003, 10.6% of the amount outstanding under our notes payable was fixed and 89.4% of the amount outstanding under our notes payable was floating.

Impairment loss. Impairment loss in 2002 consists entirely of goodwill impairment loss of \$6.8 million. Impairment loss in 2003 represents impairment loss at three hotels totaling \$9.3 million and a goodwill impairment loss of \$2.1 million. The hotel impairment losses in 2002 and 2003 relate to our determination that the carrying values of the hotels were no longer recoverable based on estimated future cash flows to be generated. The fair values of the hotels were determined using factors such as net operating cash flows, terminal capitalization rates and replacement costs. The goodwill impairment loss in 2002 relates to allocated goodwill amounts for nine hotels and in 2003 relates to allocated goodwill amounts for five hotels, and was determined based on the estimated fair value of the hotels.

Benefit from (provision for) income taxes. As limited liability companies, the Contributing Entities were pass-through entities and not liable for Federal and certain state income taxes, which were the responsibility of their respective members. However, some of our predecessor companies were corporations that were liable for taxes on their earnings. The decrease in the 2003 tax benefit was primarily attributable to changes in our valuation allowance associated with the current and future use of our net operating loss carryforwards.

Benefit from (provision for) income taxes applicable to continuing operations is as follows (in thousands):

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Benefit from (provision for) income taxes for continuing operations:		
Current	\$ (329)	\$ (718)
Deferred	3,205	5,425
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Benefit from income taxes for continuing operations	\$ 2,876	\$ 4,707
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Income (loss) from discontinued operations. As described under Acquisition, Sale and Major Redevelopment Activity Sale of Hotels, we sold one hotel in 2002 and seven hotels in 2003. Consistent with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, we reclassified the results of operations for these hotels as discontinued operations. Loss from discontinued operations decreased in 2003 primarily as a result of a net gain on sale of \$15.1 million, primarily offset by an increase in impairment loss of \$7.1 million.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Historical. During the periods presented, our historical sources of cash included our operating activities, working capital, long-term notes payable, bank credit facilities, contributions by our predecessor companies and net proceeds of our initial public offering and preferred stock offering. Our primary uses for cash were for the acquisitions of hotels, capital expenditures for hotels, operating expenses, distributions to our predecessor companies, repayment of notes payable and dividends.

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Operating activities. Net cash provided by operating activities was \$16.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2005 compared to \$9.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2004. This increase was primarily due to changes in our operating assets and liabilities as well as improved profitability during the three months ended March 31, 2005. Net cash provided by operating activities was \$41.6 million for 2004 compared to \$60.0 million for 2003. This decrease was primarily caused by the one-time costs associated with our initial public offering. Net cash provided by operating activities increased \$33.3 million from \$26.7 million in 2002 primarily as a result of the additional hotels we acquired in December 2002.

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Investing activities. Our cash provided by or used in investment activities fluctuates primarily based on our acquisitions, sales and renovations of hotels. Net cash used in investing activities for renovations in our hotels was \$13.7 million in the three months ended March 31, 2005 compared to \$18.4 million in the three months ended March 31, 2004. Net cash used in investing activities was \$45.8 million in 2004 compared to \$18.4 million provided in 2003. Net cash provided by investing activities was \$18.4 million for 2003 compared to \$541.4 million cash used in investing activities for 2002. The change to net cash provided by investing activities in 2003 from net cash used in investing activities in 2002 resulted from the acquisition of fewer hotels and the sale of more hotels in 2003 than in 2002. These and other significant investing activities during the periods discussed are summarized below.

In 2004, we developed and acquired two hotels (an aggregate of 276 rooms) for \$49.6 million and sold seven hotels (an aggregate of 1,603 rooms) for net proceeds of \$58.4 million. We invested \$54.5 million in our hotels, including the major redevelopment and renovation of certain of our hotels.

In 2003, we acquired two hotels (an aggregate of 475 rooms) for \$41.9 million and sold seven hotels (an aggregate of 1,249 rooms) for net proceeds of \$119.3 million. In addition, we invested \$59.0 million in our hotels, including the major redevelopment and renovation of certain of our hotels.

In 2002, we acquired 15 hotels (an aggregate of 4,980 rooms) for \$526.5 million and sold one hotel (an aggregate of 129 rooms) for net proceeds of \$6.2 million. In addition, we invested \$21.2 million in our hotels, including the major redevelopment and renovation of certain of our hotels.

Financing activities. Net cash provided by financing activities was \$61.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2005 compared to \$5.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2004. Net cash provided by financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2005 consisted primarily of net proceeds from our preferred stock offering in March 2005 of \$117.5 million, which was partially offset by \$11.0 million of dividends and distributions to our stockholders and holders of membership units and \$45.0 million of principal payments on notes payable. Net cash provided by financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2004 consisted primarily of proceeds from notes payable of \$1.3 million and contributions from our predecessor companies of \$7.5 million, which was partially offset by \$300,000 of distributions to our predecessor companies and \$2.7 million of principal payments on notes payable. Net cash used in financing activities was \$15.8 million in 2004, which consisted primarily of \$9.4 million of distributions to our predecessor companies, \$246.5 million to purchase membership units from our predecessor companies members and minority interest, \$620.2 million of principal payments on notes payable, \$6.5 million payment of loan financing costs, which was partly offset by the proceeds from notes payable of \$457.3 million, contributions from our predecessor companies of \$25.3 million and our initial public offering, including the exercise of the over-allotment option of \$384.1 million, net of related costs. Net cash used in financing activities was \$80.5 million in 2003, which consisted primarily of \$72.0 million of distributions to our predecessor companies, \$508.7 million of principal payments on notes payable, \$9.1 million payment of loan financing costs, which was partly offset by the proceeds from notes payable of \$483.9 million and contributions from our predecessor companies of \$26.0 million, compared to net cash provided by financing activities of \$530.7 million for 2002, which consisted primarily of equity invested by one of our predecessor companies of \$135.1 million along with borrowings of \$471.4 million, primarily to complete the acquisition of the Pre-IPO Acquisition Hotels, partly offset by \$44.4 million of principal payments of notes payable, \$6.5 million payment of loan financing costs, \$1.2 million payment on interest rate caps and \$23.6 million of distributions to our predecessor companies.

Contributions. We received contributions from our predecessor companies of \$135.1 million in 2002, \$26.0 million in 2003 and \$25.3 million in 2004. These contributions were used to fund the equity portion of our acquisitions.

Cash distributions. We made cash distributions to our predecessor companies of \$23.6 million in 2002, \$72.0 million in 2003 and \$9.4 million in 2004.

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Initial Public Offering. On October 26 and November 23, 2004, we completed our initial public offering and related transactions and used the net proceeds as follows (dollars in millions):

Sources:	
Proceeds from the initial public offering	\$ 412.5
Proceeds from the sale of common stock to Robert A. Alter	3.3
Proceeds from term loan facility	75.0
Draw on line of credit	10.0
Cash on hand	11.9
	<u>512.7</u>
Uses:	
Repayment of notes payable	\$ 210.1
Acquisition of membership units in Sunstone Hotel Partnership held by the Contributing Entities	246.5
Underwriting fees	24.7
Franchise transfer costs	1.3
Debt prepayment penalties	6.8
Other costs associated with the initial public offering	10.9
Costs associated with new debt facilities	6.1
Purchase of ground lessor's interest in ground lease relating to the Embassy Suites Hotel, Chicago, Illinois	6.3
	<u>512.7</u>

Future. We expect our primary uses for cash to be for the acquisitions of hotels, capital expenditures for hotels, operating expenses and distributions to holders of our common stock, preferred stock and membership units of our operating partnership. We also expect our primary sources of cash will continue to come from the operations of our hotels and our working capital. In addition, we have a \$150.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility.

We believe that our capital structure, including our \$150.0 million revolving credit facility and cash flow from operations, will provide us with sufficient liquidity to meet our current operating expenses and other expenses directly associated with our business and properties. We have interest rate protection agreements covering all of our variable rate debt, which accounted for 48.4% of our total outstanding indebtedness at March 31, 2005. In April 2005, we closed ten individual non cross-collateralized fixed-rate mortgage loans totaling \$276.0 million. The loans are each for a term of ten years from April 2005 and are fixed-rate instruments with interest rates of 5.34% per annum. Following the closing of these loans, approximately 87% of our outstanding debt is fixed-rate with a weighted average rate of 6.12% per annum. We believe this debt capital structure is appropriate for the operating characteristics of our business and provides for significant prepayment and refinancing flexibility.

In addition to the presently contemplated private placements to institutional accredited investors of 3,750,000 shares of common stock (the BIP offering) and 4,102,564 shares of series C preferred stock (the Security Capital offering), in the future we may also explore other financing alternatives, including our sale of equity and debt securities. Our ability to incur additional debt depends on a number of factors, including our degree of leverage, the value of our unencumbered assets and borrowing restrictions imposed by existing lenders under our existing notes payable, including our revolving credit facility. Our ability to raise funds through the issuance of equity securities depends on, among other things, general market conditions for hotel companies and REITs and market perceptions about us. We will continue to analyze which source of capital is most advantageous to us at any particular point in time. However, capital from the capital markets may not be available to us when needed on favorable terms or at all.

Table of Contents**Contractual Obligations**

The following table summarizes our payment obligations and commitments as of March 31, 2005:

Contractual obligations	Payment due by period				
	Total	Less than 1 year	1 to 3 years	3 to 5 years	More than 5 years
	(in thousands)				
Notes payable	\$ 667,693	\$ 215,073	\$ 54,006	\$ 80,731	\$ 317,883
Operating lease obligations	179,079	2,734	5,191	5,191	165,963
Construction commitments	5,963	5,963			
Franchise obligations	5,350	300	600	600	3,850
Employment obligations	4,744	1,275	2,321	1,148	
Total	\$ 862,829	\$ 225,345	\$ 62,118	\$ 87,670	\$ 487,696

Capital Expenditures and Reserve Funds

Subject to scheduled or active renovation programs, we believe we maintain each of our hotels in good repair and condition and in conformity with applicable franchise agreements, ground leases, laws and regulations. Our capital expenditures primarily relate to the ongoing maintenance of our hotels and are budgeted in the reserve accounts described in the following paragraph. We also incur capital expenditures following the acquisition of hotels for renovation and development. Our capital expenditures for 2005 are expected to be approximately \$65.0 million to \$75.0 million. This renovation budget includes our \$6.0 million of contractual construction commitments. All of these amounts are expected to be funded out of our cash and reserve accounts. Our capital expenditures could increase if we determine to acquire, renovate or develop additional hotels in the future. Our capital expenditures also fluctuate from year to year, since we are not required to spend the entire amount in the reserve accounts each year.

