



## **OUTPERFORM**

Current Share Price (€): 2.84 Target Price (€): 5.55

#### **Xenia - Performance since IPO**



Source: S&P Capital IQ - Note: 06/11/2023 (IPO offer price)=100

#### **Company data**

ISIN number	IT0005568487
Bloomberg code	XHS IM
Reuters code	XHS.MI
Industry	Hospitality
Stock market	Euronext Growth Milan
Share Price (€)	2.84
Date of Price	22/04/2024
Shares Outstanding (m)	3.2
Market Cap (€m)	9.1
Market Float (%)	25.4%
Daily Volume	0
Avg Daily Volume since IPO	198
Target Price (€)	5.55
Upside (%)	95%
Recommendation	OUTPERFORM

#### Share price performance

	1M	3M	IPO
Xenia - Absolute (%)	7%	-2%	1%
FTSE Italia Growth Index (%)	-1%	-3%	5%
IPO Range H/L (€)		2.98	2.60
IPO Change (€) / %		0.02	1%

Source: S&P Capital IQ

#### **Analysts**

Luigi Tardella - Head of Research Itardella@envent.it Viviana Sepe vsepe@envent.it Ivan Tromba itromba@envent.it

#### EnVent Italia SIM S.p.A.

Via degli Omenoni, 2 - 20121 Milano (Italy) Phone +39 02 22175979

This Note is issued by arrangement with MIT SIM, Issuer's Specialist

This document may not be distributed in the United States, Canada, Japan or Australia or to U.S. persons.

## On track, hotels acquisitions support planned path

#### Stock trading update: in line with the market

Since IPO, Xenia share price has been fairly stable in the range €2.60-€3.00, in line with the IPO price of €2.82 (+1%) and overall with the Italia Growth index which in the same period recorded +5%.

## FY23 performance: all indicators suggesting growth

Xenia FY23 gross revenues were €50.1m, +11% YoY, mainly driven by accommodation (€38.1m, +7% YoY) and hotel management (€11.1m, +24% YoY); hotel distribution reached €0.8m, +60% YoY. Revenues net of partner services (mainly accommodation reserved room rates) were €16.4m, +15% YoY. EBITDA increased by 31% YoY to €4.5m, 27% on net revenues (24% in FY22) and 9% on gross revenues (vs 7.6% in FY22). Net income was €1.4m, +69% YoY. Net financial debt decreased from €10.1m in FY22 to €6.2m as of year-end 2023, also thanks to €2.3m IPO proceeds; excluding IFRS 16 net financial debt would be €0.7m, from €2.3m in FY22.

#### New 4-star hotel under management in Northern Italy, others to come

Xenia recently acquired the 4-star Hotel Principe di Piemonte in Cuneo, with 50 rooms, starting operations under the proprietary brand PHI Hotels in April 2024. In addition, Xenia entered into long-term rental agreements for three buildings, respectively located in Rome, Turin and Savona, to be reconverted into hotels. Currently, the PHI Hotels chain consists of a portfolio of seven 4-star hotels in Italy, mainly located in Emilia Romagna and other regions in Northern Italy.

#### Outlook: tourism above 2019, business travel positive momentum

International tourism is likely to grow over pre-pandemic levels, with gross bookings for hôtellerie expected to have double-digit growth in 2024. Business travel industry anticipates strong but challenging coming years.

#### Target Price €5.55 per share and OUTPERFORM rating confirmed

FY23 financial performance, that we factor in our model, was in line with our estimates, as such we keep unchanged our 2024-25 assumptions and estimates. Our updated valuation leads to confirm the target price at €5.55 per share, 95% upside on current share price, and OUTPERFORM rating on the stock.

32.6 9.1 0.8 2.6% (0.3) 0.0% (0.3)	45.1 14.6 3.4 7.6% 1.2 3.8% 0.9	50.1 16.6 4.5 8.9% 2.1 5.1% 1.4	60.0 24.4 6.7 11.2% 2.8 5.8% 2.0	72.5 33.4 8.4 11.5% 3.3 5.7% 2.4
0.8 2.6% (0.3) 0.0% (0.3)	3.4 7.6% 1.2 3.8% 0.9	4.5 8.9% 2.1 5.1% 1.4	6.7 11.2% 2.8 5.8% 2.0	8.4 11.5% 3.3 5.7% 2.4
2.6% (0.3) 0.0% (0.3)	7.6% 1.2 3.8% 0.9	8.9% 2.1 5.1% 1.4	11.2% 2.8 5.8% 2.0	11.5% 3.3 5.7% 2.4
(0.3) 0.0% (0.3)	1.2 3.8% 0.9	2.1 5.1% 1.4	2.8 5.8% 2.0	3.3 5.7% 2.4
0.0% (0.3)	3.8% <b>0.9</b>	5.1% <b>1.4</b>	5.8% <b>2.0</b>	5.7% <b>2.4</b>
(0.3)	0.9	1.4	2.0	2.4
` '				
14.1)	(10.1)	(C 2)		
		(6.2)	(9.2)	(9.2)
1.6	2.8	5.6	7.6	10.0
2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E
16.9x	3.0x	1.4x	1.4x	1.1x
neg	30%	26%	26%	24%
na	1.1x	0.9x	0.6x	0.5x
				4.6x
_	neg	neg 30% na 1.1x	neg 30% 26% na 1.1x 0.9x	neg 30% 26% 26%

Source: Company data 2020-23A, EnVent Research 2024-25E



## Market update

75

50 <del>|</del> 06/11/23

Trading price range €2.60-2.98 per share

Stable performance for Xenia, +1% since IPO, vs +5% of the Italia Growth Index 150 5,000 Xenia IPO offer 4,500 Xenia ending price €2.82 4,000 price €2.84 125 3,500 +1% 3,000 100 2,500 2,000 1,500

