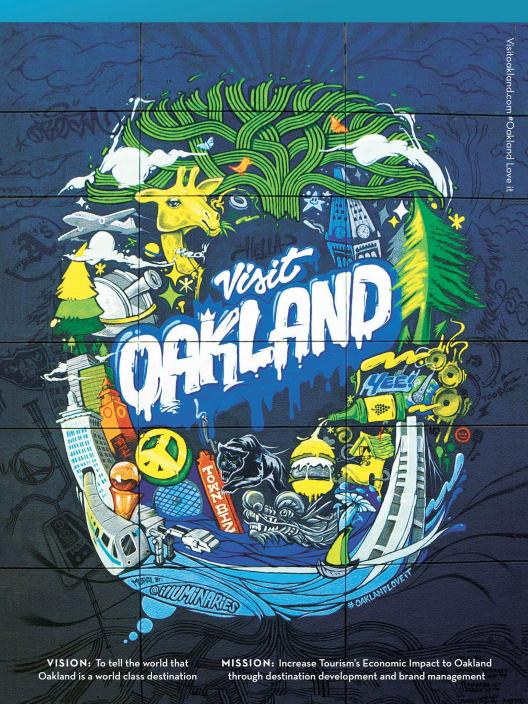
# ANNUAL REPORT

-2017-



# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2016 / 17**



Oakland has cause to celebrate in 2016-17, not only for hosting another NBA parade, but for its continued strong hotel performance in the Bay Area and its recognition on a state-wide and national level. Visitors to Oakland set new records in visitation and visitor spending. Oakland's performance in terms of year over year growth of hotel occupancy and revenue out performed San Francisco and the Bay Area. This can be attributed to the foresight of Oakland hoteliers. Several Oakland hotels entered the year fully renovated with new products and services.

A shift in meetings & group event strategy to host national organizations in Oakland has also proved extremely successful. Oakland has won bids on major events. The National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners will hold their annual convention and trade show in Oakland in November 2017. US Rowing has selected Oakland as the host venue for the 2018 and 2020 Masters National Championships. Oakland was selected to host the Visit California/British Airways Super FAM, over San Francisco, LA and San Diego.

The key to Oakland securing these three influential events has been the ability of the Visit Oakland staff to leverage Oakland's community leaders, nonprofit organizations and businesses. Whether it was working hand in hand with the Oakland Zoo to bid on the Super FAM, or creating a local organizing committee of local rowing clubs for the US Rowing bid, we couldn't have done it without this support. The amazing community representation that attended the site visit with the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners was described by their CEO as "inspirational" and something they had not experienced in other cities.

On the leisure marketing side, the Visit Oakland team is always looking for new, creative and cost effective ways to get the Oakland message out to visitors both in the Greater Bay Area and beyond. Programs like the Oakland Ale Trail, Oakland Restaurant Week, and the Oakland Urban Wine Trail, as well as a summer advertising campaign and new meetings campaign have increased Visit Oakland's website traffic and social media engagement, translating into more leisure bookings. Visit Oakland also produced twelve virtual reality videos of Oakland activities and locations. The reception of the VR videos has been overwhelming at several trade shows. All of these programs support

STRATEGIC PARTNERS













small, locally owned businesses. Visit Oakland also announced the Oakland Mural Grant Program that is intended to help beautify our city while supporting local artists and property owners. Traditional media buys were also deployed, including out of home media, radio and newspapers. By the end of 2017, a new portable visitor center will be on the road to bring a bit of the Oakland experience to many different West Coast locations. The Jack London Square Visitor Center has been renovated and is ready to assist visitors with questions and suggestions.

Visit Oakland hired an outside PR agency to assist in garnering more domestic press and also attended sales and media missions in the UK, Canada and Mexico. Layered on top of the public relations efforts were direct media buys in Canada and the UK. All of these tactics, as well as a strong relationship with the Oakland International Airport work to heighten awareness of Oakland and support the new lift.

Visit Oakland will continue to think strategically and holistically about how to increase tourism in Oakland through brand awareness and destination product development. There is still more work to be done and challenges lie ahead. I know that the issues that affect Oakland's residents and small businesses also affect tourism. I look forward to having an opportunity to work with our city leaders and business community to address some of those challenges. Still, I am proud of the successful 2016-17 year, and optimistic about the upcoming year. The opportunity for Oakland to shine is upon us and I am confident that we will be able to showcase Oakland to the Bay Area, California and the world.