With respect to our hotels that are operated under franchise agreements with major national hotel brands and for all of our hotels subject to a first mortgage lien, we are obligated to maintain a furniture, fixture and equipment, or FF&E, reserve account for future planned and emergency-related capital expenditures at these hotels. The amount funded into each of these reserve accounts is determined pursuant to the management, franchise and loan agreements for each of the respective hotels, ranging between 4.0% and 5.0% of the respective hotel's total annual revenue. For example, in the case of the Residence Inn by Marriott, Rochester, Minnesota, opened in June 2004, the loan agreement requires an increase in the reserve percentage from 0.0% to 4.0% of the gross revenue between the first operating year and the beginning of the third operating year, respectively. As of March 31, 2005, \$8.7 million was available in restricted cash reserves for future capital expenditures at our hotels. According to the respective loan agreements, the reserve funds are to be held by the respective lenders in a restricted cash account.

Table of Contents**Derivative Financial Instruments**

We use derivative financial instruments, primarily interest rate caps, to manage our exposure to the interest rate risks related to the following variable rate debt. Following the repayment of some of our floating rate debt with the net proceeds from our initial public offering, we own interest rate caps having aggregate notional amounts well in excess of our floating rate debt. At March 31, 2005, our interest rate caps consisted of the following:

As of	LIBOR Rate at	Interest Rate
March 31, 2004	which Exposure	Cap
Notional Amount	is Capped	Maturity
(in millions)		
\$359.5	5.90%	9/1/2005
224.5	6.75% ⁽¹⁾	1/3/2006
54.5	6.50%	1/3/2006
60.0	4.50%	10/11/2005
18.2	4.50%	10/11/2005
38.0	6.30%	11/11/2005
6.3	4.50%	5/22/2006
\$761.0		

(1) Reflects the weighted average of the seven individual mortgages in a single facility, each with specific notional amounts and LIBOR cap agreements.

The net settlements, if any, paid or received under these interest rate cap agreements are accrued consistent with the terms of the agreements and are recognized in interest expense over the term of the related debt. We do not use derivatives for trading or speculative purposes and only enter into contracts with major financial institutions based on their credit rating and other factors. We generally use outside consultants to determine the fair values of our derivative instruments. Such methods generally incorporate market conventions and techniques such as discounted cash flow analysis and option pricing models to determine fair value. We believe these methods of estimating fair value result in general approximation of value, and such value may or may not actually be realized. For the three months ended March 31, 2005, our mark to market adjustments of these contracts resulted in a net gain of \$1,000.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

At March 31, 2005, we did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

Critical Accounting Policies

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Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations is based upon our consolidated and combined financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities.

We evaluate our estimates on an ongoing basis. We base our estimates on historical experience, information that is currently available to us and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. We believe the following critical accounting policies affect the most significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our combined financial statements.

Impairment of long-lived assets. We periodically review each property for possible impairment. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to future net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the

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assets exceeds the estimated fair value of the assets. In this analysis of fair value, we use discounted cash flow analysis to estimate the fair value of our properties taking into account each property's expected cash flow from operations, holding period and net proceeds from the disposition of the property. The factors we addressed in determining estimated net proceeds from dispositions include anticipated operating cash flow in the year of disposition, terminal capitalization rate and selling price per room. Our judgment is required in determining the discount rate applied to estimated cash flows, the growth rate of the properties, the need for capital expenditures, as well as specific market and economic conditions. Additionally, the classification of these assets as held-for-sale requires the recording of these assets at our estimate of their fair value less estimated selling costs which can affect the amount of impairment recorded.

Depreciation and amortization expense. Depreciation expense is based on the estimated useful life of our assets. The life of the assets are based on a number of assumptions made by us, including the cost and timing of capital expenditures to maintain and refurbish our hotels, as well as specific market and economic conditions. Hotel properties and other completed real estate investments are depreciated using the straight-line method over estimated useful lives ranging from five to 35 years for buildings and improvements and three to 12 years for furniture, fixtures and equipment. While our management believes its estimates are reasonable, a change in the estimated lives could affect depreciation expense and net income or the gain or loss on the sale of any of our hotels. We have not changed the estimated useful lives of any of our assets during the periods discussed.

Derivative instruments and hedging activities. Derivative instruments and hedging activities require us to make judgments on the nature of our derivatives and their effectiveness as hedges. These judgments determine if the changes in fair value of the derivative instruments are reported as a component of interest expense in the consolidated and combined statements of operations or as a component of equity on the consolidated and combined balance sheets. While we believe our judgments are reasonable, a change in a derivative's fair value or effectiveness as a hedge could affect expenses, net income and equity. None of our derivatives held during the periods presented qualified for effective hedge accounting treatment.

Accrual of self-insured obligations. We are self-insured up to certain amounts with respect to employee medical, employee dental, general liability insurance, personal injury claims, workers' compensation, automobile liability and other coverages. We establish reserves for our estimates of the loss that we will ultimately incur on reported claims as well as estimates for claims that have been incurred but not yet reported. Our reserves, which are reflected in Due to Management Company, accrued payroll and employee benefits and other liabilities in our consolidated and combined balance sheets, are based on actuarial valuations and our history of claims. Our actuaries incorporate historical loss experience and judgments about the present and expected levels of costs per claim. Trends in actual experience are an important factor in the determination of these estimates. We believe that our estimated reserves for such claims are adequate, however, actual experience in claim frequency and amount could materially differ from our estimates and harm our results of operations, cash flow, liquidity and financial condition.

Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Our future income, cash flows and fair values relevant to financial instruments are dependent upon prevailing market interest rates. Market risk refers to the risk of loss from adverse changes in market prices and interest rates. Some of our outstanding debt has a variable interest rate. As described in *Derivative Financial Instruments* above, we use some derivative financial instruments, primarily interest rate caps, to manage our exposure to interest rate risks related to our floating rate debt. We do not use derivatives for trading or speculative purposes and only enter into contracts with major financial institutions based on their credit rating and other factors. As of March 31, 2005, our total outstanding debt was approximately \$667.7 million, of which approximately \$323.2 million, or 48.4%, was variable rate debt. If market rates of interest on our variable rate debt decrease by 1.0% or approximately 100 basis points, the decrease in interest expense on our variable rate

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debt would increase future earnings and cash flows by approximately \$3.2 million annually. On the other hand, if market rates of interest on our variable debt increase by 1.0% or approximately 100 basis points, the increase in interest expense on our variable debt would decrease future earnings and cash flows by approximately \$3.2 million annually.

Interest risk amounts were determined by considering the impact of hypothetical interest rates on our financial instruments. These analyses do not consider the effect of a reduced level of overall economic activity. If overall economic activity is significantly reduced, we may take actions to further mitigate our exposure. However, because we cannot determine the specific actions that would be taken and their possible effects, these analyses assume no changes in our financial structure.

Seasonality

The lodging business is seasonal in nature, and we experience some seasonality in our business as indicated in the table below. Revenue for hotels in tourist areas generally are substantially greater during tourist season than other times of the year. Quarterly revenue also may be adversely affected by events beyond our control, such as extreme weather conditions, terrorist attacks or alerts, medical conditions such as SARS, airline strikes, economic factors and other considerations affecting travel. Our revenues by quarter during 2004 and 2005 were as follows (dollars in thousands):

	<u>First Quarter</u>	<u>Second Quarter</u>	<u>Third Quarter</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter</u>
Revenues				
2004	\$ 112,971	\$ 123,583	\$ 132,174	\$ 122,561
2005	116,557			

New Accounting Standards and Accounting Changes

In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB, issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards, or SFAS, No. 123 (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment*. SFAS 123(R) requires all share-based payments to employees, including grants of common stock, to be recognized in the financial statements based on their fair values. We have adopted the provisions of SFAS 123(R).

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OUR BUSINESS

Our Company

We are a hospitality company that owns primarily upper upscale and upscale hotels in the United States. Our hotels are operated under leading brand names franchised or licensed from others, such as Marriott, Hilton, InterContinental, Hyatt, Starwood and Wyndham. We currently own 52 hotels, comprising 12,713 rooms, located in 16 states in the United States. Giving effect to the completion of the acquisitions we have announced and described under Summary Recent Developments, we will own 60 hotels with an aggregate of 16,686 rooms in 19 states. We are a real estate investment trust, or REIT, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

Competitive Strengths

We believe the following competitive strengths distinguish us from other owners of lodging properties:

Positioned to Capitalize on Industry Recovery.

Significant Recent Investments. From January 1, 2003 through March 31, 2005, we have invested \$138.0 million in capital renovations throughout our portfolio which we believe will improve the competitiveness of our hotels and better position us to capitalize on a lodging industry recovery.

Luxury, Upper Upscale and Upscale Concentration. After giving effect to the completion of the proposed acquisitions we have announced and described under Summary Recent Developments, our portfolio will include 49 luxury, upper upscale and upscale hotels, which generated 93.1% of our 2004 hotel revenues (on a pro forma basis to reflect the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering). Based on historical trends, we believe these hotel chain scale segments outperform the overall lodging industry during periods of economic recovery. For example, during the economic recovery from 1992 to 1997, average upper upscale RevPAR growth was 6.5%, average upscale RevPAR growth was 5.8% and average RevPAR growth for the overall lodging industry was 4.7%.

Nationally-Recognized Brands. We operate substantially all of our hotels under nationally-recognized brands, including Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt and Fairmont. We believe we will continue to benefit from our association with these brands as a result of their national advertising, guest loyalty programs and central reservations systems.

Presence in Markets with High Barriers to Entry. We believe that our hotels are located in desirable urban and suburban markets with major demand generators and significant barriers to entry for new supply. For example, we have a strong regional presence in the western United States, particularly in California, where our hotels generated 27.7% of our 2004 revenues (on a pro forma basis to reflect the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering and for the acquisitions described in Summary Recent Developments).

