

## FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT



# Red Lion Hotels Franchising, Inc., a Washington Corporation 1550 Market Street, Suite 350 Denver, Colorado 80202 Telephone Number: (509) 459-6100 www.redlion.com

The franchise offered in this disclosure document is for the right to operate a lodging facility using our proprietary network of systems and to utilize our brand name (Country Hearth) and proprietary marks.

The total investment necessary to begin operations in our system ranges from \$9,000 to \$609,094. These amounts include the \$4,000 to \$14,094 that must be paid to us.

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 governmental agency has verified the information contained in this document.** 

You may wish to receive your disclosure document in another format that is more convenient for you. To discuss the availability of disclosures in different formats, please contact the Franchise Development Department at Red Lion Hotels Franchising, Inc., 201 W. North River Drive, Spokane, Washington 99201; at (509) 777-6643; or at development@rlhco.com.

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 an 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. You can contact the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580. You also can 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 also may be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

#### Issuance Date: March 28, 2019



#### 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 FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

Call the state franchise administrator listed in Exhibit A 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. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT REQUIRES YOU TO RESOLVE DISPUTES WITH US BY LITIGATION ONLY IN COLORADO. OUT OF STATE LITIGATION MAY FORCE YOU TO ACCEPT A LESS FAVORABLE SETTLEMENT FOR DISPUTES. IT MAY ALSO COST YOU MORE TO LITIGATE WITH US IN COLORADO THAN IN YOUR HOME STATE.

2. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT STATES THAT COLORADO LAW GOVERNS THE AGREEMENT, AND THIS LAW MAY NOT PROVIDE THE SAME PROTECTION AND BENEFITS AS LOCAL LAW. YOU MAY WANT TO COMPARE THESE LAWS.

3. THE TERRITORY IS NOT EXCLUSIVE. YOU MAY FACE COMPETITION FROM OTHER FRANCHISEES, FROM FRANCHISOR OWNED OUTLETS OR FROM OTHER CHANNELS OF DISTRIBUTION OR COMPETITIVE BRANDS FRANCHISOR CONTROLS.

4. WE DO NOT HAVE A FEDERAL REGISTRATION FOR OUR PRINCIPAL TRADEMARK. THEREFORE, OUR TRADEMARK DOES NOT HAVE AS MANY LEGAL BENEFITS AND RIGHTS AS A FEDERALLY REGISTERED TRADEMARK. IF OUR RIGHT TO USE THE TRADEMARK IS CHALLENGED, YOU MAY HAVE TO CHANGE TO AN ALTERNATIVE TRADEMARK WHICH MAY INCREASE YOUR EXPENSES.

5. YOU MAY LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO USE OUR TRADEMARKS IF YOU FAIL TO MAINTAIN A TRIP ADVISOR<sup>®</sup> SCORE OF AT LEAST 2.0.

6. THERE MAY BE OTHER RISKS CONCERNING THIS FRANCHISE.

We may use the services of one or more franchise brokers or referral sources to assist us in selling our franchise. A franchise broker or referral source represents us, not you. We pay this person a fee for selling our franchise or referring you to us. You should be sure to do your own investigation of the franchise.

Effective Date: See the next page for state effective dates.



# **STATE EFFECTIVE DATES**

The following states require that the disclosure document be registered or filed with the state, or be exempt from registration: California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

This disclosure document is registered, on file or exempt from registration in the following states having franchise registration and disclosure laws, with the following effective dates:

California effective date:	, 20	)19
Hawaii effective date:	pending	
Illinois effective date:	exempt	
Indiana effective date:	, 20	)19
Maryland effective date:	, 20	)19
Michigan effective date:	March 28, 2019	
Minnesota effective date:	, 20	)19
New York effective date:	exempt	
North Dakota effective date:	, 20	)19
Rhode Island effective date:	, 20	)19
South Dakota effective date:	, 20	)19
Virginia effective date:	, 20	)19
Washington effective date:	, 20	)19
Wisconsin effective date:	, 20	)19

In all other states that do not require registration, the effective date of this disclosure document is the issuance date of March 28, 2019.

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