06/02/24

06/03/24

1,000 500

Xenia Volumes —Xenia Share Price —FTSE Italia Growth Index

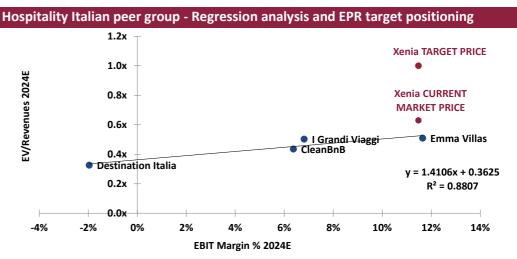
Source: EnVent Research on S&P Capital IQ - Note: 06/11/2023 (IPO offer price)=100

06/01/24

06/12/23

Xenia - Share price performance and trading volumes since IPO

Fair correlation within the group, but limited number of peers and diverse business models



Source: EnVent Research on S&P Capital IQ, April 2024

#### **Investment case**

Xenia Hôtellerie Solution SpA *Benefit Corporation* is an Italian hospitality company operating for over 30 years in the travel and tourism industry. The core business is B2B accommodation services to crews (railway companies, airlines, cruise and shipping lines, construction teams engaged in medium/long-term projects), complemented by hotel management under the proprietary brand PHI Hotels, with a portfolio of hotels located in Italy, mainly in Emilia Romagna and Northern regions, and a distribution platform enabling transactions between hotels and travel agencies.



#### **Historical revenues and EBITDA** 70 27% 30% 24% 25% 50.1 45.1 50 39.3 16% 20% 32.6 15% 10% 30 24.9 10% 16.4 14.3 5% 8.5 10 4.5 3.4 0.8 0% -1% 2020 2019 2021 2022 2023 -10 -5% Gross revenues (€m) - left ■ Net revenues (€m) - left

Source: EnVent Research on Company data - Write-down of trade receivables and provisions are included in other operating costs, before EBITDA, as per international practice standards

--- Margin on Net revenues % - right

#### **Drivers**

#### **Industry drivers**

EBITDA (€m) - left

**Tourism rebound in Italy.** After recovery in 2022, with Europe at nearly 80% of prepandemic levels, 2023 has seen international tourist arrivals reaching close of prepandemic levels in Europe. Demand from the US will continue to push flows towards Europe. In addition, the lifting of travel restrictions in China as of early 2023 marks the return of tourists abroad. In this scenario, Italy is among the most desirable destinations, ready to have another booming year, hosting a record high over last 10 years of over 442m overnight stays in tourist accommodations in 2023 (+12% YoY). Tourist arrivals are estimated in 127m in 2023 (+11% YoY), almost recovering the 2019 level (source: Demoskopika, *Tourism forecast 2023*, March 2023).

Ongoing recovery in global business travel. Amid new working patterns, ongoing flexible arrangements and increased use of technology, business travel is likely to recoverpre-pandemic levels at a slower pace compared to leisure tourism. While business travel has struggled to come back as strongly as leisure travel, the *Work from Anywhere* trend, the socialization of business travel and the resumption of live events, conferences, fairs and exhibitions are supporting corporate travel comeback.

**Demand drives supply of accommodation solutions.** Over the last years, the stock of accommodation, traditionally represented by hotels, has been enlarged by private players, homeowners of apartments/houses/villas available for rentals, perceived as flexible solutions and supported by guest experience, rapid growth in the global middle-class and low-cost flights. New industry trends such as *Work from Anywhere*, *Bleisure* and *Staycation* have driven blending of different segments of accommodation: hotels offering short/mid-term rental accommodations, traditional rental operators providing hotel-style services.



Blended travel: a new trend emerged with pandemic, here to stay. Combining a work trip with an extended vacation, blended travel is poised to take over traditional business travel. After some challenging years, Bleisure travel opens up new opportunities in the hospitality industry, with companies aiming to adjust and tailor their services to a new type of traveler. According to Skift Research, a travel industry researcher, 2 out of 5 employees have requested blended travel according to travel managers and the number of business trips containing a weekend has increased from 31% in 2019 to 38% in 2022 (source: Skift Research, *State of travel 2022*, 2022).

Growing demand for experiential travel and food and wine tourism in Italy. Market growth is being fueled by demand for travel experiences involving a deeper emotional level through customized adventurous and more attuned to local culture experiences. In addition, food and wine-making, an integral part of the history and identity of most destinations in Italy, represent an opportunity to revitalize and diversify tourism and experiences.

Continued technology improvements in hospitality. Hotels, from global and regional chains to independent hotels and small to medium-sized chains, use a number of different technology systems to manage pricing, reservations and distribute their available rooms, and continue to seek increased connectivity and integrated solutions to ensure access to global travelers.

## **Company drivers**

**Experience and know-how in accommodation.** Born as a business travel company, with over 30 years of experience in accommodation, Xenia is today among the main B2B players in the accommodation industry in Italy, leveraging on the industry background, expertise and relationships of its management team.

**Business mix integrated around hospitality.** The selling proposition of accommodation services to B2B and B2C customers and the integrated business model built around hospitality, with three different businesses, is designed to facilitate cross-selling opportunities.

**Hotel portfolio under management.** The hotel chain under the PHI Hotels brand consists of a portfolio of seven 4-star hotels in Italy, mainly located in Emilia Romagna and other regions in the North of Italy, diversified as to price, service points, target guests.

Tech hotel distribution platform to serve the uncovered segment of independent hotels and small to medium-sized chains. The proprietary hotel distribution platform XENIAtoBOOK connects hoteliers with travel agencies and other travel partners to retail and distribute accommodation, namely rooms in hotels, B&B and apartments. Being integrated with major channel managers and Global Distribution Systems, Xenia platform is designed to fill the technology gap of independent hotels and small to medium-sized hotel chains.



**Asset-light business, growth does not require huge capex.** Xenia, as common in the industry, takes advantage of opportunities to acquire hotels or hotels right of use. As such, it has an asset-light business model and operates with lower capital requirements compared to other players.

**Self-commitment for social responsibility and sustainability.** Xenia has been a *Benefit Corporation* since 2021, a qualification for profit-corporates based on the positive impact on community, workers and environment, as legally defined goals in addition to profit (law 208/2015). Since 2023, Xenia is also a *B Corp*, a company verified by B Lab, a nonprofit international network, to meet standards of social and environmental performance, transparency and accountability.