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Proven Acquisition and Disposition Capabilities. Since the beginning of 2002, we have been one of the more active buyers and sellers of hotels in the United States. From January 1, 2002 through March 31, 2005, we acquired 19 hotels with 5,731 rooms for an aggregate purchase price of \$618.0 million. As described in Summary Recent Developments, we have agreed to acquire an additional eight hotels, representing 3,973 rooms for an aggregate purchase price of \$516.3 million. In addition, during this period, we sold 15 hotels with 2,981 rooms for net sales proceeds of \$183.8 million. As described in Summary Recent Developments, we have sold two hotels with 470 rooms for gross sale proceeds of \$26.1 million. We incurred losses, including impairment charges, on several of the hotels sold. We believe that our significant acquisition and disposition experience will allow us to continue to redeploy capital from slower growth to higher growth hotels.

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Strategic Relationship with the Management Company. We believe that our agreements with Interstate Hotels & Resorts, Inc., the Management Company, align its interests with ours by, among other things, having the flexibility to terminate agreements, providing for incentive fees and requiring our written consent for any material changes to budgets, key personnel and critical operating systems. We believe that our experience as an owner-operator and our historical working relationship with, and physical proximity to, the employees of the Management Company allow us to work effectively with the Management Company to maximize the operating performance of our hotels.

Experienced Management Team. We have a seasoned senior management team with an average of 17 years of experience in real estate, lodging or finance.

Flexible Capital Structure. We are well capitalized, and as of March 31, 2005, we had a debt to total market capitalization ratio of approximately 41.2%, which would decrease to 39.6% adjusted for this offering, in each case based on our closing stock price on May 18, 2005.

Business and Growth Strategy

Our principal business objectives are to generate attractive returns on our invested capital and long-term growth in cash flow in order to maximize total returns to our stockholders. Our focus is to own luxury, upper upscale and upscale hotels located in urban and suburban markets with major demand generators and significant barriers to entry. Our strategies for achieving our business objectives include the following key elements:

active asset management;

selective hotel acquisition and development;

opportunistic hotel redevelopment, renovation and expansion;

franchise rebranding;

capital redeployment; and

innovative management practices.

Active Asset Management. We have historically self-managed most of our hotels. As a result, we believe our employees have developed significant expertise in the management of our hotels. Since our initial public offering in October 2004, the operations of our hotels have been managed by third parties, including Interstate, which manages 47 of our 52 hotels. The employees that managed the 47 hotels prior to the initial public offering all became employees of Interstate at the time of the initial public offering. To seek to optimize the cash flow from, and profitability of, our hotels, we structured our agreements with the Management Company to align its interests with ours and to maintain, to the greatest extent practicable, the hotel management practices we employed prior to electing REIT status. Our management agreements allow us to closely monitor the performance of the hotels and terminate each agreement in case of underperformance. In addition, the Management Company is not able to alter operating procedures or systems or make changes to personnel deemed integral to the operation of each of the managed hotels without our written consent.

Selective Hotel Acquisition and Development. We create value by acquiring premium-branded hotels, or hotels that have the attributes to facilitate their conversion to premium brands, that we believe have been undermanaged or undercapitalized, that are located in growth markets or offer expansion and renovation opportunities. Furthermore, our acquisition initiatives focus on hotels where our aggregate investment, including the costs of acquisition, rebranding and renovation, is below replacement cost. We continually evaluate the acquisition of individual hotels and portfolios of hotels, however, our ability and desire to close the transactions are often subject to various contingencies beyond our control.

Opportunistic Hotel Redevelopment, Renovation and Expansion. We have made significant investments in our hotels, which we believe improved, and will continue to improve, the competitiveness of our hotels. Additionally, for those hotels whose franchise affiliation we do not intend to change, we typically make renovations after acquisition to satisfy the existing franchisor's property improvement plan, or PIP, and, more

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importantly, to attain a higher level of guest satisfaction and, as a result, increase market share and revenue. We also perform routine maintenance at all of our hotels to maintain their competitiveness. In some cases, we may expand the number of rooms at a hotel where we believe we can achieve a favorable return on the cost of such expansion, and where we believe supply, demand and other market conditions justify such expansion. In addition to the increases in revenues from the improvements in redevelopments and renovations, we have also generated additional revenues through active asset management and capitalizing on opportunities available from either existing unused space or facilities within our existing hotels, including Starbucks coffee retail outlets and guest parking installations.

Franchise Rebranding. We rebrand our hotels to increase market share, enhance property level cash flow, and generate attractive returns on invested capital.

Capital Redeployment. We sell hotels on an opportunistic basis to redeploy our capital to acquire or redevelop other hotels with greater cash flow growth potential. For example, we sell hotels in circumstances where:

we can realize attractive pricing;

demand in the market in which the hotel is located is declining or static;

competition in the market requires substantial capital investment into a hotel that will not generate adequate returns; or

the hotel was acquired as a part of a portfolio and is not consistent with our business strategy.

Innovative Management Practices. We pursue innovative asset management practices to grow revenue, expand operating margins and achieve economies of scale. In addition, we share market intelligence and best management practices across our portfolio. We founded and own Buy Efficient, L.L.C., an electronic purchasing platform accessed via the Internet and currently used by both our hotels and 440 third-party member hotels to purchase supplies and equipment as a consortium, consolidate purchasing power, and negotiate volume purchase discounts and rebates for our members. Buy Efficient, L.L.C. also provides its members, including the Management Company and other third party management companies, with a managerial tool that allows managers to control inventory levels, set vendor and product specifications, streamline the accounting and invoice payment process and improve operational consistency. After paying an initial installation fee of \$2,500, members enter into one-year contracts with Buy Efficient, L.L.C. and pay monthly fees equal to the greater of 1.75% of their monthly purchases or \$149. Members place purchase orders for supplies on the website maintained by Buy Efficient, L.L.C., and the supplies are delivered directly by the supplier to the customer. Members are not required to use Buy Efficient, L.L.C. for their purchases.

Hotel Properties

The following table sets forth additional summary information with respect to our hotel portfolio, as well as the eight hotels we have agreed to acquire as a part of the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions, as described in Summary Recent Developments :

<u>Hotel</u>	<u>Metropolitan Statistical</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Chain Scale Segment⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>Service Category</u>	<u>Rooms</u>	<u>Year Acquired/</u>	<u>Year Opened/</u>	<u>Year Last Renovated</u>
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	Area (City)					Developed	Redeveloped	
Marriott	Houston	Texas	Upper Upscale	Full Service	391	2002	1981	2004
Marriott ⁽²⁾	Napa	California	Upper Upscale	Full Service	272	1998	1979	2001
Marriott	Ogden	Utah	Upper Upscale	Full Service	292	1997	1982	1999
Marriott	Riverside (Ontario)	California	Upper Upscale	Full Service	299	2003	1986	2004
Marriott	Salt Lake City (Park City)	Utah	Upper Upscale	Full Service	199	1997	1985	2000
Marriott	Philadelphia	Pennsylvania	Upper Upscale	Full Service	286	2002	1991	2004
Marriott	Portland	Oregon	Upper Upscale	Full Service	249	2000	1999	N/A

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Hotel	Metropolitan Statistical Area (City)	State	Chain Scale Segment ⁽¹⁾	Service Category	Rooms	Year		
						Acquired/ Developed	Opened/ Redeveloped	Year Last Renovated
Marriott ⁽³⁾	Provo	Utah	Upper Upscale	Full Service	330	1997	1982	1999
Marriott ⁽⁴⁾	Pueblo	Colorado	Upper Upscale	Full Service	164	1998	1998	N/A
Marriott	Riverside	California	Upper Upscale	Full Service	286	2000	1987	2002
Marriott	Rochester	Minnesota	Upper Upscale	Full Service	203	1997	1991	2003
Marriott ⁽⁴⁾	Salt Lake City	Utah	Upper Upscale	Full Service	218	1997	1987	1999
Marriott	Detroit (Troy)	Michigan	Upper Upscale	Full Service	350	2002	1990	2004
Marriott	Washington D.C. (Tysons Corner)	Virginia	Upper Upscale	Full Service	390	2002	1981	2004
Courtyard by Marriott	Fresno	California	Upscale	Full Service	116	1995	1989	2003
Courtyard by Marriott ⁽⁴⁾	Los Angeles	California	Upscale	Full Service	179	1997	1996	2001
Courtyard by Marriott	Seattle (Lynnwood)	Washington	Upscale	Full Service	164	1999	1999	N/A
Courtyard by Marriott	Oxnard	California	Upscale	Full Service	167	1996	1987	2004
Courtyard by Marriott	Riverside	California	Upscale	Full Service	163	1996	1988	1998
Courtyard by Marriott	San Diego (Old Town)	California	Upscale	Full Service	176	1997	1986	2004
Courtyard by Marriott	Santa Fe	New Mexico	Upscale	Full Service	213	1995	1985	2001
Residence Inn by Marriott	Los Angeles (Manhattan Beach)	California	Upscale	Extended Stay	176	2003	1986	2004
Residence Inn by Marriott ⁽⁴⁾	Oxnard	California	Upscale	Extended Stay	252	1996	1987	2004
Residence Inn by Marriott	Rochester	Minnesota	Upscale	Extended Stay	80	2004	2004	N/A
Residence Inn by Marriott	Sacramento	California	Upscale	Extended Stay	126	1997	1992	2004
Hilton	San Diego (Del Mar)	California	Upper Upscale	Full Service	257	2002	1989	2003
Hilton	New York (Huntington)	New York	Upper Upscale	Full Service	302	2002	1988	2003
Doubletree	Minneapolis	Minnesota	Upscale	Full Service	230	2002	1986	2003
Embassy Suites Hotel	Chicago	Illinois	Upper Upscale	Extended Stay	365	2002	1991	2004
Hilton Garden Inn	Portland (Lake Oswego)	Oregon	Upscale	Full Service	181	2000	2000	N/A
Holiday Inn	Boise	Idaho	Midscale with F/B	Full Service	265	2000	1967	2003
Holiday Inn	Craig	Colorado	Midscale with F/B	Full Service	152	1995	1981	1998
Holiday Inn	Los Angeles (Hollywood)	California	Midscale with F/B	Full Service	160	2000	1983	2000
Holiday Inn	Price	Utah	Midscale with F/B	Full Service	151	1996	1983	1997
Holiday Inn	Provo	Utah	Midscale with F/B	Full Service	78	1995	1968	2001
Holiday Inn	Rochester	Minnesota	Midscale with F/B	Full Service	170	1997	1969	1999
Holiday Inn	San Diego (Harborview)	California	Midscale with F/B	Full Service	220	1997	1968	2002
Holiday Inn ⁽⁴⁾	San Diego (Stadium)	California	Midscale with F/B	Full Service	175	1997	1991	2001
Holiday Inn Select	Seattle (Renton)	Washington	Midscale with F/B	Full Service	226	1996	1968	2002
Crowne Plaza	Grand Rapids	Michigan	Upscale	Full Service	320	2002	1980	2004
Crowne Plaza	Richmond (Williamsburg)	Virginia	Upscale	Full Service	303	2002	1978	2003
Crowne Plaza ⁽⁴⁾	New York (Englewood)	New Jersey	Upscale	Full Service	194	2002	1989	2004
Holiday Inn Express	San Diego (Old Town)	California	Midscale without F/B	Limited Service	125	1997	1986	2003
Hyatt Regency Suites	Atlanta (Marietta)	Georgia	Upper Upscale	Full Service	202	2000	1984	2003
Hyatt Regency ⁽⁴⁾	Los Angeles (Newport Beach)	California	Upper Upscale	Full Service	403	2002	1963	2004
Hawthorn Suites	Seattle (Kent)	Washington	Upscale	Extended Stay	152	1997	1990	1999
Hawthorn Suites	Sacramento	California	Upscale	Extended Stay	272	1997	1988	1998
Sheraton	Salt Lake City	Utah	Upper Upscale	Full Service	362	1997	1975	2001
Wyndham	Houston	Texas	Upscale	Full Service	472	2002	1984	2003

