

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



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THE GREATER PALM SPRINGS CVB HAD A BANNER YEAR IN 2016. We enjoyed soaring numbers of visitors, airline passengers and hotel stays, as well as exciting new events that gained world-wide notoriety. Our CONVENTION SALES team focused on finding and developing new business utilizing new marketing methods and technology, resulting in more than 190,000 new room nights. TRAVEL INDUSTRY SALES extended its reach to over 7,000 travel professionals around the world with a focus on the important luxury market

Our **MARKETING** team generated unprecedented global and domestic exposure for our nine cities. The CVB's successful "Chill" marketing campaign demonstrated the effectiveness and importance of collaborative marketing with our nine City Partners that extended resources and reach, while attracting more visitors in our summer and shoulder months than ever before. Hosting opportunities through airline partnerships, such as JetBlue to television productions like Raid Amazones, helped to exceed our earned media goals in 2016. Video content has become crucial for telling our story. In 2016, the CVB invested more in both video content and social networking than we have in the history of the organization, creating several new video series that generated record numbers of social media engagement.

In 2016, the CVB completed a DESTINATION MARKETING PLAN, a

comprehensive ten-year blueprint with the goal of attracting more than 16 million visitors to the destination by 2026. Business development is crucial as our world-class events continue to deliver a steady flow of new visitors. To implement the plan, a Destination Marketing Director position was created to work with our nine City Partners to make these priorities a reality. We feel confident that tourism, our number one industry, will continue on this path of record-breaking successes!



Jon Jall

Tom Tabler, Chairman CVB Board of Directors General Manager, JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa



Serida Evans

Linda Evans, Chairman Joint Powers Authority Executive Committee Mayor, City of La Quinta



Scott White, President & CEO Greater Palm Springs CVB



THE POWER OF



IN GREATER PALM SPRINGS

INDUSTRY OF GREATER PALM SPRINGS

palm springs desert hot springs cathedral city rancho mirage palm desert indian wells la quinta indio coachella

\$\$\$\$ TOTAL TAXES GENERATED by visitors

\$538 million state and local taxes **\$413 million** federal taxes

SAVING GREATER PALM SPRINGS HOUSEHOLDS \$3,561 in annual taxes

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5 are based remotely

- Southeast Florida
- Midwest Kansas City
- Northeast & Eastern Canada Charlotte
- Washington D.C., Maryland & Virginia - Washington D.C.
- Religious, Entertainment, LGBT
 & Western Canada Southern California

5 are based in GPS

- VP of Sales and Director of Sales
- LA/Central CA, Western States & Sports
- Orange County/San Diego, Southwest, Hawaii & SoCal
- Pacific Northwest/Northern California
- **4** Sales Assistants
- 8 Destination Services Staff



CONVENTION SALES & DESTINATION SERVICES



Downtown Chill



Greater Palm Springs comissioned artist Josh Agle, also known as "Shag," to create images to promote our Modern Meeting Oasis.

Images are being used on collateral, ads and tradeshow booths.





Hidden Agenda



Life on the Sunny Side



Mix and Match



9

2016 CONVENTION SALES

IMPACT TO THE COACHELLA VALLEY

Y/Y Change

219,084	Definite room nights	11.8 %
320	Meetings Booked	16.4%
53,183	Estimated Jobs Supported from CVB Bookings	27.5 %
\$72.5 million	Estimated Personal Income generated by CVB Bookings	20%
\$4.89 million	Estimated TOT generated by CVB Bookings	∮ 50.9%
\$11 million	Estimated Local Taxes generated by CVB Bookings	12.2%
\$206 million	Estimated Economic Impact from CVB Bookings	19.8 %

















In 2016, the CVB began taking a unique approach to reaching meeting professionals through various social media platforms, including LinkedIn, Instagram and YouTube. In conjunction with the CVB, MBox Communications develops and manages the meetings-focused social media efforts in order to further cement the destination as a leading market for meetings/groups.

LinkedIn was used as the primary communication channel to disseminate targeted content to meeting planners and influencers. Our efforts to grow our audience and presence on LinkedIn are designed to be a combination of organic and paid, targeted distribution through LinkedIn's highly segmented database, allowing us to reach meeting planners directly.

The channel has proven to be a very effective way of communicating with today's meeting planners.

- Our LinkedIn engagement rate was **27 times** better than the average engagement on the channel.
- We **increased** our followers (which are predominantly meeting professionals) by **66% year** over year.

Instagram was used as a secondary social media communication channel for Convention Sales. However, we plan to further incorporate Instagram into Convention Sales strategies to host images and videos as part of our more aggressive efforts on LinkedIn.

