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Duff on Hospitality Law

OTA & Travel Distribution Update: Ettsa demands tighter EU standards on hotel booking rules; scalability is key for new distribution capability standards; travel websites push back on the hotly contested hidden resort fees

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Ettsa demands Europe-wide harmonisation of hotel booking rules

Travel Weekly (UK) – News on Aug 30, 2019

The European technology and Travel Services Association (Ettsa) has demanded EU regulators enforce tighter standards "on all players" in the accommodation-booking sector. Ettsa welcomed new standards imposed on the sector by the UK Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) which come into force on September 1.

Scalability is Key to Driving Adoption of New Distribution Capability Standards

Skift Travel News on Aug 28, 2019

New Distribution Capability (NDC) standards, introduced by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) promise to enable smarter retailing through indirect distribution channels such as Global Distribution Systems (GDS). This means that GDSs will be able to show and sell offers that can be branded, differentiated with rich content, and personalized to drive higher conversions.

Those hidden resort fees you hate paying? Travel websites fight back

LA Times – Business News on Aug 27, 2019

Hotel resort fees have drawn the ire of attorneys general for Nebraska and the District of Columbia as well as travel rights groups because they often aren't disclosed upfront, making travelers think they're getting a better deal than they really are.

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Spirit Airlines wants travelers to book flights via text message

CNBC Business News on Aug 26, 2019

Discount carrier Spirit Airlines is planning to roll out next month booking services via text message, allowing travelers to buy flights and change reservations through text messaging platform WhatsApp - with almost as much ease and informality as organizing happy hour drinks.

Posted in OTA Update

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