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Independent	Valley River Inn	Eugene	Oregon	Upscale	Full Service	257	2002	1973	2003
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Hotel	Metropolitan Statistical Area (City)	State	Chain Scale Segment ⁽¹⁾	Service Category	Rooms	Year		
						Acquired/ Developed	Opened/ Redeveloped	Year Last Renovated
Independent The Kahler Grand	Rochester	Minnesota	Upscale	Full Service	707	1997	1927, Various	2003
Independent Economy Inn and Suites	Rochester	Minnesota	Midscale with F/B	Extended Stay	271	1997	Various	2002
Sheraton Cerritos ⁽⁴⁾	Los Angeles (Cerritos)	California	Upper Upscale	Full Service	203	2005	1989	2003
Sutton Place/Fairmont Newport Beach ⁽⁴⁾	Los Angeles (Newport Beach)	California	Luxury	Full Service	444	2005	1983	2005
Renaissance Washington D.C.	Washington D.C.	District of Columbia	Upper Upscale	Full Service	807	2005	1992	2004
Renaissance Orlando Resort at Sea World ^{(4) (6)}	Orlando	Florida	Upper Upscale	Full Service	780	2005	1984	2003
Renaissance Harborplace ⁽⁷⁾	Baltimore	Maryland	Upper Upscale	Full Service	622	2005	1988	2003
Renaissance Concourse ⁽⁴⁾	Atlanta	Georgia	Upper Upscale	Full Service	387	2005	1992	2003
Renaissance Long Beach	Los Angeles (Long Beach)	California	Upper Upscale	Full Service	373	2005	1986	2005
Renaissance Westchester	New York (White Plains)	New York	Upper Upscale	Full Service	357	2005	1977	2005

(1) As defined by Smith Travel Research. F/B refers to food and beverage.

(2) Includes an 8,000 square foot spa.

(3) Includes a 28,000 square foot conference facility.

(4) Subject to a ground lease.

(5) Hotel parking lot is subject to a reciprocal easement agreement with a third party regarding the use of parking facilities owned by that third party.

(6) 85% ownership interest.

(7) Subject to an air rights lease.

In addition to our hotel properties, we own a 88,000 square foot laundry facility in Rochester, Minnesota and lease a 65,000 square foot laundry facility in Salt Lake City, Utah. The facility in Rochester, Minnesota services our hotels in the area, as well as the Mayo Clinic. The facility in Salt Lake City, Utah services both our hotels in the area, as well as third party contracts. We also manage a 50,000 square foot third-party conference facility in Ogden, Utah for a third party. In addition, we own three undeveloped parcels of land, in Price, Utah; Craig, Colorado; and Rochester, Minnesota.

Geographic Diversity

We currently own a geographically diverse portfolio of hotels located in 16 states with a concentration of hotels in the western United States. The following table summarizes by region our portfolio and the eight hotels we have agreed to acquire as a part of the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions, as described under Summary Recent Developments, and includes the percentage of our 2004 revenues for the 52 hotels we own (on a pro forma basis to reflect the formation and structuring transactions consummated at the time of our initial public offering) and the eight hotels we have agreed to acquire as part of the Acquisitions and Financing Transactions:

Region	Number of Hotels	Number of Rooms	Percentage of 2004 Pro Forma Revenues
California ⁽¹⁾	21	4,844	27.7%
Other West ⁽²⁾	16	3,440	13.1
Midwest ⁽³⁾	9	2,696	13.7
Middle Atlantic ⁽⁴⁾	6	2,568	23.4
South ⁽⁵⁾	5	2,062	15.2

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Southwest ⁽⁶⁾	<u>3</u>	<u>1,076</u>	<u>6.9</u>
Total	<u>60</u>	<u>16,686</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

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- (1) All but four of these hotels are located in Southern California.
- (2) Includes Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Utah and Washington.
- (3) Includes Illinois, Michigan and Minnesota.
- (4) Includes District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.
- (5) Includes Florida, Georgia and Virginia.
- (6) Includes New Mexico and Texas.

The following table presents our occupancy, average daily rate, or ADR, and RevPAR by geographic region for our hotels for 2002, 2003 and 2004. These statistics reflect the 52 hotels that we own and the eight hotels we have agreed to acquire as described in Summary Recent Developments and may include periods prior to the time we acquired our interest in the hotels.

	2002			2003			2004		
	Occupancy	ADR	RevPar	Occupancy	ADR	RevPAR	Occupancy	ADR	RevPAR
California	73.6%	\$ 98.92	\$ 72.81	74.0%	\$ 100.46	\$ 74.34	76.2%	\$ 104.46	\$ 79.60
Other West	65.4	84.93	55.54	63.7	78.55	50.04	66.8	79.35	53.01
Midwest	64.6	107.83	69.66	61.1	110.03	67.23	62.9	112.10	70.51
Middle Atlantic	68.5	150.92	103.38	69.4	146.79	101.87	72.9	154.09	112.33
South	68.0	120.09	81.66	65.4	116.23	76.01	69.7	120.81	84.21
Southwest	64.5	88.94	57.37	77.8	80.58	62.69	82.2	82.28	67.63
Weighted Average	68.4	107.64	73.63	68.3	105.25	71.89	71.2	108.81	77.47

Competition

The hotel industry is highly competitive. Our hotels compete with other hotels for guests in each market in which we operate. Competitive advantage is based on a number of factors, including location, convenience, brand affiliation, room rates, range of services and guest amenities or accommodations offered and quality of customer service. Competition is often specific to the individual markets in which our hotels are located and includes competition from existing and new hotels operated under brands in the upper upscale and upscale segments. Increased competition could harm our occupancy or revenues or may require us to provide additional amenities or make capital improvements that we otherwise would not have to make, which may reduce our profitability.

We believe that competition for the acquisition of hotels is highly fragmented. We face competition from institutional pension funds, private equity investors, other REITs and numerous local, regional and national owners, including franchisors, in each of our markets. Some of these entities may have substantially greater financial resources than we do and may be able and willing to accept more risk than we can prudently manage. Competition generally may increase the bargaining power of property owners seeking to sell and reduce the number of suitable investment opportunities offered to us.

Franchise Agreements

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All but three of our hotels are operated under franchise or franchise management agreements. We believe that the public's perception of the quality associated with a brand name hotel is an important feature in its attractiveness to guests. Franchisors provide a variety of benefits to franchisees, including centralized reservation systems, national advertising, marketing programs and publicity designed to increase brand awareness, training of personnel and maintenance of operational quality at hotels across the brand system.

The franchise agreements generally specify management, operational, record-keeping, accounting, reporting and marketing standards and procedures with which our subsidiary, as the franchisee, must comply. The

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franchise agreements obligate the subsidiary to comply with the franchisors' standards and requirements with respect to training of operational personnel, safety, maintaining specified insurance, the types of services and products ancillary to guest room services that may be provided by the subsidiary, display of signage and the type, quality and age of furniture, fixtures and equipment included in guest rooms, lobbies and other common areas. The agreements for our Marriott, Courtyard by Marriott and Residence Inn by Marriott hotels require that we deposit 5.0% of the gross revenues of the hotels into a reserve fund for capital expenditures.

The franchise agreements also provide for termination at the franchisor's option upon the occurrence of certain events, including failure to pay royalties and fees or to perform other obligations under the franchise license, bankruptcy and abandonment of the franchise or a change in control. The subsidiary that is the franchisee is responsible for making all payments under the franchise agreements to the franchisors.

Management Company

Interstate Hotels & Resorts, Inc., the Management Company, is the largest independent hotel management company in the United States not affiliated with a hotel brand, as measured by number of rooms under management. As of December 31, 2004, Interstate managed more than 300 properties, with more than 70,000 rooms in 41 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, Russia, and Portugal. Interstate's portfolio of managed properties is diversified by brand, franchise and ownership. The portfolio of managed hotels includes more than 30 franchise and brand affiliations and more than 30 independent hotels. Interstate manages hospitality properties for several large, publicly-owned hotel companies, large institutional real estate investment companies, as well as owners of individual or multiple hotel properties. Interstate is a NYSE-listed public company.

Management Agreements

The Management Company manages and operates 47 of our 52 hotels pursuant to management agreements with the TRS Lessee or its subsidiaries. Our remaining five hotels are managed by Marriott or Hyatt under existing management agreements. The following is a general description of these agreements. In addition, we have agreed that the six Renaissance hotels we have agreed to acquire from Marriott will be managed pursuant to management agreements with Renaissance, that the Sutton Place Hotel we have agreed to acquire will be managed pursuant to a management agreement with Fairmont and that the Sheraton Cerritos we have agreed to acquire will be managed by the Management Company.