YouTube will continue to be used to host more robust video content produced by the CVB via its associates and agencies.

\$6.7 million budget MARKETING BRANDING COMMUNICATIONS

12 staff members

Marketing staff

- Destination Development Director
- **3** Brand Development staff
 - Video Content Creator
 - Arts, Culture & Film staff

Communications staff

- International PR Representatives
 - > Black Diamond United Kingdom
 - > Marketing Services International Germany
- > AviaReps China
- > Gate 7 Austrailia and New Zealand



Advertising Awareness, Effectiveness and ROI 2016

> Strategic Marketing and Research Insights

VisaVue Travel

- > International 2016
- > Domestic 2016

Aviation Intelligence (2016)

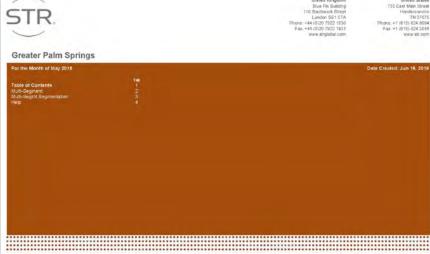
> Diio, Data in. Intelligence out.

Smith Travel Accommodations Report – Hotel Report

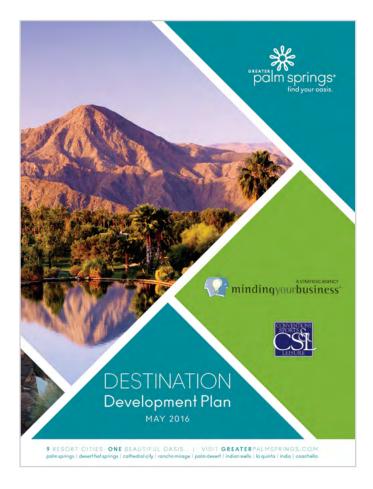
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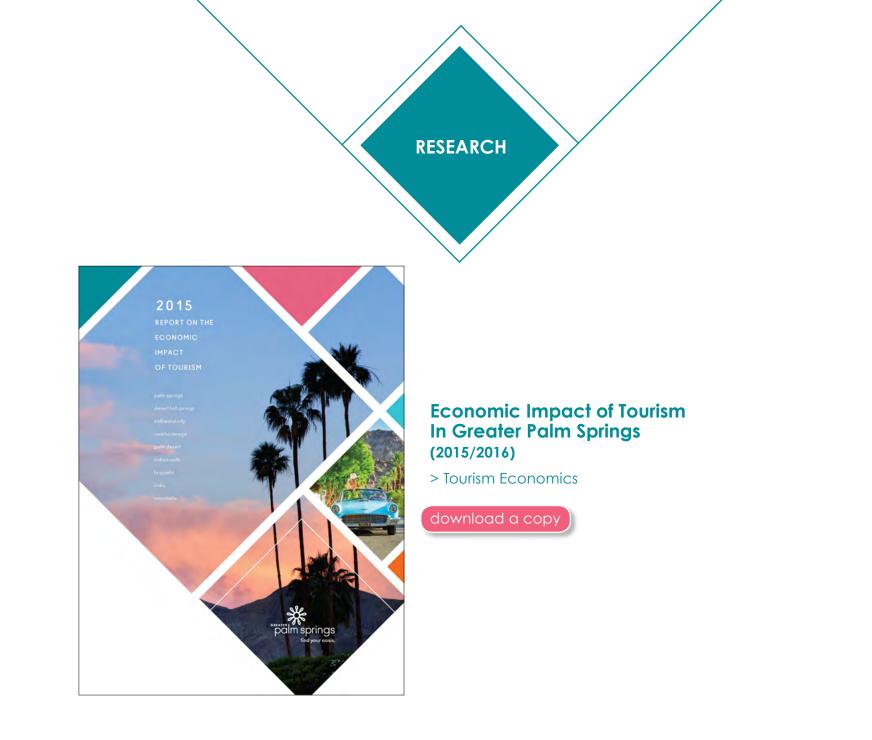




Destination Development Plan (2016)