### **Challenges**

**Revenue concentration.** The revenue concentration in the accommodation business on few B2B customers is a risk factor for volume reductions and pricing pressures. In addition, contracts in the industry last in most cases 12-24 months and thus are subject to tenders or negotiations and renewal.

Picking the right locations for hotel portfolio expansion aiming to become a national chain. PHI Hotels portfolio is presently limited in number of hotels and geographical concentration. With portfolio enlargement as one of the pillars of corporate strategy, it is crucial to target complementary locations. Significant marketing and communication resources should be devoted to build awareness around PHI Hotels, presently popular at a regional level. A more widespread presence in Italy would help to perceive PHI Hotels as a national player. However, the buildout of a national presence may require time and significant investment.

**Occupancy risk.** Occupancy rate is one of the most important hotel KPIs since it provides an overview of performance and also provides context to other KPIs for evaluating a hotel's profitability. As such, management and optimization of occupancy is a key task for hotel managers.

**B2B** travel recovering with delay. B2B travel is struggling to come back to prepandemic levels, compared to leisure travel, and it is happening with some delays and at a cost. Some industry experts concur in saying that business travel will never go back to pre-Covid normal. Travel buyers are renegotiating contracts with suppliers and balancing lower expected trip volumes with higher rates for hotel rooms and airfare, according to Deloitte.

Mature and highly competitive markets. The wide hospitality market, despite continuing evolution based on industry trends, is mature, highly populated and competitive. When competing for B2C guests, Xenia encounters competition from national and international chains or independent hotels and private homeowners through online platforms, depending on the coverage of the local market. In the B2B



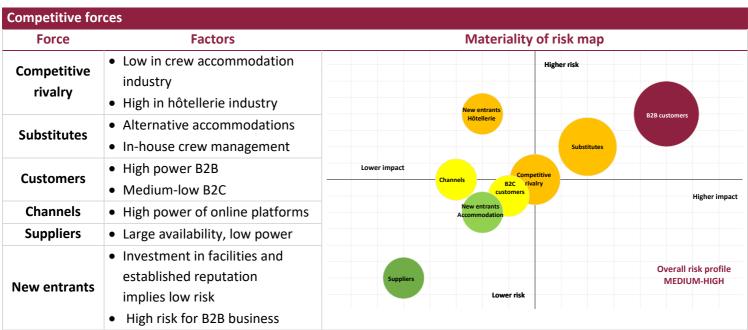
accommodation segment, Xenia competes with both national and international players specialized in crew accommodation and travel disruption. In the hotel distribution business competition mainly comes from other GDSs, local distribution systems and marketplace providers.

International hotel chains moving to second-tier locations. International hotels chains, with higher marketing budgets, have historically targeted historic and artistic locations in Italy, where touristic traffic is higher. However, they are reportedly showing interest for second-tier locations, also present Xenia target market, thus leading to expectations of increasing competition both in the acquisition and also in the management phase.

**Shortage of qualified hotel staff.** During Covid-19 closures, hotel staff were forced to stay home, part of them was temporarily or permanently laid off. As a consequence, many hospitality workers reevaluated their career paths and work-life balance, switching to jobs with more flexibility or higher pay. Now that guest traffic has resumed, most hotels are struggling to restore their staff to pre-pandemic levels.

Attract flagship hotels to own distribution platform. The increasing awareness of XENIAtoBOOK platform and the ability to expand its hotels base, especially by adding some flagship hotels, are key factors to increase traffic and grow revenue. As such, effective sales and marketing efforts to drive hotels addition are fundamental for the growth strategy. The expansion of the hotels base could be slower than planned.

Risk profile: medium-high



Source: EnVent Research



## **Business update**

- Acquisition of 4-star Hotel Principe di Piemonte in Cuneo, starting operation in April 2024 under PHI Hotels brand, bringing own portfolio to seven hotels. The hotel has 50 rooms, both leisure and business guest traffic, and a historical turnover of around €1.2m.
- Long-term rental agreements for three buildings, respectively located in Rome,
   Turin and Savona, to be reconverted in accessible hotels
- Tech partnership with Netstorming, an Italian software house, which develops online booking platforms for Destination Management Companies, Tour Operators and Online Travel Agencies to introduce new functionalities in accommodation and hotel distribution
- Partnership with RateHawk, a B2B Travel Provider, to offer own hotels through RateHawk channels
- FY23 ESG annual report issued

## **Industry outlook**

## Tourism: well on track to reach pre-pandemic levels in 2024

According to UNWTO World Tourism, international tourism is expected to fully recover in 2024, with estimates pointing to 2% above 2019 levels (Source: United Nations World Tourism Organization, *International Tourism to Reach Pre-Pandemic Levels in 2024*, 2024). According to travel market research firm Phocuswright, global hotel gross bookings reached \$510bn in 2023 (+13% YoY) and are expected to grow by 10% in 2024 (Source: Phocuswright, *Five trends in global hospitality*, 2024).

#### **Business travel: positive momentum**

The global business travel industry has put the pandemic behind it and is riding a wave of momentum in 2024. Most of the travel buyers reported increases in bookings and spending in 2023 and expect this growth trend to maintain in 2024 (Source: GBTA, Business travel industry anticipates a strong but challenging 2024, 2024).