Management Company. These management agreements require us to pay to the Management Company, on a monthly basis, a management fee equal to: (1) for the period commencing on October 26, 2004 and ending on June 30, 2005, 1.75% of our gross revenues from the hotels, (2) for the period commencing on July 1, 2005 and ending on December 31, 2005, 1.85% of our gross revenues from the hotels and (3) for the period commencing on January 1, 2006 and thereafter, 2.1% of our gross revenues from the hotels. In addition, during the term of the management agreements and for one month thereafter, we must pay to the Management Company an accounting fee of \$10 per room per month, subject to an annual increase based on a consumer price index. We are also required to pay to the Management Company, on an annual basis, an incentive fee of 10.0% of the excess of net operating income over a threshold, which will be increased each fiscal year by the greater of 3.0% or 1.5 times the actual percentage change in RevPAR for all of the hotels managed by the Management Company during the previous year. The incentive fee, however, will not exceed 1.5% of the total revenues for all the hotel managed by the Management Company for that fiscal year. The TRS Lessee must deliver to the Management Company a guarantee or guarantees of payment with respect to all fees payable to the Management Company.

The initial term of these management agreements is 20 years, and we have the right to renew each management agreement for up to two additional terms of five years each, absent a prior termination by either party. The operations of the hotels are overseen by a separate division of

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the Management Company located in the same building as our headquarters in San Clemente, California. Pursuant to the terms of the management agreements, without our prior written consent, the Management Company may not replace certain key personnel

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in operations, sales and marketing, accounting and finance and other agreed upon personnel. All of these key personnel were our employees immediately prior to our initial public offering. In addition, without our prior written consent, the Management Company is not able to alter certain operating procedures or systems deemed integral to the operation of each of the managed hotels.

We have agreed that the Sheraton Cerritos will be managed by the Management Company. This management agreement will require us to pay a \$200,000 up front fee, plus, on a monthly basis, a management fee equal to 2.1% of our gross revenue from the hotel. We are also required to pay to the Management Company, on an annual basis, an incentive fee of 10.0% of the excess of net operating income over the net operating income as shown in the annual approved budget. The initial term of this agreement is 7 years. Thereafter, the management agreement will be renewed for two successive five year extensions unless either party elects to terminate the management agreement by giving not less than 90 days written notice to the other party. The remaining terms of this agreement are substantially similar to our other management agreements with the Management Company, as described above.

Hyatt. Our Hyatt hotels are operated under management agreements with Hyatt Corporation. The agreement with respect to the Hyatt Regency, Newport Beach, California hotel requires us to pay 3.5% of total revenue as a base management fee, with an additional 0.5% of total revenue based upon the hotel achieving specific operating thresholds, to Hyatt and expires in 2039. The management agreement with respect to the Hyatt, Marietta, Georgia hotel requires us to pay 4.0% of our total hotel revenue to Hyatt and expires in 2040. These management agreements include incentive fees ranging between 10.0% and 33.0% of our net profit at the hotel above the achievement of certain net profit thresholds. The management agreements with Hyatt may be terminated earlier than the contract term if certain events occur, including the failure of Hyatt to satisfy certain performance standards, a condemnation of, a casualty to, or force majeure event involving the hotel and upon a default by Hyatt or us that is not cured prior to the expiration of any applicable cure period.

Marriott. Three of our Marriott hotels are operated under management agreements with Marriott Hotel Services, Inc. or Marriott International, Inc. These management agreements require us to pay a base management fee between 2.3% and 3.0% of total hotel revenue to Marriott and expire between 2014 and 2020. Additionally, one of the management agreements requires an incentive fee of 20.0% of net cash flow and another management agreement requires an incentive fee of 20.0% of the excess of gross operating profit over a certain threshold. In the third instance, the management agreement requires us to pay specific percentages of both room revenue and food and beverage revenue. The management agreements with Marriott may be terminated earlier than the stated term if certain events occur, including the failure of Marriott to satisfy certain performance standards, a condemnation of, a casualty to, or force majeure event involving a hotel, the withdrawal or revocation of any license or permit required in connection with the operation of a hotel and upon a default by Marriott or us that is not cured prior to the expiration of any applicable cure periods. In the event of a sale of the Marriott, Troy, Michigan, Marriott has a right of first refusal to either purchase or lease the hotel or terminate the management agreement.

Renaissance. We have agreed that the six Renaissance Hotels that we agreed to acquire from Marriott International will be operated pursuant to management agreements with Renaissance Hotel Management Company, LLC. These agreements will require us to pay a base management fee of 3% of gross revenue and an incentive management fee of 20% of available cash flow after a preferred return is paid to us. These agreements will have terms of 20 years from inception and will be automatically renewed for three additional, consecutive 10 year periods unless Renaissance provides at least 300 days advanced notice to us or we terminate the agreement(s) based on Renaissance's failure to meet specified performance standards.

Fairmont. We have agreed that the Sutton Place Hotel in Newport Beach, California, will be operated pursuant to a management agreement with Fairmont Hotels & Resorts (U.S.) Inc. This agreement will require us to pay a base management fee of 3% of total revenue and an incentive management fee of between 15% and 25% of the amount by which cash flow from operations exceeds thresholds specified in the management agreement,

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provided that the incentive management fee cannot exceed 4% of total revenue for any year. The management agreement will have an initial term of 10 years from the completion of the renovation, subject to an option in favor of Fairmont to extend the term for one additional, consecutive 20 year term.

The existing management agreements with Marriott and Hyatt, and the management agreements to be entered into with Renaissance and Fairmont, require the respective managers to furnish chain services that are generally made available to other hotels managed by that operator. Such services include: (1) the development and operation of computer systems and reservation services; (2) management and administrative services; (3) marketing and sale services; (4) human resources training services; and (5) such additional services as may from time to time be more efficiently performed on a national, regional or group level.

All of our management agreements typically have the terms described below:

Operational services. The managers of the Management Company, and such other managers of the other management companies with whom we have contracted, have exclusive authority to supervise, direct and control the day-to-day operation and management of the hotels, including establishing all room rates, processing reservations, procuring inventories, supplies and services, and preparing public relations, publicity and marketing plans for the hotels. The Management Company uses Buy Efficient, L.L.C. to enable the hotels it manages to participate in certain purchasing or other contracts.

Executive supervision and management services. The managers supervise all managerial and other employees for the hotels, review the operation and maintenance of the hotels, prepare reports, budgets and projections and provide other administrative and accounting support services for the hotels. In some cases, we maintain authority to approve any change in the general manager and other key employees at each hotel.

Working capital and fixed asset supplies. The management agreements typically require us to maintain property-level working capital for each hotel based on a monthly cash forecast and to fund the cost of fixed operating supplies such as linen and other similar items. We also are responsible for providing funds to meet the cash needs for the operations of the hotels if at any time funds available from hotel operations become insufficient to meet the financial requirements of the hotels. We are required to deposit sufficient working capital on an as-needed basis to pay all costs and expenses of maintaining, conducting and supervising the operation of the hotels and all of its facilities and any other amounts that are the Management Company's responsibility under the management agreements. If we fail to provide sufficient funds, the Management Company is not required to provide services under the management agreements, including, among other things, employing and supervising on-site staff for the operation of the hotels, negotiating and entering into leases and providing services necessary for the day-to-day operation, management and supervision of the hotels.

Furniture, fixtures and equipment replacements. The management agreements generally provide that once each year, the managers must prepare a list of furniture, fixtures and equipment proposed to be acquired and certain routine repairs to be performed in the next year and an estimate of the necessary funds to do so, subject to our review or approval. Under the management agreements, we are required to provide to the managers all necessary furniture, fixtures and equipment for the operation of the hotels, including funding for any required furniture, fixtures and equipment replacements. For purposes of fulfilling our obligation to fund the furniture, fixtures and equipment replacements, a specified percentage of the gross revenues of the hotel is deposited by the manager in an escrow account held by the respective first-mortgage note holders. This percentage is 4.0% under our agreements with the Management Company, 5.0% under our agreement with Marriott for three of our hotels and 4.0% and 5.0% with Hyatt for the Marietta, Georgia and Newport Beach, California hotels, respectively. This percentage is 5% under the management agreements we have agreed to enter into with respect to the six Renaissance Hotels we have agreed to acquire. With respect to the management agreement we have agreed to enter into with Fairmont for the operation of Sutton Place, this percentage is initially 2% and increases up to 4% after the fourth year of the term.

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Building alterations, improvements and renewals. The management agreements generally require the managers to prepare an annual estimate of the expenditures necessary for major repairs, alterations, improvements, renewals and replacements to the structural, mechanical, electrical, heating, ventilating, air conditioning, plumbing and vertical transportation elements of each hotel. In addition to the foregoing, the management agreements generally provide that the managers may propose such changes, alterations and improvements to the hotel as are required by reason of laws or regulations or, in the manager's reasonable judgment, to keep the hotel in a safe, competitive and efficient operating condition.

Insurance. The management agreements typically require us to maintain and pay for: (1) insurance covering the building, (2) commercial general liability insurance, (3) worker's compensation insurance, (4) fidelity insurance, (5) employee crime insurance, (6) business interruption insurance, (7) employment practices liability insurance, (8) flood insurance if the hotel is located in an area designated as flood prone and (9) other additional insurance, including earthquake insurance, as may be required.

Damage or destruction. The management agreements generally remain in full force and effect subsequent to damage by fire or other casualty. Some management agreements allow either party to terminate upon 30 days prior notice to the other party if (1) we elect to close the hotel as a result of such casualty (except on a temporary basis for repairs or restoration), or (2) we determine in good faith not to proceed with the restoration of the hotel.

Condemnation of a property. Most management agreements may be terminated on 30 days notice to the other party if (1) all or substantially all of the hotel is taken through condemnation or (2) less than all or substantially all of the hotel is taken, but, in the reasonable judgment of the party giving the termination notice, the hotel cannot be profitably operated in the manner the hotel is then being operated. The manager does not have any right to the award from the taking or condemning authority in any such proceeding. Upon a termination of the management agreements with the Management Company as a result of damage or destruction or condemnation of a hotel, we will generally not be required to pay a termination or similar fee. However, if we terminate a management agreement for these reasons prior to December 31, 2005, we must pay the Management Company an amount equal to up to 1.5 times the management fee for the first fiscal year of the management agreement.

Sale of the hotel. The existing management agreements with Marriott and Hyatt limit our ability to sell, lease or otherwise transfer the hotels unless the transferee is not a competitor of the managers and unless the transferee assumes the related management agreements and meets specified other conditions. Our management agreements with the Management Company are cancelable upon sale and in certain cases may require payment of a termination fee.