> Convention Sports & Leisure



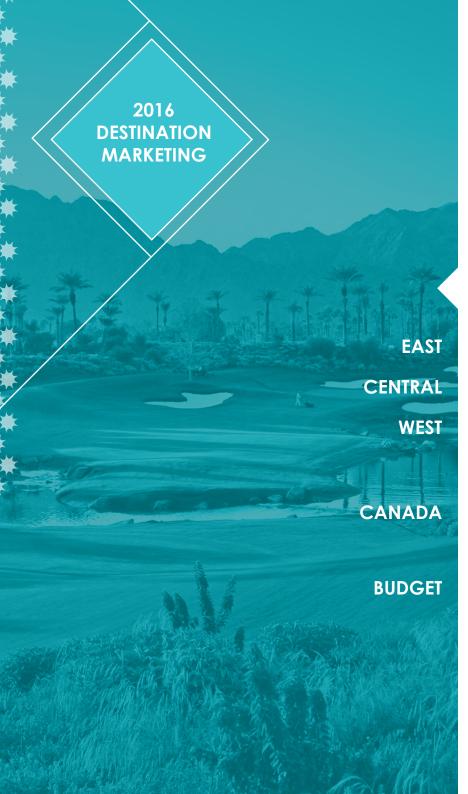






> Beresford Research





The 2016 Media Plan was divided into both geographic and seasonal/year-round markets. As a result of visitor spending research, in 2016 we changed strategy to include an "always on" marketing approach in our key drive markets that once were only marketed seasonally. Those key cities/areas included Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego, San Francisco, Sacramento, Phoenix and Las Vegas.

MARKETS

T New York City, Washington D.C., Baltimore

Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Minneapolis

Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego, Phoenix, Las Vegas, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland

Calgary, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Toronto

\$2,313,993

2016 DESTINATION MARKETING

· · · · · · · · ·

31+ billion Impressions generated	Y/Y Change ↑131%
819k Total number of television spots	† 9.8%
457 million Total number of out-of-home impressions	† 48 %
156.2 million Total number of print impressions	↓ 65%
30.9 billion Total number of television impressions	143 %
51+ million Total number of online advertising impressions	↓ 31%*

*In 2016, the CVB refocused online advertising efforts that resulted in less but more effective, targeted ads, yielding greater growth.







The CVB's 2016 National Marketing Campaign is associated with an **8-point lift in visitation** from the fly markets, the **highest incremental travel measure for GPS to date.**

PRINT

Alaska Airlines, WestJet Up, Allure, Conde Nast Traveler, Outside Magazine, Sunset Magazine, Coastal Living, Golf Annual Publications



Chicago, Seattle, Portland, Minneapolis, New York, Los Angeles, San Diego

BILLBOARDS



TELEVISION

Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Toronto, Winnipeg, Seattle, Portland, San Jose, Oakland, Sacramento, Chicago, Minneapolis, New York, Denver, Washington DC/Baltimore





JANUARY – DECEMBER

Historically, the CVB only marketed in the drive market during the Summer months. We are now marketing to the drive market annually.

MARKETS

Orange County San Diego Phoenix Las Vegas San Francisco

BUDGET \$1,001,658







PRINT	BILLBOARDS	TELEVISION
90 Days of Summer/Guide to Chill,	Los Angeles/Orange County,	Los Angeles/Orange County,
The Guide – Chill Section,	San Diego,	San Diego,
The Guide – GPSCVB,	San Francisco	San Francisco,
Westways (AAA), Via (AAA), Locale 78.4 million IMPRESSIONS	160.9 million IMPRESSIONS	Las Vegas, Phoenix 24.1 billion IMPRESSIONS