# **Financial projections**

## **Profit and Loss**

€m	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E
Gross revenues	24.9	32.6	45.1	50.1	60.0	72.5
Cost of partners services	(20.4)	(24.1)	(30.9)	(33.7)	(35.7)	(39.2)
Net revenues	4.5	8.5	14.3	16.4	24.3	33.2
Other income	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Revenues	5.0	9.1	14.6	16.6	24.4	33.4
YoY %	-39.8%	82.2%	60.5%	13.8%	47.0%	36.9%
Services	(2.0)	(3.3)	(4.8)	(4.6)	(9.1)	(13.0)
Personnel	(2.2)	(3.6)	(4.2)	(5.4)	(6.2)	(8.7)
Other operating costs	(8.0)	(1.3)	(2.2)	(2.0)	(2.4)	(3.3)
Operating charges	(5.0)	(8.2)	(11.2)	(12.1)	(17.7)	(25.0)
EBITDA	(0.0)	0.8	3.4	4.5	6.7	8.4
Margin on Net revenues	-0.6%	9.8%	23.9%	27.4%	27.5%	25.2%
Margin on Gross revenues	-0.1%	2.6%	7.6%	8.9%	11.2%	11.5%
D&A	(0.4)	(0.8)	(1.7)	(1.9)	(3.2)	(4.2)
EBIT	(0.5)	0.0	1.7	2.5	3.5	4.1
Margin on Net revenues	-10.1%	0.2%	12.0%	15.6%	14.3%	12.5%
Margin on Gross revenues	-1.8%	0.0%	3.8%	5.1%	5.8%	5.7%
Interest	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.7)	(0.8)
Other financial items	(0.1)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBT	(0.9)	(0.3)	1.2	2.1	2.8	3.3
Margin on Net revenues	-19.1%	-4.0%	8.7%	13.0%	11.5%	10.0%
Income taxes	0.2	0.0	(0.4)	(0.7)	(8.0)	(1.0)
Net Income (Loss)	(0.6)	(0.3)	0.9	1.4	2.0	2.4
Margin on Gross revenues	-14.5%	-3.8%	6.0%	8.8%	8.2%	7.1%

Source: Company data 2020-23, EnVent Research 2024-25E - Notes: Write-down of trade receivables and provisions are included in other operating costs, before EBITDA, as per international practice standards

#### **Balance Sheet**

€m	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E
Inventory	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
Trade receivables	7.3	8.7	9.3	10.9	13.0	14.5
Trade payables	(10.7)	(13.9)	(16.8)	(16.3)	(18.9)	(22.3)
Trade Working Capital	(3.3)	(5.1)	(7.4)	(5.4)	(5.7)	(7.5)
Other assets (liabilities)	1.1	(0.1)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.7)	(1.0)
Net Working Capital	(2.2)	(5.2)	(7.8)	(5.8)	(6.4)	(8.5)
Goodwill and other intangible assets	0.8	1.4	1.5	1.4	3.8	6.2
Property, plant and equipment	9.9	11.3	11.1	10.7	12.5	13.9
Property rights of use	6.1	8.9	8.9	6.3	7.9	8.9
Equity investments and financial assets	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Non-current assets	16.8	21.7	21.5	18.4	24.2	29.0
Provisions	(0.7)	(0.8)	(0.7)	(0.8)	(1.0)	(1.4)
Net Invested Capital	13.9	15.7	12.9	11.8	16.8	19.2
Net Debt (Cash)	12.6	14.1	10.1	6.2	9.2	9.2
Equity	1.3	1.6	2.8	5.6	7.6	10.0
Sources	13.9	15.7	12.9	11.8	16.8	19.2

Source: Company data 2020-23, EnVent Research 2024-25E



#### **Cash Flow**

€m	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E
EBIT	0.0	1.7	2.5	3.5	4.1
Current taxes	0.0	(0.4)	(0.7)	(0.8)	(1.0)
D&A	0.8	1.7	1.9	3.2	4.2
Provisions	0.1	(0.1)	0.1	0.1	0.4
Cash flow from P&L operations	1.0	2.9	3.9	6.0	7.8
Trade Working Capital	1.8	2.3	(2.0)	0.3	1.8
Other assets and liabilities	1.2	0.3	(0.0)	0.3	0.3
Capex or disposals	(5.7)	(1.5)	1.9	(9.0)	(9.0)
Operating cash flow after WC and capex	(1.7)	4.1	3.8	(2.3)	0.8
Interest	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.7)	(0.8)
Equity investments and financial assets	(0.1)	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
IPO proceeds	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0
Capex - IPO cost	0.0	0.0	(0.9)	0.0	0.0
Changes in equity and adjustments	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net cash flow	(1.5)	4.0	3.9	(3.0)	(0.0)
Net Debt (Beginning)	(12.6)	(14.1)	(10.1)	(6.2)	(9.2)
Net Debt (End)	(14.1)	(10.1)	(6.2)	(9.2)	(9.2)
Change in Net Debt (Cash)	(1.5)	4.0	3.9	(3.0)	(0.0)

Source: Company data 2020-23, EnVent Research 2024-25E

## **Ratio analysis**

KPIs	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E
ROE	-51%	-20%	30%	26%	26%	24%
ROS	-10%	0%	12%	16%	14%	12%
ROIC	-3%	0%	13%	22%	21%	22%
DSO	88	80	62	65	65	60
DPO	139	146	135	121	120	120
DOI	10	5	4	2	4	4
TWC/Gross revenues	-13%	-16%	-16%	-11%	-10%	-10%
NWC/Gross revenues	-9%	-16%	-17%	-12%	-11%	-12%
Net Debt/EBITDA	nm	16.9x	3.0x	1.4x	1.4x	1.1x
Net Debt/Equity	9.9x	8.6x	3.5x	1.1x	1.2x	0.9x
Cash flow from P&L operations/EBITDA	na	114%	86%	88%	90%	93%
FCF/EBITDA	na	neg	120%	84%	neg	10%

Source: Company data 2020-23, EnVent Research 2024-25E

## **Valuation**

Our projections, where we factor in FY23 results while keeping unchanged the following periods main assumptions, consider:

- Retention of existing B2B accommodation customers and addition of new ones
- Expansion of the hotel portfolio and penetration into new locations
- Flexible cost structure with high share of variable costs on accommodation
- Ability to manage hotel occupancy and optimize daily rates dynamics
- Addition of partner hotels to the scalable hotel distribution platform

In the framework of the *medium-high* risk profile coming from our competitive assessment, Xenia is positioned in a niche market with room to gain market shares in



B2B accommodation and in an industry segment, hôtellerie, where rivalry is high and growth is subject to market fluctuations.

#### Value drivers:

- Multi-service offer and synergic business model in hospitality
- Continuity of relationship with B2B customers
- Business mix towards balance between different end-markets
- Flexible operating model

Xenia is catching the market demand coming from the rebound of hospitality and business travel in Italy and beyond borders; however, being still in its investment phase, the value expectation depends on the ability to successfully carry out its strategy.

