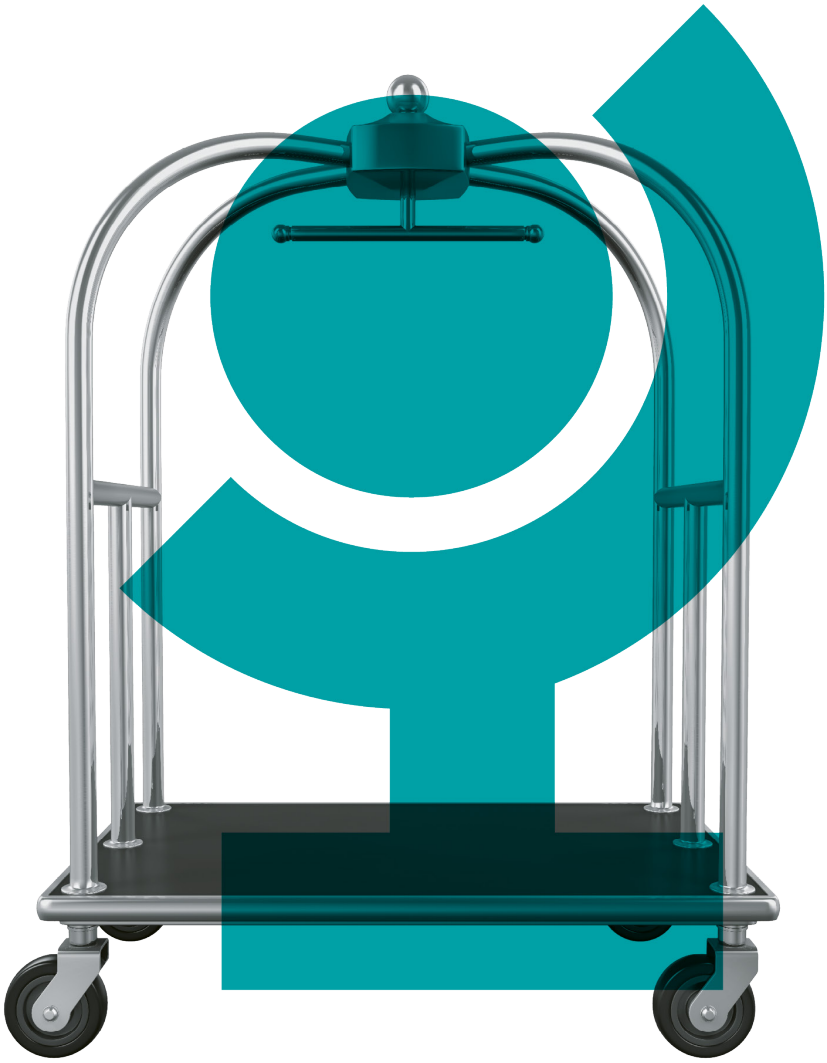
Sectors & Industries

Hotels and Leisure



Schellenberg Wittmer

Tourism is a major sector in Switzerland. As a Swiss law firm covering all regions, Schellenberg Wittmer advises hotel chains and investors on all legal matters in the hospitality industry including acquisitions, disposals, developments, construction, leasing, management and operation of hotels. Our client base comprises corporate owners and high net worth individuals among others. We are dedicated providing result-driven legal representation in the complex legal and regulatory hotel industry.

> “They are hands-on, flexible, patient and knowledgeable.”
>
> Chambers Europe

Expertise

- Acquisition and sale of hotels
- Hotel management contracts
- Franchise agreements, hotel lease agreements and all related agreements
- Financing of hotel acquisitions or refurbishments / renovations
- Hotel developments as well as land use and zoning law
- Total contractor, general work contracts for the construction of hotels as well as architect agreements
- Hotel joint venture agreements
- All aspects of the travel industry, such as agency and marketing agreements, aviation law, food law, employment law, data protection, advertising, and all applicable COVID legislation or ordinance

Deals and Cases

- We regularly advise SV Group AG on the conclusion of long-term lease agreements for hotel projects with the franchisor Marriott
- Advice to foreign clients for the legal and tax due diligence for the acquisition and the sale of two different five-star hotels in Geneva as well as the negotiation and the signing of a hotel management contract
- Advice to a foreign client in the Middle East for the acquisition of the Hôtel Beaulac, the sole four-star business hotel of Neuchâtel, the financing of the transaction and a major refurbishment of the building. Our partner Yves Jeanrenaud is a member of the board of directors of the company holding the hotel
- Advice to a foreign client involving the legal and tax due diligence for the acquisition of a three-star hotel in Geneva near the main railway station
- Advice to a foreign client for the legal and tax due diligence for the acquisition of a two-star hotel, the negotiation and the signing of a franchise agreement with the ACCOR group
- Advice to a Chinese investor for the acquisition of a five-star resort hotel in the Canton of Vaud through the transfer of a business agreement concerning all assets and liabilities
- Advice to a foreign investor for the acquisition of a well-located Japanese restaurant in Geneva situated on the ground-floor of a condominium property
- Advice to investors from Saudi Arabia for the termination of a hotel management agreement and for a technical and pre-opening services agreement concerning a five-star hotel in Jeddah
- Advice to the owner of a five-star hotel in Geneva for the negotiation, drafting and signing of various leases for the creation of a retail luxury shop and of a restaurant in the hotel premises
- Advice to H.I.G. Capital Group in the acquisition of the 238-room hotel property at the Congress Center and Messe Basel

Recognitions

The group and leading practitioners are highly ranked among leading law firms across international directories and publications:

- Chambers Europe in Real Estate
- Legal 500 in Real Estate & Construction
- Lexology Index Switzerland

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> **“Schellenberg Wittmer has the agility to adapt to each client. The team is responsive and has knowledge of the law”**

Chambers Europe

>150 lawyers
15 languages
30 nationalities
21 practice areas
15 sectors and industries
1,978 years of experience
Collaboration with 300 law firms worldwide in more than 50 jurisdictions

Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd is your leading Swiss business law firm with more than 150 lawyers in Zurich and Geneva, and an office in Singapore. We take care of all your legal needs – transactions, advisory, disputes.

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