TELEVISION CO-OP CAMPAIGN **11 PARTNERS**

JW MARRIOTT. YourDesertPlayground.com PALM DESE















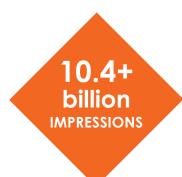




TIME WARNER CABLE

Los Angeles/ Orange County, San Diego, Seattle, Portland, Las Vegas, Phoenix

> **KTLA:** Los Angeles



TELEVISION CO-OP CAMPAIGN 5 PARTNERS



Palm Springs Bureau fo Tourism



City of Palm Desert



City of Indian Wells



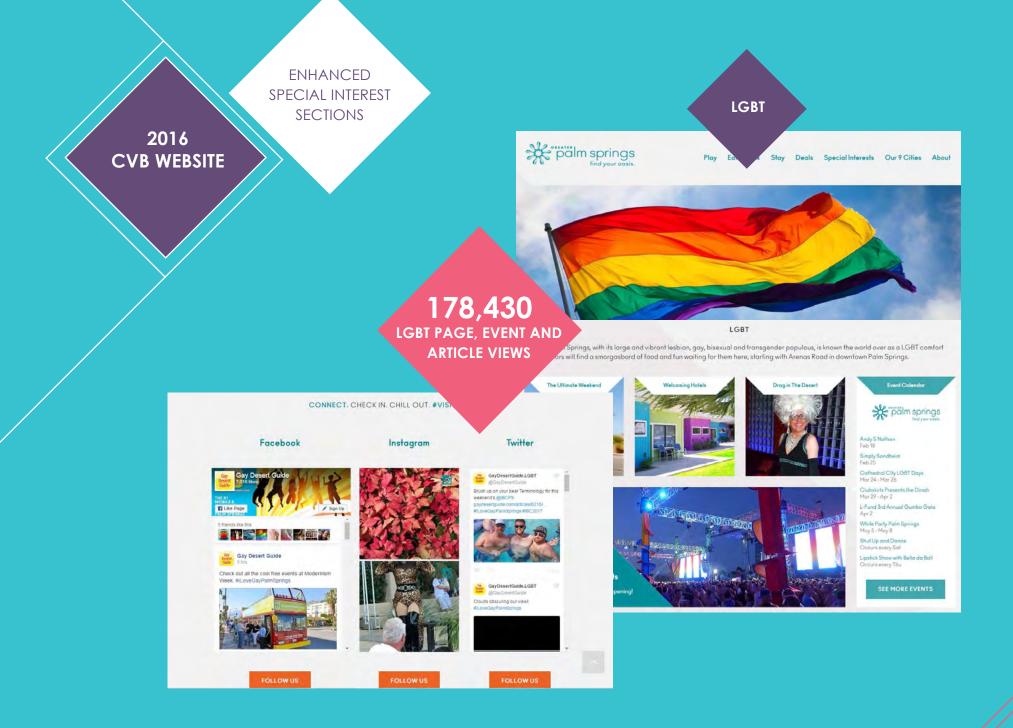
La Quinta Resort & Club



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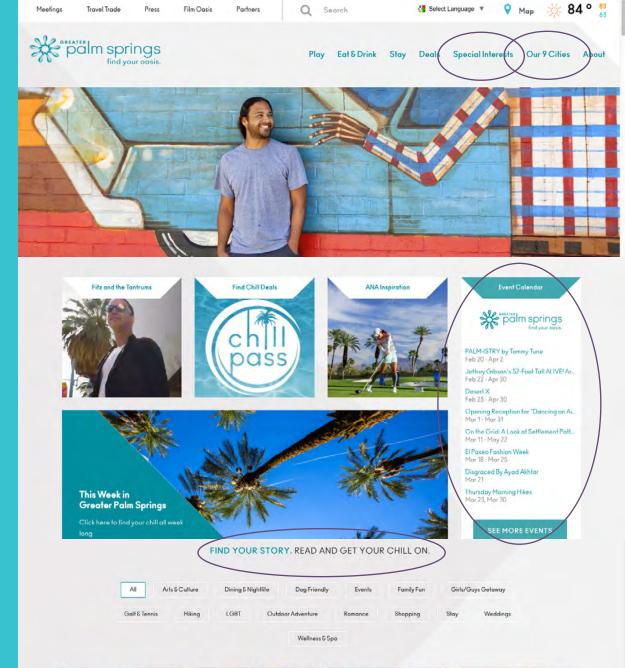
	Y/Y Change	
2.4 million Sessions on the website	1 26.54%	
6.6 million Page views	† 1 4 5.17%	
2.7 Pages per session	† 91.49%	
2:44 Average session duration	† 238.78%	
28.6% Bounce rate	↓ 16%	





REDESIGNED HOMEPAGE

- > Our 9 Cities
- > Special Interests
- > Calendar of Events
- > Articles





Wander List

Follow along as Appdag







Chill Chaser



High-Fashion Finds at Fashion Week El Paseo

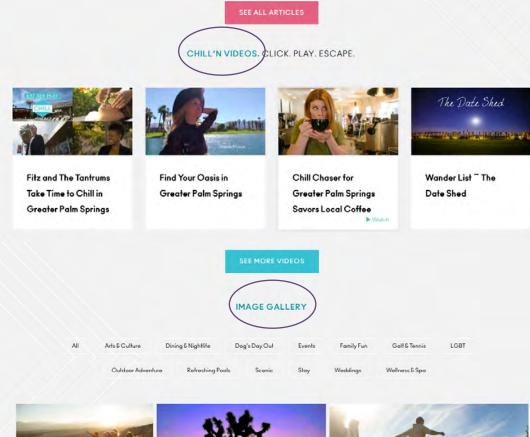
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REDESIGNED HOMEPAGE

> Featured Videos

- > Image Gallery
- > Social Media





CONNECT. CHECK IN. CHILL OUT. #VISITGPS

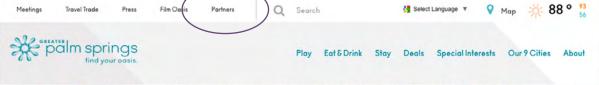


REDESIGNED PARTNER PAGES

The CVB works on behalf of its Partners to promote Greater Palm Springs by reaching visitors from around the world in ongoing sales and marketing efforts. The website has been redesigned to maximize the benefits of becoming a CVB Partner, including:

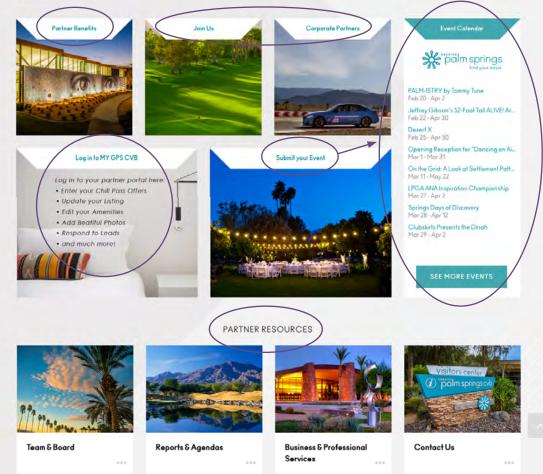
- >> Cost-saving Co-Op Sales and Marketing opportunities
- >> Free Chill Pass offers year-round
- >> Business Listing on the website
- >> Visitors Guide
- >> Business Connections & Networking Events
- >> Valuable Research Material
- >> Shared Event Calendar

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The Greater Palm Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) is the region's coordinating agency for tourism, marketing and promotional efforts aimed at leisure, corporate, incentive and convention group markets. The CVB works on behalf of its partners to promote Greater Palm Springs by reaching visitors from around the world through ongoing sales and marketing efforts. We invite you to learn more about the benefits of becoming a CVB Partner.



2016 SOCIAL MEDIA

Y/Y Change
66%
↑ 55%
↑ 3.6%
↑ 84%
↑ 68 %















NATIONAL PINK DAY YouTube: 19,704 views Facebook: 20,778 views Instagram: 826 views #ThatPinkDoor

NATIONAL NUDE DAY YouTube: 6,059 views Facebook: 30,401 views Instagram: 1,326 views

NATIONAL TAKE A HIKE DAY YouTube: 2,865 views Facebook: 2,412 views Instagram: 431 views

CHILL CHASER TKB BAKERY YouTube: **37,080 views** Facebook: **16,636 views**

SAN JACINTO ~ WANDER LIST YouTube: 83,901 views Facebook: 9,829 views

SAN JACINTO BEHIND THE SCENES ~ WANDER LIST Facebook: 5,988 views

2016 VIDEO CONTENT

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2016 RESTAURANT WEEK

134.2 million

TELEVISION IMPRESSIONS in Southern California & local markets

405 million

RESTAURANT

SPRINGS

SAVE the Dates

> Over 100 Restauran Hotels an Auractio

Celebrating 10 Years

palmspringsrestaurantweek.co

TOTAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS through press trips hosted by the CVB



2016 RESTAURANT WEEK WEBSITE

6.91 Average page views during a session

6:38 Average session duration

49,956 Total number of sessions

345,320 Total number of page views

\$54,400 Total cost for CVB to create the new Restaurant Week Website



The Perfect Three-Day Weekend in Palm Springs

by Jonah Flicker

2016 EARNED MEDIA

\$24+ million Earned media for destination

20% over 2015

\$1.8 billion Total circulation and unique views

CONDÉ NAST

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

39

NEWYORKPOST

Los Angeles Times

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2016 EARNED MEDIA

It's a

Neil Davey heads to California to follow this mouthwateringly good fruit from picking to packing and finds out dates are not just for Christmas.

> WORDS NEIL DAVEY PHOTOGE OK! LIFE&STYLE RECIPES MITZIE WILSON FOOD RECIPE





Escape to Palm Springs Ritz-Carlton, Ranci



Holiday like the stars in....

Soak up the action as the desert town plays host to the Coachella Music Festiva < SHOPPahn Canyon Drive



heeky's is a brunch institu

om) Tropicale

Drive in downtown the strip"). Or pick up

SPOT CELEBS 🛧

The GUIDE City

INSTYLE* Palm Springs

X

od's go-to playground since its '50s heyday.

including Marilyn Monroe and Frank Sinatra escaped to the southern Californian desert retreat Now. Palm Springs boasts 143 hotels. (60 shops and the world-famous Coachella Valley Music

and Arts Festival-and still offers more than 350 days of sunshine a year. Here's where to shop, stay and savour a spa day in the shimmening oasis by JANELLE GRODSKY and EHILY TAYLOR