Xenia valuation has been performed through the Discounted Cash Flows method applied to our 2024-25E financial projections and market multiples approach, combined and by BU under the Sum of the Parts approach.

We point out as key valuation factors:

- High sensitivity to investment in capacity and occupancy and pricing trends
- Revenue concentration on few B2B customers

#### **Discounted Cash Flows**

#### Updated assumptions:

- Risk free rate: 3.3% (Italian 10-year government bonds interest rate last 30 days average. Source: Bloomberg, April 2024)
- Market return: 11.9% (last 30 days average. Source: Bloomberg, April 2024)
- Market risk premium: 8.6%
- Beta: 1.3 (judgmental)
- Cost of equity: 14.5%
- Cost of debt: 5.0%
- Tax rate: 24% (IRES)
- 40% debt/(debt + equity) as target capital structure
- WACC calculated at 10.2%, according to above data
- Perpetual growth rate after explicit projections (G): 2.5%
- Terminal Value assumes a 5% EBIT margin on gross revenues



	luation

€m		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	Perpetuity
Gross revenues		24.9	32.6	45.1	50.1	60.0	72.5	74.3
Revenues		5.0	9.1	14.6	16.6	24.4	33.4	34.2
EBITDA		(0.0)	0.8	3.4	4.5	6.7	8.4	5.9
Margin on Gross revenues		neg	2.6%	7.6%	8.9%	11.2%	11.5%	8.0%
Margin on Revenues		neg	9.2%	23.4%	27.0%	27.5%	25.1%	17.4%
EBIT		(0.5)	0.0	1.7	2.5	3.5	4.1	3.9
Margin on Gross revenues		neg	0.0%	3.8%	5.1%	5.8%	5.7%	5.3%
Margin on Revenues		neg	0.2%	11.7%	15.4%	14.2%	12.4%	11.5%
Taxes		0.1	(0.0)	(0.5)	(0.7)	(1.0)	(1.2)	(1.1)
NOPAT		(0.3)	0.0	1.2	1.8	2.5	3.0	2.8
D&A					1.9	3.2	4.2	2.0
Provisions					0.1	0.1	0.4	0.0
Cash flow from operations					3.9	5.8	7.6	4.8
Trade Working Capital					(2.0)	0.3	1.8	(0.4)
Other assets and liabilities					(0.0)	0.3	0.3	0.0
Capex					1.0	(9.0)	(9.0)	(2.0)
Unlevered free cash flow						(2.5)	0.6	2.5
- H1 unlevered free cash flow								
Free cash flow to be discounted						(2.5)	0.6	2.5
WACC	10.2%							
Long-term growth (G)	2.5%							
Discounted Cash Flows						(2.3)	0.5	
Sum of Discounted Cash Flows	(1.8)							
Terminal Value								32.2
Discounted TV	26.5							
Enterprise Value	24.7							
Net debt as of 31/12/23	(6.2)							
Equity Value	18.5							
DCF - Implied multiples				2022	2023	2024E	2025E	
EV/Revenues				1.7x	1.5x	1.0x	0.7x	
EV/EBITDA				7.2x	5.5x	3.7x	3.0x	
EV/EBIT				14.5x	9.7x	7.1x	6.0x	
P/E				21.8x	12.9x	9.3x	7.8x	
Current market price - Implied multiples				2022	2023	2024E	2025E	
EV/Revenues				1.1x	0.9x	0.6x	0.5x	
EV/EBITDA				4.5x	3.4x	2.3x	1.8x	
EV/EBIT				12.3x	7.2x	5.5x	4.6x	
P/E				10.7x	6.4x	4.6x	3.9x	