Service marks. During the terms of the respective management agreements with Marriott and Hyatt, the service mark, symbols and logos currently used by the managers may be used in the operation of the applicable hotels. Any right to use the service marks, logo and symbols and related trademarks of a manager at a hotel will terminate with respect to that hotel upon termination of the applicable management agreement with respect to such hotel.

Termination. The management agreements may be terminated as to one or more of the hotels earlier than the contract term if certain events occur, including: (1) upon a default on payment of an amount due or other material default by the manager or us that is not cured prior to the expiration of any applicable cure periods; (2) an assignment for the benefit of creditors by either party; and (3) either party's instituting or consenting to any proceeding seeking relief under any federal or state bankruptcy or insolvency laws and which remains undismissed for a period of 60 days.

Additional Management Company termination rights. In addition, if, prior to December 31, 2006, we do not approve a necessary repair or alteration required to avoid innkeeper liability exposure, life safety system requirements or local, state and federal law after receiving a request

from the Management Company, the

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Management Company may terminate the management agreement, and we will be required to pay to the Management Company up to 1.5 times the management fee for the first fiscal year of the management agreement. In addition, we may terminate a management agreement, with or without cause, upon 30 days prior written notice so long as we have paid all amounts due the Management Company and a termination fee. The termination fee for the first fiscal year of the hotel will be equal to a multiplier of 2.5 times an amount equal to 2% of the total revenues of the hotel. For each fiscal year thereafter, the multiplier to determine the termination fee will decrease by 0.5. No termination fee is payable if we terminate the management agreement upon the occurrence of an event of default by the Management Company.

We also have the right to terminate the management agreement without the payment of a termination fee if (1) the hotel fails to achieve its incentive fee threshold and a 95% RevPAR penetration index relative to the hotel's competitive set or (2) the Management Company acquires an equity interest in a hotel which is in our hotel's competitive set; however, if we terminate the management agreement prior to December 31, 2005 for either of these reasons, we must pay to the Management Company the management fee budgeted for the first full fiscal year.

The management agreements with the Management Company, for the period commencing on October 26, 2004 and ending on December 31, 2005, allow us to terminate the management agreements for up to 1,000 rooms, referred to as the Base Rooms, upon the sale of such hotels to unaffiliated third parties. During this period, we also have the right to terminate additional rooms so long as we pay the applicable termination fee. Any Base Rooms not terminated during this period, referred to as the Year One Carry Over Rooms, may be carried over and terminated during the Second Year Termination Period defined below or at any time upon the same terms and conditions as if terminated during the First Year Termination Period.

For the period commencing on January 1, 2006 and ending on December 31, 2006, referred to as the Second Year Termination Period, we may terminate the management agreements for up to 300 rooms, referred to as the Year Two Base Rooms, plus any Year One Carry Over Rooms, upon the sale of such hotels to unaffiliated third parties. During this period, we shall have the right to terminate additional rooms so long as we pay the applicable termination fee. Any Year Two Base Rooms not terminated during the Second Year Termination Period and Year One Carry Over Rooms not terminated, referred to collectively as the Carry Over Rooms, may be terminated at any time on the same terms and conditions as if terminated during the Second Year Termination Period.

Commencing on January 1, 2007, we may terminate the management agreements for up to 300 rooms, referred to as the At Will Rooms. In addition, commencing on January 1 of each year thereafter, 300 of the Carry Over Rooms, if any, shall convert to At Will Rooms.

The above termination rights for Base Rooms, Year Two Base Rooms and At Will Rooms provide for no termination fee or similar compensation so long as all amounts due to the Management Company have been paid in full. The number of rooms for which we may terminate the management agreements under the provisions described above may not exceed an aggregate of 1,600 rooms during the term of the master agreement with the Management Company. The exercise of any termination rights by us must include 30 days prior written notice to the Management Company.

In addition, we may terminate an individual management agreement for a hotel property without the payment of any termination fee so long as all amounts due to the manager under the terminated management agreement have been paid in full and we execute new management agreement(s) with the manager relating to new hotel properties on terms and conditions substantially similar to the terms and conditions of the terminated management agreement.

Management Company indemnification obligations. Under the management agreements, the Management Company agreed to indemnify the TRS Lessee and its agents, principals, shareholders, partners, members,

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officers, directors and employees from liabilities that may be incurred by or asserted against any of those persons that arise from (1) the willful misconduct or gross negligence of the hotel's general manager, (2) the fraud, willful misconduct or negligence of the Management Company's off-site employees, (3) the breach of the management agreements by the Management Company or (4) any action taken by the Management Company outside the scope of its authority under the management agreement. Except as provided above, the TRS Lessee agreed to indemnify the Management Company and its agents, principals, shareholders, partners, members, officers, directors and employees from liabilities that may be incurred by or asserted against any of those persons that arise from (1) the performance of the Management Company's services under the management agreement, (2) any act or omission of the TRS Lessee, whether or not willful, tortious or negligent, or any third party or (3) any other occurrence related to the hotel (including, without limitation, environmental or life-safety matters) and/or the Management Company's duties under the management agreement, whether arising before, during or after the term of the management agreements.

In connection with the sale to the Management Company of our corporate subsidiary that managed our hotels prior to our initial public offering, we agreed to indemnify the Management Company, its affiliates and their respective officers, directors, employees, agents and representatives from and against any and all losses and liabilities resulting from or related to the ownership of this subsidiary or its assets, liabilities and operations prior to the completion of the initial public offering. The Management Company agreed to indemnify us, our affiliates and our respective officers, directors, employees, agents and representatives for any of these liabilities incurred after the completion of the initial public offering.

Tax Status

We intend to elect to be taxed as a REIT under Sections 856 through 859 of the Code commencing with our taxable year ending December 31, 2004. If we qualify for taxation as a REIT, then under current Federal income tax laws we generally will not be taxed at the corporate level to the extent we distribute at least 90% of our net taxable income to our stockholders. However, even if we qualify for taxation as a REIT, we may be subject to certain Federal, state and local taxes on our income and property and to Federal income and excise tax on our undistributed income.

Taxable REIT Subsidiary

On January 1, 2001, the provisions of the REIT Modernization Act became effective. These provisions allow REITs, subject to certain limitations, to own, directly or indirectly, up to 100% of the stock of a taxable REIT subsidiary, or TRS, that may engage in businesses previously prohibited to a REIT. In particular, these provisions permit hotel REITs to own a TRS that leases hotels from the REIT, rather than requiring the lessee to be an unaffiliated third party. However, hotels leased to a TRS still must be managed by an unaffiliated third party. The TRS provisions are complex and impose several conditions on the use of TRSs, generally to assure that TRSs are subject to an appropriate level of Federal corporate taxation.

As described above, we may own up to 100% of the stock of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries, including Sunstone Hotel TRS Lessee, Inc., the TRS Lessee. A TRS is a fully taxable corporation that may earn income that would not be qualifying income if earned directly by us. A TRS may perform activities such as third party management, development and other independent business activities. However, a TRS may not directly or indirectly operate or manage any hotels or health care facilities or provide rights to any brand name under which any hotel or health care facility is operated.

We and the TRS Lessee must elect for the TRS Lessee to be treated as a TRS. A corporation of which a qualifying TRS directly or indirectly owns more than 35% of the voting power or value of the stock will automatically be treated as a TRS. Overall, no more than 20% of the value of our assets may consist of securities of one or more TRSs, and no more than 25% of the value of our assets may consist of the securities of TRSs

and other assets that are not qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% asset test.

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The rent that we receive from a TRS will qualify as rents from real property as long as the property is operated on behalf of the TRS by a person who qualifies as an independent contractor and who is, or is related to a person who is, actively engaged in the trade or business of operating qualified lodging facilities for any person unrelated to us and the TRS (an eligible independent contractor). A qualified lodging facility is a hotel, motel or other establishment more than one-half of the dwelling units in which are used on a transient basis, unless wagering activities are conducted at or in connection with such facility by any person who is engaged in the business of accepting wagers and who is legally authorized to engage in such business at or in connection with such facility. A qualified lodging facility includes customary amenities and facilities operated as part of, or associated with, the lodging facility as long as such amenities and facilities are customary for other properties of a comparable size and class owned by other unrelated owners.

We have formed the TRS Lessee as a wholly owned TRS. Each of our hotels is leased by our relevant property-owning subsidiary to the TRS Lessee or one of its subsidiaries. As described below, these leases provide for a base rent plus a percentage rent. These leases must contain economic terms which are similar to a lease between unrelated parties because the Code imposes a 100% excise tax on certain transactions between a TRS and us or our tenants that are not conducted on an arm's-length basis. We believe that all transactions between us and our TRS Lessee are conducted on an arm's-length basis. Further, the TRS rules limit the deductibility of interest paid or accrued by a TRS to us to assure that the TRS is subject to an appropriate level of corporate taxation.

The TRS Lessee engages independent hotel operators to operate the related hotels on its behalf. Furthermore, we have represented, with respect to hotels that we lease to the TRS Lessee in the future, that the TRS Lessee will engage eligible independent contractors to manage and operate the hotels leased by the TRS Lessee. Our primary hotel operator, the Management Company, qualifies as an eligible independent contractor.

TRS Leases

To qualify as a REIT, neither we nor our operating partnership, Sunstone Hotel Partnership, nor any of our subsidiaries can operate our hotels. Accordingly, Sunstone Hotel Partnership or its subsidiaries, as lessors, leases our hotels to the TRS Lessee, as lessee, and the TRS Lessee then enters into hotel management agreements with third party management companies, including the Management Company. The TRS Lessee may enter into leases or agreements through its subsidiaries.

Term. The initial leases for each hotel have a term of five years from the completion of the initial public offering or subsequent acquisition, as applicable. The leases are terminable earlier than the stated term if certain events occur, including specified damages to the related hotel, a condemnation of the related hotel or the sale of the related hotel, or an event of default which is not cured within any applicable cure or grace period.

Amounts payable under leases. The leases provide for the TRS Lessee to pay in each calendar month the base rent plus, in each calendar month, percentage rent, if any. The percentage rent for each hotel equal the sum of:

a percentage of gross room revenue up to a specified threshold;

a percentage of gross room revenue in excess of the specified threshold;

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a percentage of gross food and beverage revenue;

a percentage of any gross sublease revenue; and

a percentage of all other gross revenue, which include revenue from vending machines, honor bars, movie rentals, concessions and all other such services.