Editor

Guides LOVE YOUR

CURLS EFFORTLESS CHIC DRESSING LAYER LIKE A STYLIST OUTDOOR PARTY

SIMPLE

ROWNJEW



for a weekend i Springs, Calif. That's partly true. Yes, Palm Springs — a charming resort city located about 100 miles cast of LA — is known for its vibrant LGBT culture. But look at bits breat threambe arise. this locale through a wide-angle lens and you'll see it's a thrilling destination with plenty of fun for al For instance, its buzzi downtown is home to the impressive Palm Springs

By ZACHARY KUSSIN

SNT that where

middle-aged ga guys vacation?"

everyone when I recently jetted off

id in sunny Pal

asked almost

com). Combine it all with new hotels, like the soon-to-debut V Palr Springs (from \$300; opalmspring com) and the 2014-opened Triada Palm Springs (from \$180; triadapalmsprings. com), plus a newly launched nonstop JetBlue flight from New York (from \$247 oneway; jetblue.com). The flight only returns to JFK as a red-eye, but this first-time direct ervice means it's a great ime to book your escape

President Ronald Reagan cel Here's how everyor et the most out of it. ebrated 18 New Year's Ever ad where Pres ixon sought refuge f

 and if you're not afraid of quick vertical ascents in a cable car that rotates as wind the your by Liberate's former manse and ket you walk through other homes. One stop for strolling is the glassy hillside-perched Frey. House II, designed and lived in by architect Albert Frey. it climbs - take the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway (\$24.95 for adults; pstramw com) to Mount San Jacinto which overlooks all of Palm Springs below. State Park, whose summi towers a whopping 10,834 feet above sea level (parks ca.gov). Hardcore hikers Nearby in Rancho Mirage stands the Sunnylands estate — the 25,000-squarecan actually traverse all the can actually traverse au the way up to the granite peak, but folks who aren't as fit can check out the mile-long foot mid-century mansion where Walter Annenberg, ambassador to the UK, and wife Lenore spent their win nature walk through the wooded Long Valley, located just off the tramway's stop. If you want to stay at ters (\$40; sunnvlands.org) You can't take photos, but you can get an in-depth look of the sprawling home, when

will drive you by Liberace's

ground level visit nearby Joshua Tree Park (\$20

AUGUST 2016

5 FRESH

& MAKEUP

NEW BAGS

WHAT TO WEAR NOW

& LATER

UPDATES THE BEST



IN 2016, THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Hosted 78 individual media visits and 41 FAMS Participated in 18 Media Missions

and events, both domestically and internationally, resulting in 640 Total earned articles that included 2000 Partner mentions covering Greater Palm Springs

Focused on niche targets, such as LGBT, resulting in **12 million** total circulation and unique views for LGBT businesses



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Travel Industry Sales works directly with domestic and international travel agents, tour operators and receptive operators through different sales and training channels to ensure that Palm Springs stands out as a unique travel destination worldwide.

Greater Palm Springs has international representation in the following countries:



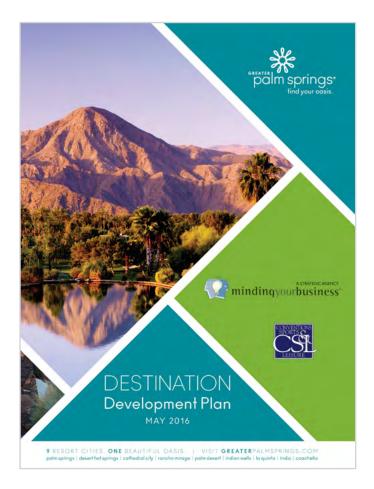




396	Clients hosted in the destination during the 30 FAMs from Australia, China, Canada, France, Germany, India Ireland, South Korea, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and United States	1	20%
7,06	4 Travel professionals met with at 21 appointment based trade shows	1	12.9%
	ales missions and client events attended n behalf of CVB Partners	ł	5.8%
1,24	Travel professionals reached through 29 webinars and destination trainings	ł	31%

Y/Y Change





GROW VISITATION FROM 12.8 million

16.8 million BY 2026

RECOMMENDATIONS

- > Increase Transportation
- > Support Higher Education
- > Grow Outdoor Adventure
- > Support Arts & Culture
- > Health & Wellness
- > Destination wayfinding & entry conditions
- > Eco-sustainability
- > Increase Sales & Marketing Collaboration



In order to implement recommendations in the Destination Development Plan completed in spring 2016, a new Marketing position was created. The Director of Destination Development is tasked with guiding and developing the Destination Plan priorities and implementing selected programs, working closely with our Partners.

