



Travel Mythbusters

Seth Borko

Senior Research Analyst research@skift.com



Is This Where The Travel Industry Stands Today?

- American travelers are over COVID-19
- China is leading the travel recovery
- Business travel as we knew it is dead
- Global brands are better positioned than independent hotels
- Short-term rentals are replacing hotels
- COVID-19 created a hotel labor crisis
- The pandemic has forced the travel industry into the future



These Are All Modern Travel Myths

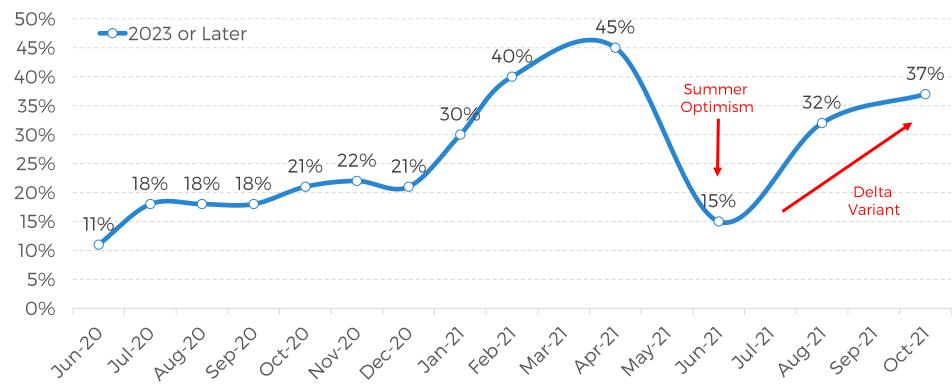
- American travelers are over COVID-19
- China is leading the travel recovery
- Business travel as we knew it is dead
- Global brands are better positioned than independent hotels
- Short-term rentals are replacing hotels
- COVID-19 created a hotel labor crisis
- The pandemic has forced the travel industry into the future





MYTH: American Travelers Are Over COVID-19 FACT: Americans Are Coming To Grips With 'Endemic' COVID

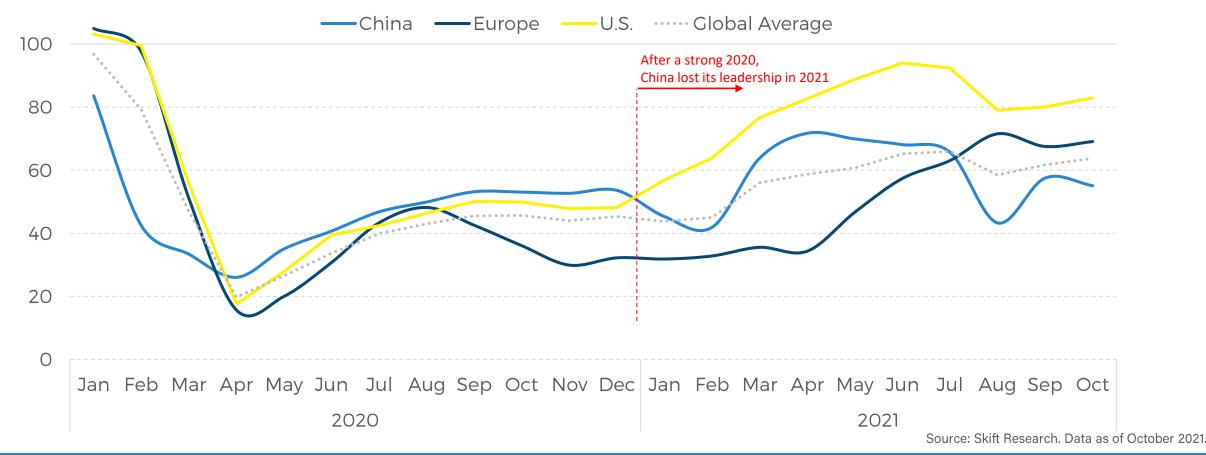




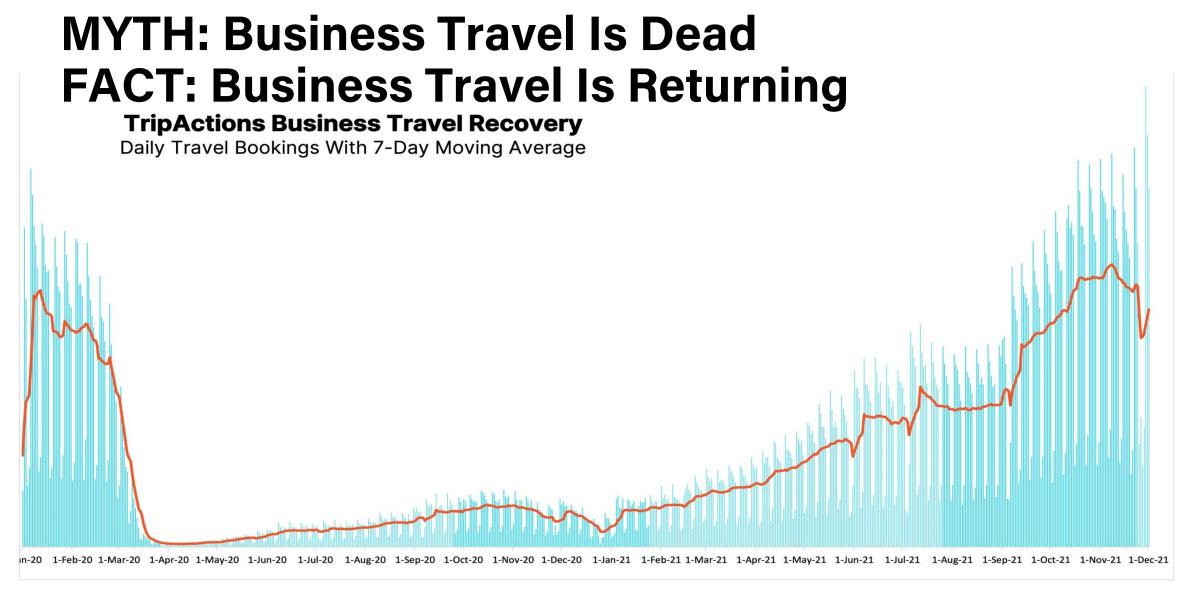


MYTH: China is Leading the Travel Recovery FACT: China's Recovery Choppy and Mainly Domestic