Source: EnVent Research



# **Market multiples**

		EV/RE\	/ENUES			EV/E	BITDA			EV/	EBIT			P	/E	
Company	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
OTA and tour operators																
AirBnB	8.0x	8.3x	7.4x	6.6x	51.3x	22.8x	19.8x	17.1x	52.4x	33.9x	28.7x	23.6x	18.2x	34.4x	29.8x	26.2x
Booking	5.9x	5.2x	4.8x	4.4x	19.6x	15.2x	13.6x	12.1x	21.2x	16.4x	14.6x	13.0x	28.9x	19.7x	17.5x	15.6x
Expedia	1.9x	1.5x	1.4x	1.3x	14.8x	6.9x	6.2x	5.8x	16.4x	12.3x	10.3x	9.5x	26.4x	10.7x	9.2x	8.6x
TripAdvisor	1.6x	1.7x	1.6x	1.5x	15.7x	8.5x	7.4x	6.5x	19.1x	17.0x	14.2x	11.7x	nm	15.6x	12.2x	9.7x
MakeMyTrip	7.9x	8.2x	6.6x	5.5x	nm	nm	nm	28.1x	nm	nm	nm	33.5x	neg	nm	43.6x	33.9x
eDreams	2.2x	1.7x	1.4x	1.3x	neg	14.2x	7.5x	5.8x	neg	27.2x	11.1x	7.7x	neg	nm	12.2x	8.1x
Trip.com	3.3x	4.1x	3.5x	3.1x	12.2x	13.9x	11.8x	10.3x	13.1x	16.8x	14.3x	12.3x	16.5x	17.3x	14.9x	12.6x
Trivago	0.1x	0.2x	0.2x	0.1x	1.6x	35.9x	4.0x	2.4x	1.7x	neg	6.4x	3.8x	neg	neg	15.5x	5.4x
Voyageurs du Monde	n.a.	0.4x	0.4x	n.a.	n.a.	4.4x	4.2x	n.a.	n.a.	5.0x	4.8x	n.a.	n.a.	13.8x	13.1x	n.a.
lastminute.com	0.8x	0.6x	0.5x	0.5x	15.0x	3.7x	3.1x	2.7x	16.4x	9.9x	6.3x	5.1x	38.4x	18.7x	11.4x	9.2x
TUI	0.3x	0.4x	0.4x	0.3x	7.3x	4.0x	3.7x	3.5x	10.6x	6.6x	6.0x	5.6x	11.7x	6.7x	5.6x	4.9x
I Grandi Viaggi	0.5x	0.5x	n.a.	n.a.	5.5x	4.8x	n.a.	n.a.	9.8x	7.4x	n.a.	n.a.	14.1x	12.3x	n.a.	n.a.
Destination Italia	0.5x	0.3x	0.2x	0.2x	neg	10.7x	4.7x	2.3x	neg	neg	16.6x	3.7x	neg	neg	27.9x	3.4x
Mean	2.8x	2.5x	2.4x	2.2x	15.9x	12.1x	7.8x	8.8x	17.9x	15.3x	12.1x	11.8x	22.0x	16.6x	17.7x	12.5x
Mean w/out extremes	2.5x	2.2x	2.1x	2.0x	12.9x	10.5x	7.0x	7.3x	15.2x	14.2x	11.1x	10.3x	20.8x	15.5x	16.4x	11.1x
Median	1.7x	1.5x	1.4x	1.3x	14.8x	9.6x	6.2x	5.8x	16.4x	14.3x	11.1x	9.5x	18.2x	15.6x	14.0x	9.2x
Hotels																
Marriott	12.5x	3.2x	3.0x	2.8x	18.4x	16.2x	15.1x	14.1x	20.1x	19.1x	17.6x	16.3x	21.5x	25.4x	23.4x	21.4x
Hilton	12.7x	5.2x	4.8x	4.4x	23.2x	17.3x	15.9x	14.6x	24.7x	19.9x	17.9x	16.4x	40.9x	27.7x	24.9x	22.9x
Hyatt	2.4x	2.5x	2.4x	2.3x	22.7x	14.3x	13.3x	12.3x	52.2x	27.6x	22.9x	19.6x	61.1x	37.8x	32.4x	26.2x
InterContinental	7.9x	7.8x	7.4x	7.0x	16.2x	15.2x	14.1x	13.1x	16.7x	16.3x	15.2x	14.0x	19.7x	22.6x	21.0x	19.3x
Wyndham	6.3x	5.3x	5.0x	4.8x	14.7x	11.3x	10.7x	10.3x	16.9x	13.7x	12.8x	12.1x	22.6x	16.6x	15.5x	14.7x
Accor	2.3x	2.3x	2.2x	2.1x	12.7x	11.2x	10.3x	9.5x	15.8x	15.1x	13.6x	12.3x	14.2x	17.2x	15.6x	14.3x
NH	1.9x	1.9x	1.9x	1.7x	9.6x	7.0x	6.7x	6.4x	12.4x	13.8x	13.3x	12.2x	14.2x	16.0x	14.2x	11.8x
Meliá	2.1x	2.2x	2.1x	2.0x	12.4x	8.6x	8.0x	7.8x	16.8x	17.8x	16.0x	15.5x	11.1x	14.4x	12.2x	11.1x
Scandic Hotels	2.4x	2.6x	2.4x	2.3x	14.7x	8.4x	8.0x	7.8x	15.8x	15.1x	13.6x	12.3x	16.7x	11.1x	10.2x	9.7x
MHP Hotel	n.a.	0.3x	0.3x	0.2x	n.a.	9.6x	5.4x	3.6x	12.4x	13.8x	13.3x	12.2x	n.a.	neg	35.0x	8.8x
Whitbread	4.1x	3.1x	3.0x	2.8x	15.3x	8.9x	8.6x	8.3x	19.9x	13.6x	13.3x	12.6x	25.0x	13.3x	13.3x	12.6x
Mean	5.5x	3.3x	3.1x	2.9x	16.0x	11.6x	10.6x	9.8x	20.3x	16.9x	15.4x	14.1x	24.7x	20.2x	19.8x	15.7x
Mean w/out extremes	5.0x	3.1x	3.0x	2.8x	15.9x	11.5x	10.6x	9.9x	17.7x	16.0x	14.9x	13.8x	21.9x	19.1x	19.2x	15.3x
Median	3.3x	2.6x	2.4x	2.3x	15.0x	11.2x	10.3x	9.5x	16.8x	15.1x	13.6x	12.6x	20.6x	16.9x	15.6x	14.3x
Travel tech	JIJA	LION		LIGA	15.0%		10.0%	3.5%	1010%	10111	1510%	ILION	LOIOX	2015%	1510X	11101
Sabre	2.0x	1.7x	1.6x	1.5x	49.2x	9.8x	7.2x	6.7x	97.8x	12.0x	8.3x	7.9x	neg	neg	9.5x	6.6x
Amadeus	5.7x	4.5x	4.2x	3.9x	15.4x	11.8x	10.5x	9.7x	21.8x	16.3x	14.5x	13.1x	25.8x	19.7x	17.6x	15.8x
Mean	3.9x	3.1x	2.9x	2.7x	32.3x	10.8x	8.9x	8.2x	59.8x	14.2x	11.4x	10.5x	25.8x	19.7x	13.5x	11.2x
Short/mid-term accommo								_								
Vacasa	0.1x	0.1x	0.1x	0.1x	14.6x	8.1x	3.2x	1.5x	neg							
Sonder	n.a.	2.2x	1.9x	n.a.	n.a.	neg	neg	n.a.	n.a.	neg	neg	neg	n.a.	neg	neg	neg
HomeToGo	1.2x	0.5x	0.5x	0.4x	neg	9.8x	5.7x	3.7x	neg							
CleanBnB	0.5x	0.4x	0.4x	n.a.	nm	4.6x	3.3x	n.a.	33.6x	neg	neg	neg	37.1x	neg	neg	neg
G Rent	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	neg	neg	neg	n.a.	neg	neg	neg
Dotstay	n.a.	6.3x	4.5x	3.3x	n.a.	nm	22.3x	22.9x	n.a.	neg	neg	neg	n.a.	neg	neg	neg
Emma Villas	n.a.	0.5x	0.4x	0.4x	n.a.	3.7x	3.0x	2.6x	n.a.	neg	neg	neg	n.a.	neg	neg	neg
Mean	0.6x	1.7x	1.3x	1.1x	na	6.6x	7.5x	7.7x	na							
Mean w/out extremes	0.5x	1.2x	1.0x	0.8x	na	11.8x	6.0x	6.3x	na							
Median	0.5x	0.5x	0.5x	0.4x	na	6.3x	3.3x	3.1x	na							

Source: EnVent Research on S&P Capital IQ, 22/04/2024



Hints from market multiples analysis:

- Industry market multiples, mostly from large corporations, might be misleading as a source of valuable indications and require normalization discounts
- Different accounting methods among industry players may harm comparability
- High relevance of cash use for investments in capacity recognized by cash flowbased values might be under-emphasized by multiples method, as such, EBITDA is excluded from our valuation model and EBIT is preferred as a substitute

We applied to our 2024-25E projections the median multiples of the full panel of industry peers deriving from 2Y analyst consensus, with a judgmental 30% discount factor to reflect the limited comparability of most peers to Xenia, mainly for size, scope of operations and business model.

