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# OTA & Travel Distribution Update – Sep. 15th, 2017

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Our weekly OTA & Distribution Update for the week ending September 15, 2017 is below. The week's short Update features a heavy dose of OTA stories.

## **Swiss Authorities Examine Booking.com's Pricing Practices [OTA]**

*("Priceline's Booking Defends Commissions After Swiss Launch Probe Into 'Abusive' Pricing," Skift Travel News, September 14, 2017)*

Switzerland's pricing watchdog announced last week plans to open an investigation into the pricing practices of Booking.com after finding evidence that commissions charged some Swiss hoteliers could be abusive.

## **[Expedia Adds Another Distribution Partner \[OTA\]](#)**

*("Thomas Cook partners with Expedia for hotel sales," Reuter – Internet News, September 14, 2017)*

Tour Operator Thomas Cook announced plans last week to make Expedia's hotel inventory (as opposed to Thomas Cook's own branded properties) available for certain in-city standalone and domestic holiday sales.

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Other news:

## **Strife Heats Up Between Hotels And Online Travel Agencies — Could Airbnb Put Out The Flames?**

*Forbes Business, September 12, 2017*

The question remains: will Airbnb continue to expand its platform to online travel, further encroaching on OTAs market share?

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