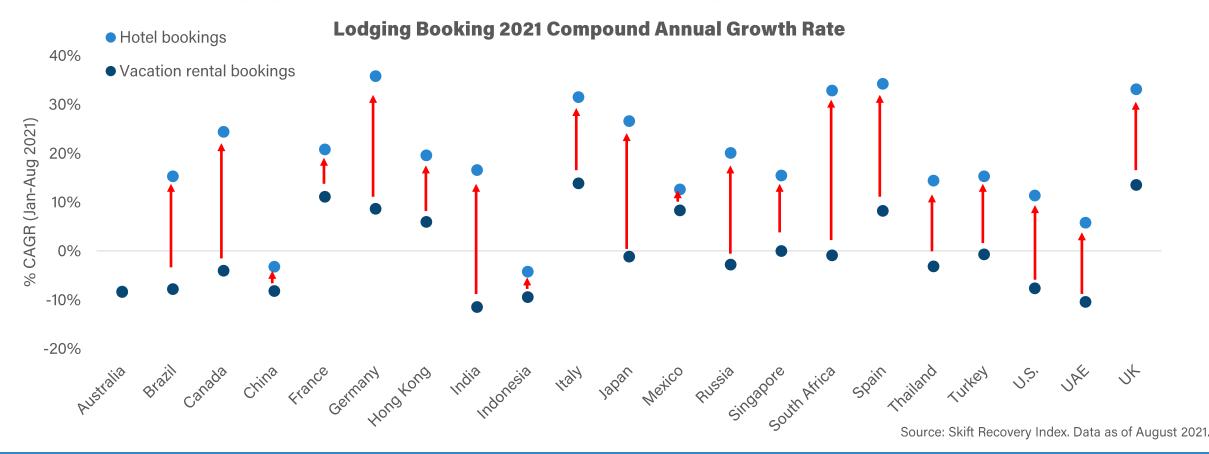
MYTH: The Big Hotel Brands Had It Better FACT: Independent Hotels Showed Their Might

	RevPAR Thru Q3 YTD		
Chain Scale	2019	2021	% Recovered
Luxury	\$252	\$166	66%
Upper Upscale	\$142	\$79	56%
Upscale	\$106	\$74	70%
Upper Midscale	\$79	\$68	86%
Midscale	\$53	\$51	97%
Economy	\$39	\$40	104%
Sub-Total Brand Affiliated	\$89	\$67	75%
Independents	\$86	\$78	91%
Total All Hotels	\$88	\$70	79%



MYTH: Short-Term Rentals Are Replacing Hotels FACT: Hotels Are Staging A 2021 Comeback

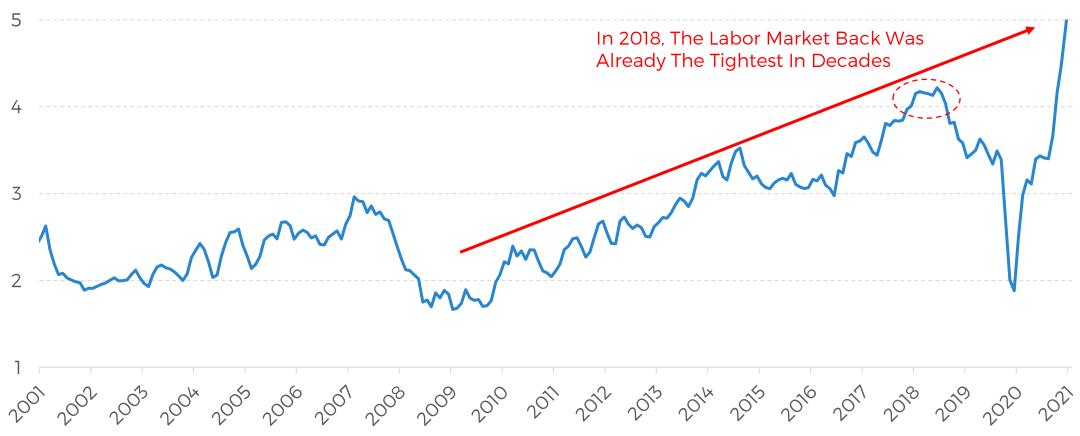
Hotel bookings grow faster in 2021 than rental bookings in major markets





MYTH: COVID-19 Created A Hotel Labor Crisis FACT: Labor Issues Pre-Date The Pandemic

Weeks to Fill Open Jobs in Accommodation and Food Service Industry





MYTH: The Pandemic Dragged Travel Into The Future FACT: The Pandemic Dragged Travel Into The Present

	Technology	Year Founded
QR Code		1994
Docusign	DocuSign [®]	2003
Slack	# slack	2009
Zoom	Zoom	2011



Travel is a Megatrend

Our industry has weathered storms before — be it acts of terrorism, disease, or economic declines — and has always come out stronger for it.