### **Discount to multiples**

## Market multiples application

€m					
Xenia (€m)		Market Multiples	EV	Net debt 31/12/23	Equity value
2023 Revenues	16.6	1.5x	25.6	(6.2)	19.4
2024E Revenues	24.4	1.4x	35.0	(6.2)	28.8
2025E Revenues	33.4	1.4x	45.3	(6.2)	39.1
Mean 2024-25E			40.2		34.0
2023 EBITDA	4.5	10.4x	46.6	(6.2)	40.4
2024E EBITDA	6.7	6.8x	45.7	(6.2)	39.5
2025E EBITDA	8.4	5.2x	43.8	(6.2)	37.6
Mean 2024-25E			44.7		38.5
2023 EBIT	2.5	11.8x	30.0	(6.2)	23.8
2024E EBIT	3.5	10.6x	36.6	(6.2)	30.4
2025E EBIT	4.1	9.5x	39.6	(6.2)	33.4
Mean 2024-25E			38.1		31.9
2023 Earnings	1.4	15.0x			21.6
2024E Earnings	2.0	11.8x			23.6
2025E Earnings	2.4	10.8x			25.6
Mean 2024-25E					24.6

EBIT as preferred and more reliable measure

Source: EnVent Research

## Valuation based on market multiples by BU under Sum of the Parts

We applied market multiples of single peer groups, again discounted by 30%, to our 2024E revenue estimates by business for Xenia.



**SOP application - Revenues multiples** 

€m			
Xenia	2024E N	/larket m	ultiples
<b>EV Accommodation</b>			
2024E Net revenues	6.3	1.0x	6.6
EV Hotel management			
2024E Revenues	17.0	1.8x	30.3
EV Hotel distribution platform			
2024E Revenues	1.0	2.2x	2.2
SOP EV Xenia			39.1
Net debt 31/12/23			(6.2)
Equity value Xenia			32.9

Source: EnVent Research

## **Target Price**

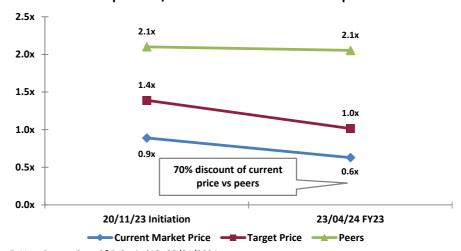
We continue to attribute higher significance and weight to fundamentals, and thus to DCF methodology, recalling the limited comparability with listed industry peers. Our updated valuation of Xenia Hôtellerie Solution confirms the previous €5.55 target price, implying a 95% upside on current stock price, and OUTPERFORM rating on the stock.

Please refer to important disclosures at the end of this report.

€
5.55
2.84
95%

Source: EnVent Research

## Implied EV/Revenues vs current market price



Source: EnVent Research on S&P Capital IQ, 23/04/2024



## **Xenia Share Price vs EnVent Target Price**



Source: EnVent Research on S&P Capital IQ, 23/04/2024



**DISCLAIMER** (for more details go to www.enventgroup.eu under "Legal notices - Disclaimer")

This publication has been prepared by Luigi Tardella, Head of Research Division, Viviana Sepe and Ivan Tromba, Equity Analysts, on behalf of the Research & Analysis Division of EnVent Italia SIM S.p.A. ("EnVent"). EnVent Italia SIM is authorized and regulated in Italy by Consob (Register of Investment Firms Reg. No. 315).

According to article 35, paragraph 2b of Euronext Growth Milan Rules for Companies (Regolamento Emittenti Euronext Growth Milan), EnVent has been commissioned to produce Equity Research, and particularly this publication, for the Company by arrangement with MIT SIM, the Specialist engaged by the Company.

This publication does not represent to be, nor can it be construed as being, an offer or solicitation to buy, subscribe or sell financial products or instruments, or to execute any operation whatsoever concerning such products or instruments. This publication is not, under any circumstances, intended for distribution to the general public. Accordingly, this document is only for persons who are Eligible Counterparties or Professional Clients only, i.e. persons having professional experience in investments who are authorized persons or exempted persons within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and COBS 4.12 of the FCA's New Conduct of Business Sourcebook. For residents in Italy, this document is intended for distribution only to professional clients and qualified counterparties as defined in Consob Regulation n. 16190 of the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2007, as subsequently amended and supplemented.

This publication, nor any copy of it, can not be brought, transmitted or distributed in the United States of America, Canada, Japan or Australia. Any failure to comply with these restrictions may constitute a violation of the securities laws provided by the United States of America, Canada, Japan or Australia.

EnVent does not guarantee any specific result as regards the information contained in the present publication, and accepts no responsibility or liability for the outcome of the transactions recommended therein or for the results produced by such transactions. Each and every investment/divestiture decision is the sole responsibility of the party receiving the advice and recommendations, who is free to decide whether or not to implement them. The price of the investments and the income derived from them can go down as well as up, and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Therefore, EnVent and/or the author(s) of the present publication cannot in any way be held liable for any losses, damage, or lower earnings that the party using the publication might suffer following execution of transactions on the basis of the information and/or recommendations contained therein.