Initial programs include:

- Year-Round Dining Promotion
- Outdoor Adventure
- Health and Wellness
- Eco Sustainability

- "One Pass" concept promotion that encourages all city Partners to participate in marketing key attractions.
- Signage and wayfinding creation for hiking trails

ARTS, CULTURE & EDUCATION

- The CVB helped create the California Desert Arts Council and contributes \$50,000 a year
- The CVB contributed \$25,000
 to Cal State University of San
 Bernardino, Palm Desert
 to help start the hospitality school

SALTON SEA ADVOCACY

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

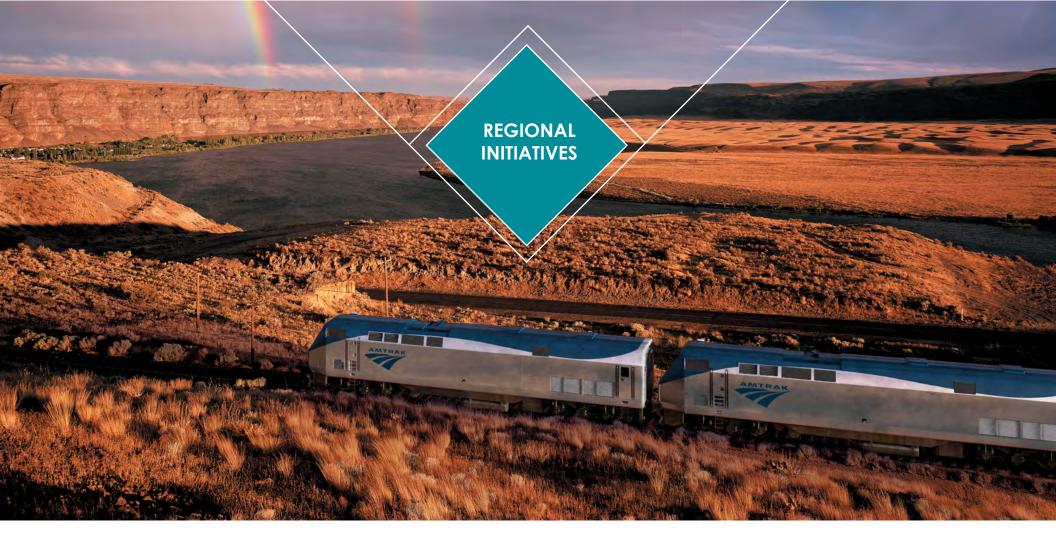
> In April 2014, the CVB completed a tourism impact study, conducted by Tourism Economics, on the potential economic impact of the Salton Sea on tourism if nothing is done to mitigate the current deterioration

• \$1.3 billion to \$6.5 billion in lost tourism spending over 5 years

FILM INITIATIVE

CVB has created a new position and film friendly website to help promote film production for the valley

- Supporting incoming productions:
 >> Visit California Joe Montana commercial
 - >> Raid Amazones French TV
- Launched Film Oasis Advisory
 Committee that includes tourism representatives
- Co-hosted American Documentary Film Festival Global Filmmakers FAM, \$3,000 cost
- Seven production desk side meetings with TV/Film executives in LA
- Five film/TV project referrals to Janice Lopez, PS Film Permit Officer, for locations, permits etc.

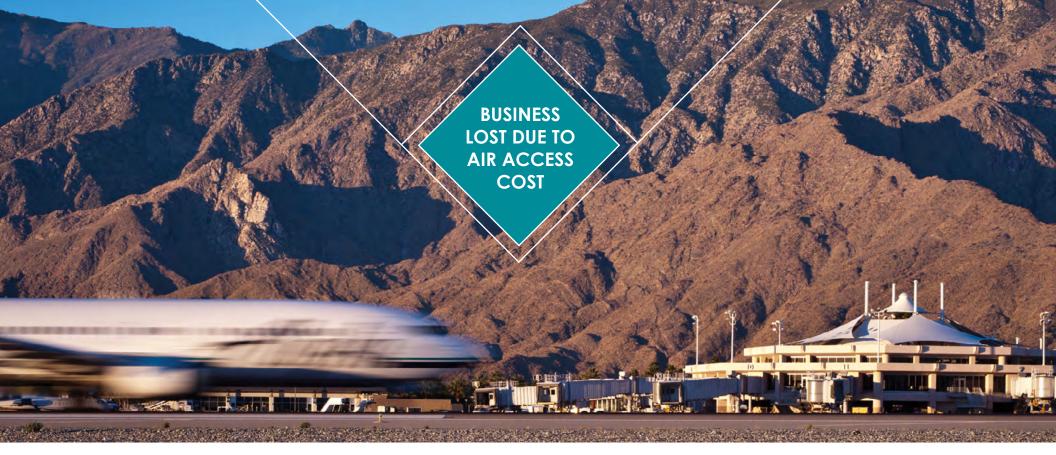


TRANSPORTATION

Grow year-round air access - sustained financial commitment needed

I-10 beautification and HWY 60 widening

Support long-term focus on rail



YEAR	MEETINGS	ROOM NIGHTS	DELEGATES
2016	62	28,098	16,665
2015	38	46,442	14,657
2014	26	64,246	16,623
2013	36	64,214	21,290
2012	32	21,334	15,012
2011	32	28,277	13,905
2010	44	33,510	14,813
2009	70	23,386	14,603
2008	40	43,062	19,931
2007	20	76,672	29,570
Total	400	429,241	177,069



