

FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT CALIFORNIA



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Bikram, Inc. offers a franchise for the operation of a yoga studio featuring a unique form of hatha yoga instruction that is taught in a room with specific temperature and humidity conditions.

The total investment necessary to begin operation of a Bikram Yoga franchise ranges from \$210,350 to \$541,700. This includes an amount ranging from \$22,000 to \$37,000 that must be paid to us and our affiliate.

This Disclosure Document summarizes certain provisions of your franchise agreement and other information in plain English. Read this Disclosure Document and all accompanying agreements carefully. You must receive this Disclosure Document at least 14 calendar days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make any payment to, the franchisor or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale. Note, however, that no government agency has verified the information contained in this document.

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Don't rely on the Disclosure Document alone to understand your contract. Read all of your contract carefully. Show your contract and this Disclosure Document to an advisor, like a lawyer or accountant.

Buying a franchise is a complex investment. The information in this Disclosure Document can help you make up your mind. More information on franchising, such as "A Consumer's Guide to Buying a Franchise," which can help you understand how to use this Disclosure Document, is available from the Federal Trade Commission (the "FTC"). You can contact the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. You can also visit the FTC's home page at www.ftc.gov for additional information. Call your state agency or visit your public library for other sources of information on franchising.

There may also be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

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State Cover Page

Your state may have a franchise law that requires a franchisor to register or file with a state franchise administrator before offering or selling in your state. REGISTRATION OF A FRANCHISE BY A STATE DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE STATE RECOMMENDS THE FRANCHISE OR HAS VERIFIED THE INFORMATION IN THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

Call the state franchise administrator listed in <u>EXHIBIT "A"</u> for information about the franchisor, or about franchising in your state.

MANY FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS DO NOT ALLOW YOU TO RENEW UNCONDITIONALLY AFTER THE INITIAL TERM EXPIRES. YOU MAY HAVE TO SIGN A NEW AGREEMENT WITH DIFFERENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE YOUR BUSINESS. BEFORE YOU BUY, CONSIDER WHAT RIGHTS YOU HAVE TO RENEW YOUR FRANCHISE, IF ANY, AND WHAT TERMS YOU MIGHT HAVE TO ACCEPT IN ORDER TO RENEW.

Please consider the following RISK FACTORS before you buy this franchise:

- 1. THERE IS NO EXCLUSIVE TERRITORY ASSOCIATED WITH THIS FRANCHISE. THEREFORE, WE AND OTHER BIKRAM YOGA FRANCHISEES MAY DIRECTLY COMPETE WITH YOU.
- 2. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT REQUIRES THAT ALL DISAGREEMENTS BE SETTLED BY MEDIATION, ARBITRATION OR LITIGATION IN CALIFORNIA. OUT-OF-STATE MEDIATION, ARBITRATION OR LITIGATION MAY FORCE YOU TO ACCEPT A LESS FAVORABLE SETTLEMENT FOR DISPUTES. IT MAY ALSO COST MORE TO MEDIATE, ARBITRATE OR LITIGATE WITH US IN CALIFORNIA THAN IN YOUR HOME STATE.
- 3. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT STATES THAT CALIFORNIA LAW GOVERNS THE AGREEMENT, AND THIS LAW MAY NOT PROVIDE THE SAME PROTECTIONS AND BENEFITS AS LOCAL LAW. YOU MAY WANT TO COMPARE THESE LAWS.
- 4. THE FRANCHISOR HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN TO OFFER FRANCHISES. THEREFORE, THERE IS ONLY A BRIEF OPERATING HISTORY TO ASSIST YOU IN JUDGING WHETHER TO MAKE THIS INVESTMENT.
- 5. ALL FRANCHISE OWNERS AND THEIR SPOUSES MUST SIGN A GUARANTY AND ASSUMPTION OF OBLIGATIONS MAKING THE OWNERS AND THEIR SPOUSES JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY LIABLE FOR ALL OBLIGATIONS OF THE FRANCHISE WHETHER OR NOT SUCH SPOUSE IS INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION OF THE FRANCHISE BUSINESS. THIS REQUIREMENT PLACES THE PERSONAL ASSETS OF THE FRANCHISE OWNER AND THEIR SPOUSE AT RISK.

6. THE	RE MAY BE	OTHER RISKS	CONCERNING	THIS FRANCHISE.
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