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Improvements, maintenance and alterations. The TRS Lessee is responsible for all routine repair and maintenance of the hotels. The cost will be borne by us as part of the annual budget. The TRS Lessee, at its own expense, will generally be permitted to make additions, modifications or improvements to the hotels with our approval. Any such additions, modifications or improvements will be subject to the terms and provisions of the applicable leases and will become our property upon the termination of the related lease. The TRS Lessee will own substantially all personal property (other than inventory, linens and other nondepreciable personal property) not affixed to, or deemed a part of, the real estate or improvements on the initial hotels, unless ownership of such personal property would cause the rent under a lease not to qualify as rents from real property for REIT income test purposes.

Insurance and property taxes. We are responsible for paying real estate and personal property taxes with respect to our hotels. In addition, we may be responsible, without reimbursement from the TRS Lessee, for maintaining the types and amounts of insurance required by loan agreements with our lenders. The TRS Lessee is required to pay for all liability insurance on its respective leased hotels, fidelity bonds, comprehensive casualty insurance, workers' compensation, vehicle liability and other insurance appropriate and customary for similar properties and naming us, where applicable, as an additional named insured.

Assignment and subletting. The TRS Lessee is not permitted to assign or sublet any part of the hotels or assign its interest under any of the leases without our prior written consent. No assignment or subletting permitted by us will release the TRS Lessee from any of its obligations under the leases.

Damage to and destruction of our hotels. If any of our hotels is damaged or destroyed, the TRS Lessee will be required to restore the hotel to substantially the same condition as existed immediately before the damage or destruction in accordance with the terms of the lease. The portion of any insurance policy will be paid out by us from time to time for the reasonable costs of the reconstruction or repair upon satisfaction of reasonable terms and conditions specified by us. Such damage or destruction will not generally terminate the lease.

Condemnation. If any of our hotels is subject to a total condemnation or a partial taking that prevents use of the property as a hotel, we and the TRS Lessee each will have the option to terminate the related lease. We will share in the condemnation award with the TRS Lessee in accordance with the provisions of the related lease. If any partial taking of a hotel does not prevent the use of the property as a hotel, the TRS Lessee will be obligated to restore the untaken portion of the hotel to a complete architectural unit but only to the extent of any available condemnation award. We may ultimately be responsible for restoring the hotel under our obligations under our applicable loan agreements.

REIT requirements. The TRS Lessee will covenant to take the following actions to maintain our status as a REIT:

the TRS Lessee will elect to be and operate as a taxable REIT subsidiary of us within the meaning of Section 856(l) of the Code;

the TRS Lessee, if necessary, will purchase at fair market value any personal property anticipated to be in excess of the 15% personal property limitation on leased property;

the TRS Lessee may only assign or sublet the leased property upon our approval if any portion of the rent from the sublessee would fail to qualify as rents from real property within the meaning of Section 856(d) of the Code;

the TRS Lessee will not sublet the leased property to any person or entity in which we own an interest of 10% or greater; and

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the TRS Lessee will not operate or manage a lodging facility or a healthcare facility within the meaning of Section 856(d)(9)(D)(ii) and Section 856(e)(6)(D)(ii) of the Code.

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Events of default. Events of default under the leases include, without limitation, the following:

the TRS Lessee's failure to pay base rent within 30 days after the same becomes due and payable;

the TRS Lessee's failure to pay the percentage rent within 30 days after the same becomes due and payable;

the TRS Lessee's failure to observe or perform any other term, covenant or condition of a lease, provided that the TRS Lessee has a 30-day grace period after receiving notice from us that a term of the lease has been violated before an event of default would occur. There are certain instances in which the 30-day grace period can be extended to a maximum of 90 days or shortened in the event of gross negligence or fraud;

the transfer, assignment, conveyance or attachment of the estate or interest of the TRS Lessee in a hotel in any proceeding;

a bankruptcy, reorganization, insolvency, liquidation or dissolution event of which the TRS Lessee is the subject that is not discharged within 60 days; and

the termination of the franchise agreement for a hotel by the franchisor because of any action or failure to act by the TRS Lessee.

If an event of default by the TRS Lessee occurs and continues beyond any grace period, we will have the option of terminating the related lease. If we decide to terminate a lease, we will be required to give the TRS Lessee not less than 10 days' written notice, except in instances giving rise to a termination involving bankruptcy, liquidation or dissolution of the TRS Lessee. Unless the event of default is cured before the termination date we specify in the termination notice, the lease will terminate on the date specified in the termination notice. In that event, the TRS Lessee will be required to surrender to us or our designee possession of the related hotel.

Termination of leases upon sale. We have the right to terminate any lease upon a sale of the applicable hotel with not less than 30 days' prior written notice to the TRS Lessee. If we elect to terminate a lease, we may have to either:

pay the TRS Lessee an amount equal to a percentage of the net profit earned by the TRS Lessee with respect to the leased hotel for the twelve-month period ended immediately preceding the termination; or

offer to lease to the TRS Lessee one or more substitute hotels on terms with a fair market value equal to the fair market value of the remaining leasehold interest under the terminated lease.

Ground Lease Agreements

Seven of our hotels are subject to ground leases or air rights leases that cover either all or portions of their respective properties. As of December 31, 2004, the terms of these leases (including renewal options) range from 43 to 92 years. These leases generally require us to make rental payments and payments for all charges, costs, expenses and liabilities, including real and personal property taxes, insurance, and utilities. The Renaissance Atlanta, Georgia and the Renaissance Orlando, Florida that we have agreed to acquire from Marriott are operated pursuant to

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ground or air leases, the remaining terms of which (including all renewal options) are approximately 68 and 73 years respectively. The Renaissance Baltimore, Maryland that we have agreed to acquire is operated pursuant to an air rights lease the remaining term of which (including all renewal options) is approximately 80 years. The Sheraton Cerritos that we have agreed to acquire is also operated pursuant to a ground lease, the remaining term of which (including all renewal options) is approximately 82 years.

Any proposed sale of the property that is subject to a ground lease or any proposed assignment of our leasehold interest as ground lessee under the ground lease may require the consent of the applicable ground lessor. As a result, we may not be able to sell, assign, transfer or convey our ground lessee's interest in any such

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property in the future absent the consent of the ground lessor, even if such transaction may be in the best interests of our stockholders. Three of our properties prohibit the sale or conveyance of the hotel by us to another party without first offering the ground lessor the opportunity to acquire the hotel upon the same terms and conditions as offered to the third party.

We have an option to acquire the ground lessor's interest in the ground lease relating to three of our hotels for specified amounts and exercisable provisions. At this time, we do not intend to exercise any option to purchase the ground lessor's interest in any of these ground leases.

Insurance

We believe that our properties are adequately insured, subject to the risks described under the Risk Factors section and the following. We and the TRS Lessee are responsible for arranging the insurance for most of our hotels, although in certain cases the management company for the applicable hotel has responsibility for arranging insurance under the relevant management agreement. Our properties are covered by blanket insurance policies which cover multiple properties. Our properties in California are covered by earthquake insurance. In the event that these blanket policies are drawn upon to cover losses on some of our properties, the amount of insurance coverage available under the policies would thereby be reduced and could be insufficient to cover the remaining properties' insurable risks. Our property insurance is subject to renewal on an annual basis.

When our current insurance policies expire, we may encounter difficulty in obtaining or renewing property or casualty insurance on our properties at the same levels of coverage and under similar terms. This insurance may be more limited and for some catastrophic risks (e.g., earthquake, flood and terrorism) may not be generally available at current levels. Even if we are able to renew our policies or to obtain new policies at levels and with limitations consistent with our current policies, we cannot be sure that we will be able to obtain insurance with the scope of coverage we desire or at premium rates that are commercially reasonable.

We will maintain letters of credit to collateralize our obligations with respect to workers' compensation claims made by our employees for periods prior to the time that our management operations were assumed by the Management Company and other hotel operators.

Offices

We lease our headquarters located at 903 Calle Amanecer, Suite 100, San Clemente, California 92673 from an unaffiliated third party. We believe that our current facilities are adequate for our present and future operations.

Employees

At April 30, 2005, we had 48 employees. We believe that our relations with our employees are good. All persons employed in the day-to-day operations of our hotels are employees of the management companies engaged by the TRS Lessee to operate such hotels.

Founders

The Contributing Entities, Messrs. Kazilionis, Paul and Alter, who serve as members of our board of directors, and Messrs. Alter, Kline and Stougaard, who serve as executive officers, may be considered our founders because they participated in founding and organizing the REIT.

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Environmental

All of our hotels have been subjected to environmental reviews. Environmental consultants retained by our lenders recently conducted Phase I environmental site assessments on many of our properties. These Phase I assessments often relied on older environmental assessments prepared in connection with a prior financing. Phase I assessments are designed to evaluate the potential for environmental contamination on properties based generally upon site inspections, facility personnel interviews, historical information and certain publicly available databases, but Phase I assessments will not necessarily reveal the existence or extent of all environmental conditions, liabilities or compliance concerns at the properties. While some of these assessments have led to further investigation and sampling, none of the environmental assessments have revealed, nor are we aware of, any environmental liability (including asbestos-related liability) that we believe would harm our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flow.

Under various Federal, state and local laws and regulations, an owner or operator of real estate may be liable for the costs of removal or remediation of certain hazardous or toxic substances on the property. These laws often impose such liability without regard to whether the owner knew of, or was responsible for, the presence of hazardous or toxic substances. Furthermore, a person that arranges for the disposal or transports for disposal or treatment of a hazardous substance at another property may be liable for the costs of removal or remediation of hazardous substances released into the environment at that property. The costs of remediation or removal of such substances may be substantial, and the presence of such substances, or the failure to promptly remediate such substances, may adversely affect the owner's ability to sell such real estate or to borrow using such real estate as collateral. In connection with the ownership and operation of our properties, we or the TRS Lessee, as the case may be, may be potentially liable for such costs.

We have provided unsecured environmental indemnities to certain lenders. We have performed due diligence on the potential environmental risks including obtaining an independent environmental review from outside environmental consultants. These indemnities obligate us to reimburse the guaranteed parties for damages related to environmental matters. There is no term or damage limitation on these indemnities; however, if an environmental matter arises, we could have recourse against other previous owners.