- FAA regulations will not allow the airport to negotiate minimum revenue guaranty contracts
- Any incentive provided by the airport must be available to all carriers
- CVB utilizes excess funds to attract new service, however model is not sustainable

- CVB hired InterVISTAS to assist with air service development; City of Palm Springs contributes up to 50% of the fees
- CVB, Palm Springs International Airport and Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism attend air service conferences annually and have met with Southwest Airlines, American, United, Alaska, Westjet, Delta, Air Canada and Allegiant



AIR SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

CVB CONTRACTED AND FUNDED THE FOLLOWING NEW AIR SERVICE:

1) JetBlue: non-stop service from JFK to PSP

>> 2016 Jan 1 – April 30

>> 2016/17 Nov 13 – April 30

2) American: non-stop service to Chicago beginning in October instead of Mid-November (critical for both group and consumer)

>> 2014, 2015 & 2016

3) WestJet: increased service from Toronto from 2x per week to 4x per week

>> Nov 2015 – April 2016

JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (JPA) CHAIR: Linda Evans, Mayor, City of La Quinta VICE CHAIR: Stan Henry, Mayor, City of Cathedral City Richard Balocco, Mayor, City of Indian Wells Jan Harnik, Mayor, City of Palm Desert Dana Hobart, Council Member, City of Rancho Mirage Elaine Holmes, Mayor, City of Indio Scott Matas, Mayor, City of Desert Hot Springs Robert Moon, Mayor, City of Palm Springs Member, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

GPSCVB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR: Tom Tabler, General Manager, JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa

VICE CHAIR: Rolf Hoehn, Director of Business Development, Indian Wells Tennis Garden

SECRETARY: Robert Del Mas, General Manager, Empire Polo Club & Event Facility

TREASURER: Aftab Dada, General Manager, Hilton Palm Springs Resort

Bruce Abney, Owner/Innkeeper, El Morocco Inn

Rick B. Axelrod, MD, Immediate Past President, Coachella Valley Economic Partnership

Lorraine Becker, Immediate Past President, Cabot's Pueblo Museum

Tony Bruggemans, General Manager, Le Vallauris Restaurant

James Canfield, General Manager, Palm Springs Convention Center

Gary Cardiff, Owner/President, Cardiff Limousine & Transportation

Paul Cherrett

Jay Chesterton, Vice President of Hotel Operations and Food & Beverage, Fantasy Springs Resort Casino

Tim Ellis, General Manager, Palm Mountain Resort & Spa

Lance Levitt, Director of Sales and Marketing, Hospitality and Tourism, Southern California, Enterprise Rent-A-Car

Jay Mainthia, General Manager/Owner, LaMere, LLC, dba Indio Super 8 & Suites

Harold Matzner, Owner, Spencer's Restaurant

Michael McLean, CEO/Owner, McLean Company Rentals

Allen Monroe, President/CEO, The Living Desert

Lee Morcus, Owner, Kaiser Restaurant Group

Thomas Nolan, Executive Director, Palm Springs International Airport (PSP)

Brad Poncher, General Manager, Homewood Suites by Hilton, La Quinta **Greg Purdy, Public Affairs Manager,** Palm Springs Aerial Tramway

Tom Scaramellino, General Manager, Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa

Bob Schneider, President and CEO, Desert Adventures Red Jeep Tours & Events

Doug Sears, General Manager, Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa

Barb Smith, Partner, Access Palm Springs

Kelly Steward, General Manager, The Ritz-Carlton, Rancho Mirage

Kari Stout-Smith, General Manager, Spa Resort Casino

John Trudeau, General Manager, Two Bunch Palms Resort

Doug Watson, General Manager, DoubleTree by Hilton



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800.967.3767 | 760.770.9000

palm springs

desert hot springs

cathedral city

rancho mirage

palm desert

indian wells

la quinta

indio

coachella



9 RESORT CITIES. ONE BEAUTIFUL OASIS. VISITGREATERPALMSPRINGS.COM