The purpose of this publication is merely to provide information that is up to date and as accurate as possible. The information and each possible estimate and/or opinion and/or recommendation contained in this publication is based on sources believed to be reliable. Although EnVent makes every reasonable endeavour to obtain information from sources that it deems to be reliable, it accepts no responsibility or liability as to the completeness, accuracy or exactitude of such information and sources. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

Most important sources of information used for the preparation of this publication are the documentation published by the Company (annual and interim financial statements, press releases, company presentations, IPO prospectus), the information provided by business and credit information providers (as Bloomberg, S&P Capital IQ, AIDA) and industry reports.

EnVent has no obligation to update, modify or amend this publication or to otherwise notify a reader or recipient of this publication in the case that any matter, opinion, forecast or estimate contained herein, changes or subsequently becomes inaccurate, or if the research on the subject company is withdrawn. The estimates, opinions, and recommendations expressed in this publication may be subject to change without notice, on the basis of new and/or further available information.

EnVent intends to provide continuous coverage of the Company and the financial instrument forming the subject of the present publication, with a semi-annual frequency and, in any case, with a frequency consistent with the timing of the Company's periodical financial reporting and of any exceptional event occurring in its sphere of activity.

A draft copy of this publication may be sent to the subject Company for its information and review (without valuation, target price and recommendation), for the purpose of correcting any inadvertent material inaccuracies. EnVent did not disclose the rating to the issuer before publication and dissemination of this document.

#### **ANALYST DISCLOSURES**

For each company mentioned in this publication, all of the views expressed in this publication accurately reflect the financial analysts' personal views about any or all of the subject company (companies) or securities.

Neither the analysts nor any member of the analysts' households have a financial interest in the securities of the subject Company. Neither the analysts nor any member of the analysts' households serve as an officer, director or advisory board member of the subject company. Analysts' remuneration was not, is not or will be not related, either directly or indirectly, to specific proprietary investment transactions or to market operations in which EnVent has played a role (as Euronext Growth Advisor, for example) or to the specific recommendation or view in this publication. EnVent has adopted internal procedures and an internal code of conduct aimed to ensure the independence of its financial analysts. EnVent research analysts and other staff involved in issuing and disseminating research reports operate independently of EnVent Group business. EnVent, within the Research & Analysis Division, may collaborate with external professionals. It may, directly or indirectly, have a potential conflict of interest with the Company and,



for that reason, EnVent adopts organizational and procedural measures for the prevention and management of conflicts of interest (for details www.enventgroup.eu under "Legal notices - Disclaimer", "Procedures for prevention of conflicts of interest").

#### MIFID II DISCLOSURES

**Xenia Hôtellerie Solution S.p.A. Società Benefit** (the "Issuer or the "Company") is a corporate client of EnVent. This document, being paid for by a corporate Issuer, is a Minor Non-monetary Benefit as set out in Article 12 (3) of the Commission Delegated Act (C2016) 2031.

This note is a marketing communication and not independent research. As such, it has not been prepared in accordance with legal requirements designed to promote the independence of investment research and this note is not subject to the prohibition on dealing ahead of the dissemination of investment research.

#### **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

In order to disclose its possible conflicts of interest, EnVent states that it acts or has acted in the past 12 months as Euronext Growth Advisor and Global Coordinator to the subject Company on the Euronext Growth Milan market, a Multilateral Trading Facility regulated by Borsa Italiana (for details www.enventgroup.eu under "Legal notices - Disclaimer", "Potential conflicts of interest").

#### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

Neither this publication nor any portions thereof (including, without limitation, any conclusion as to values or any individual associated with this publication or the professional associations or organizations with which they are affiliated) shall be reproduced to third parties by any means without the prior written consent and approval from EnVent.

#### **VALUATION METHODOLOGIES**

EnVent Research & Analysis Division calculates range of values and fair values for the companies under coverage using professional valuation methodologies, such as the discounted cash flows method (DCF), dividend discount model (DDM) and multiple-based models (e.g. EV/Revenues, EV/EBITDA, EV/EBIT, P/E, P/BV). Alternative valuation methodologies may be used, according to circumstances or judgement of non-adequacy of most used methods. The target price could be also influenced by market conditions or events and corporate or share peculiarities.

#### **STOCK RATINGS**

The "OUTPERFORM", "NEUTRAL", AND "UNDERPERFORM" recommendations are based on the expectations within a 12-month period from the date of rating indicated in the front page of this publication.

Equity ratings and valuations are issued in absolute terms, not relative to market performance.

Rating system and rationale (12-month time horizon):

OUTPERFORM: stocks are expected to have a total return above 10%;

NEUTRAL: stocks are expected to have a performance between -10% and +10% consistent with market or industry trend and appear less attractive than Outperform rated stocks;

UNDERPERFORM: stocks are among the least attractive in a peer group, with the target price 10% below the current market price;

UNDER REVIEW: target price under review, waiting for updated financial data, or other key information such as material transactions involving share capital or financing;

SUSPENDED: no rating/target price assigned, due to material uncertainties or other issues that seriously impair our previous investment ratings, price targets and earnings estimates;

NOT RATED: no rating or target price assigned.

Some flexibility on the limits of the total return rating ranges is permitted, especially during high market volatility cycles.

The stock price indicated in the report is the last closing price on the day of Production.

Date and time of Production: 22/04/2024 h. 7.10pm Date and time of Distribution: 23/04/2024 h. 6.45pm

#### DETAILS ON STOCK RECOMMENDATION AND TARGET PRICE

22171120 011 01 0011 NECO1111112711101171112 17111021 1 111102							
Date	Recommendation	Target Price (€)	Share Price (€)				
20/11/2023	OUTPERFORM	5.55	2.84				
23/04/2024	OUTPERFORM	5.55	2.84				

### **ENVENT RECOMMENDATION DISTRIBUTION (April 23rd, 2024)**

Number of companies covered: 25	OUTPERFORM	NEUTRAL	UNDERPERFORM	SUSPENDED	UNDER REVIEW	NOT RATED
Total Equity Research Coverage %	92%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%
of which EnVent clients % *	77%	50%	na	na	na	na

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Companies to which corporate and capital markets services were supplied in the last 12 months.

This disclaimer is constantly updated on the website at www.enventgroup.eu under "Legal notices - Disclaimer".

Additional information available upon request.

© Copyright 2024 by EnVent Italia SIM S.p.A. - All rights reserved