Legal Proceedings

In August 2003, a suit against a predecessor company was filed in the United States District Court, Phoenix, Arizona Division, by a hotel guest who became ill and alleged the illness resulted from exposure to a Legionella bacteria during a stay at one of our hotels. We have liability insurance to cover this claim subject to certain insurance deductibles. The litigation has commenced and we and our insurance company's lawyers have not been able to assess the exposure, if any, to us associated with this litigation.

Additionally, we are involved from time to time in various claims and other legal actions in the ordinary course of business. We do not believe that the resolution of such additional matters will have a material adverse effect on our financial position or results of operations when resolved.

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Our board of directors consists of nine directors, at least six of whom are independent directors as provided in the listing standards and rules of the New York Stock Exchange. Our directors serve one-year terms and thus are subject to election annually. There is no cumulative voting in the election of directors. Consequently, at each annual meeting of our stockholders, the successors to each of our nine directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast at that meeting.

The following table sets forth information concerning the individuals who are directors and executive officers. Ages are as of May 15, 2005.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position</u>
Robert A. Alter	54	Chief Executive Officer, President and Director
Jon D. Kline	38	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Gary A. Stougaard	51	Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer
Lewis N. Wolff	69	Chairman
Z. Jamie Behar	48	Director
Barbara S. Brown	47	Director
Anthony W. Dona	46	Director
Paul D. Kazilionis	48	Director
Jonathan H. Paul	41	Director
Keith P. Russell	59	Director
David M. Siegel	63	Director

The following is a biographical summary of the experience of our directors and executive officers:

Robert A. Alter is our Chief Executive Officer, President and a Director. Until our formation, Mr. Alter served as Chief Executive Officer of one of our predecessor companies formed in 1985, which became a public company in August 1995. The public company, Sunstone Hotel Investors, Inc., commenced doing business in August 1995 upon its initial public offering. In November 1999, Mr. Alter and one of the Contributing Entities completed a management-led buyout to take the company private. He has been an owner of hotels since 1976 and is a past president of the Holiday Inn Franchise Association and a member of the Marriott Franchise board. Mr. Alter holds a B.S. degree in Hotel Administration from Cornell University.

Jon D. Kline is our Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. From April 2003 to our formation, Mr. Kline served as the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Sunstone Hotel Investors, L.L.C. Previously, Mr. Kline spent five years with Merrill Lynch & Co.'s Investment Banking Division, during which time he directed the firm's Hospitality and Leisure practice. Before that time, he was a member of the Real Estate and Lodging Finance Group of Smith Barney's Investment Banking Division as well as an attorney with Sullivan & Cromwell LLP. Mr. Kline holds a B.A. degree in Economics from Emory University and a J.D. degree from New York University School of Law.

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Gary A. Stougaard is our Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer. From October 1997 to our formation, Mr. Stougaard has been employed by Sunstone Hotel Investors, L.L.C. He now serves as the Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer of Sunstone Hotel Investors, L.L.C., in which capacity he oversees the company's acquisition, development and hotel renovation and redevelopment activities. Since 1985 and prior to joining Sunstone, he served as a developer and asset manager of hotel properties and prior to that time he was a certified public accountant in private practice. Mr. Stougaard holds a B.A. degree in Accounting from Michigan State University.

Lewis N. Wolff is our Chairman. Mr. Wolff has been Chairman of Wolff DiNapoli LLC since 1994 and Wolff Urban Management, Inc. since 1980, both of which are real estate acquisition, investment, development

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and management firms. Mr. Wolff is also a co-founder and, since 1994, has served as Chairman of Maritz, Wolff & Co., a privately held hotel investment group that has acquired, in cooperation with other persons, 18 luxury hotel properties. From 1999 to 2004, Mr. Wolff also served as Co-Chairman of Fairmont Hotels & Resorts, a hotel management company formed by Fairmont Hotel Management Company and Canadian Pacific Hotels & Resorts, Inc. Mr. Wolff also serves on the boards of Grill Concepts, Inc. and First Century Bank. Mr. Wolff holds a B.A. degree in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and an M.B.A. degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Z. Jamie Behar is a Director. Ms. Behar has been a Portfolio Manager with General Motors Investment Management Corporation (together with its predecessors, GMIMCo) since 1986. Ms. Behar manages GMIMCo clients' real estate investment portfolios, a number of which have interests in funds managed by Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C. that own interests in the Contributing Entities; however, Ms. Behar does not have voting or investment control over such interests in the Contributing Entities. Ms. Behar serves on the boards of directors of Desarrolladora Homex, S.A. de C.V., a publicly-listed home development company located in Mexico, as well as Hospitality Europe BV, a private European hotel company, and FountainGlen Properties, LLC, a private senior housing company. Ms. Behar holds a B.S.E. degree from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and an M.B.A. degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Business. Ms. Behar is a Chartered Financial Analyst.

Barbara S. Brown is a Director. Ms. Brown has been a Senior Managing Director of Newlin Capital Partners, L.L.C., a real estate asset management company since February 2005. Newlin Capital Partners, L.L.C. has three separate fund-of-funds partnerships which invest in real estate, energy and timber. Prior to joining Newlin Capital Partners, L.L.C., Ms. Brown was a Senior Portfolio Manager of Allstate Investments, LLC from 1995 to 2005. From 1979 to 1995, Ms. Brown held various other positions at Allstate primarily relating to equity real estate investments. Ms. Brown holds a B.S. degree in Accountancy from the University of Illinois and an M.B.A. degree from DePaul University.

Anthony W. Dona is a Director. Mr. Dona formed a real estate private equity business called Thackeray Partners in January 2005. Mr. Dona was the Chief Executive Officer of Crow Holdings, the holding company for the Trammell Crow family's investments until December 2004. He had been with Trammell Crow affiliated entities since 1985 and oversaw a diversified investment portfolio that includes real estate private equity funds, real estate assets, marketable securities and other investments and operating companies. Mr. Dona is a member of the boards of Crow Holdings and the American Red Cross Endowment Fund and other charitable and civic organizations. Mr. Dona holds a B.A. degree in Political Science and a B.B.A. degree in Business Administration from Southern Methodist University and an M.B.A. degree from Harvard University.

Paul D. Kazilionis is a Director and has been a Managing Principal of Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C., a real estate investment management company, since 1994. Prior to co-founding Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C., Mr. Kazilionis spent 12 years at Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, serving most recently as Managing Director and President of the General Partner of the Morgan Stanley Real Estate Fund, through which Morgan Stanley conducted its principal real estate investment activities. Mr. Kazilionis is a member of the Board of Overseers of Colby College and serves as a member of the Dartmouth College Real Estate Advisory Committee. Mr. Kazilionis holds an A.B. degree from Colby College and an M.B.A. degree from The Amos Tuck School of Business Administration at Dartmouth College.

Jonathan H. Paul is a Director and has been a Managing Principal of Westbrook Real Estate Partners, L.L.C. since 1994 and a Managing Principal of Rockpoint Group, L.L.C. since its formation in 2003. Prior to joining Westbrook, Mr. Paul spent six years at Morgan Stanley in the real estate and corporate finance areas, including three years with the Morgan Stanley Real Estate Fund. Mr. Paul holds an A.B. degree from Dartmouth College and an M.B.A. degree from The Amos Tuck School of Business Administration at Dartmouth College.

Keith P. Russell is a Director. Mr. Russell is President of Russell Financial, Inc., a strategic and financial consulting firm serving businesses and high net worth individuals. Mr. Russell is retired as the Chairman of

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Mellon West and the Vice Chairman of Mellon Financial Corporation, in which capacities he served from May 1996 until March 2001. From September 1991 through April 1996, Mr. Russell served in various positions at Mellon, including Vice Chairman and Chief Risk Officer of Mellon Bank Corporation and Chairman of Mellon Bank Corporation's Credit Policy Committee. From 1983 to 1991, Mr. Russell served as President and Chief Operating Officer, and a director of, Glenfed/Glendale Federal Bank. Mr. Russell also serves on the boards of Nationwide Health Properties, Inc. and Countrywide Financial Corporation. Mr. Russell holds a B.A. degree in Economics from the University of Washington and an M.A. degree in Economics from Northwestern University.

David M. Siegel is a Director and has been the principal of DMS Financial Services, which provides financial consulting to the real estate industry, since 2000. Prior to forming DMS Financial, Mr. Siegel served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Presley Companies from 1985 to 2000 and served on its board of directors. Before that time, Mr. Siegel was employed by the public accounting firm of Kenneth Leventhal & Company for 14 years, where he served as a Managing Partner of its Newport Beach, California office. Mr. Siegel holds a B.S. degree in Accounting and Business Administration from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Committees of Our Board of Directors

Our board of directors has three committees – an audit committee, a compensation committee and a nominating and corporate governance committee – each of which is comprised of directors who are independent within the meaning of the listing standards and rules of the NYSE. The members of our compensation committee also are non-employee directors within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code and the applicable rules of the SEC.

Audit Committee

Our board of directors adopted an audit committee charter, which defines the audit committee's purposes to include:

overseeing (1) the integrity of our financial statements, (2) our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, (3) the independent auditors' qualifications and independence and (4) the performance of the independent auditors and our internal audit function; and

preparing an audit committee report as required by the SEC for inclusion in our annual proxy statement.

All of the members of the audit committee are financially literate within the meaning of the listing standards and rules of the NYSE. At least one member is an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined by applicable rules of the SEC, and at least one member possesses accounting and financial management expertise within the meaning of the listing standards and rules of the NYSE.

Our audit committee is comprised of David M. Siegel, Anthony W. Dona and Keith P. Russell. Mr. Siegel is the chair.

Compensation Committee

Our board of directors adopted a compensation committee charter that defines the compensation committee's primary purpose and responsibilities to include:

reviewing and approving corporate goals and objectives relevant to the compensation of our chief executive officer;

making recommendations to our board of directors with respect to non-CEO compensation, incentive compensation plans and equity-based plans;

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approving any new equity compensation plan or any material change to an existing plan where stockholder approval has not been obtained;

in consultation with management, overseeing regulatory compliance with respect to compensation matters; and

preparing a report on executive compensation for inclusion in our proxy statement for our annual meetings.

Our compensation committee is comprised of Anthony W. Dona and Lewis N. Wolff. Mr. Dona is the chair.

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Our board of directors established a nominating and corporate governance committee charter that defines the committee's primary purpose and responsibilities to include:

identifying individuals qualified to become members of the board of directors and recommending director candidates for election or re-election to the board of directors;

considering and making recommendations to the board of directors regarding board size and composition, committee composition and structure and procedures affecting directors;