Mark Everton CEO. Visit Oakland

### 2016 - 2017

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Michael LeBlanc, Chair, Pican

Sima Patel, Vice Chair, Ridgemont Hospitality

Mark Hochstatter, Past Chair, Executive Inn & Suites and Best Western Plus Bayside Hotel

Sam Nassif, Secretary, Z Hotel

V. Toni Adams, Treasurer, Alameda County Office of Education

Lisa Kershner, At Large, Oakland Marriott City Center

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

John Albrecht, Port of Oakland

Carl Chan. Oakland Chinatown Chamber Foundation

Leonard Czarnecki, Claremont Club and Spa a Fairmont Hotel

Dexter Davis, D Street Media Group, LLC

Gyasi Edwards, Expedia

Barney Fonzi, Diablo Publications

Barbara Leslie, Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce

Chris Offutt, Waterfront Hotel

Dr. Joel Parrott, Oakland Zoo

Steve Pastorino. Oakland Athletics

Paul Patel, The Washington Inn

Mit Patel, Radisson Oakland Airport

Jon Primm, Courtyard Oakland Downtown

Quaid Quardi, Motel 6 - Oakland Airport

#### STAFF

Mark Everton. President & CEO

Natalie Alvanez, VP, Marketing & Business

Rhanee Palma, Director of Sales

Flavia Oliveira, Sales Manager

Ben Taylor, Destination Development Manager

Frances Wong, Senior PR Manager

Lisa Baird, Marketing Manager

Paul Lim, Social Media Specialist

Jordan Park, Creative Services Specialist

Allie Neal, PR Coordinator

Zeke Ramsell. Sales Coordinator

Jasmin Odion, Administrative & Accounting Manager

Helen Green, Visitor Services Manager

Kenneth Brown, Visitor Services Coordinator

Mary Nassif, Visitor Services Coordinator







# **ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM**

**TOURISM IN** OAKLAND **GENERATED** IN STATE & LOCAL TAX REVENUE IN 2016

**VISITOR SPENDING** HAS INCREASED

over 4 years

### **VISITORS SPENT**







**MILLION** 

**MILLION** 



Tourism supports over

Jobs in Oakland with total income of **\$271 MILLION** 

Oakland's annual visitor spend is over up 3.4% from 2015

1 IN 30 OF **ALL JOBS IN** OAKLAND

are sustained by tourism

Generating **ILLION** 

in total business sales



Room Demand has grown

since 2010

**Hotel Occupancy** declined slightly in 2016 while ADR rose 9.4%

Room Supply has contracted by 4% over the same period

Room Revenue grew 7.7%

41% of visitors stayed overnight



35% were business travelers

64% of visitors were leisure travelers

Increased website visits by 15% and had over 1.3 MILLION page views



media placements in top tier



Launched The Oakland Ale Trail

Launched Oakland Mural Grant Program



29%

**Booked National** Coalition of Black Oakland in Fall 2017



Increased PPC traffic by 18,000%

Hosted **170 VOLUNTEERS** for Tourism Cares

Booked Visit California Super FAM for Fall 2017



Increased Group Sales room night leads by

5%

Responsible for securing meetings valued at **\$12.1 MILLION** in economic impact





Secured \$25.000 in sponsorship for Oakland Restaurant Week



Launched new

Meetings Market Ad

campaign

Produced & Inspiration Guide



Distributed Oakland



Launched new LGBTQ advertising campaign



Launched Oakland's first ever Virtual



# **SALES**

### **BEFORE 8, AFTER 5 CAMPAIGN**

The new creative aimed at meeting planners is intended to inspire planners to consider Oakland not for the number of hotel ballrooms or square footage, but because of Oakland's unique attributes like dining, nightlife and outdoor beauty.



#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Launched first programmatic advertising campaign targeted to Meeting planners with over 4,000 clicks to meetings pages
- Increased CVENT exposure
- Oakland won the National bid to host the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners in Fall 2017.
- Our partnership with third party entities has proved to be successful and beneficial as the combined revenue generated through booked leads in Oakland from 2016-2017 fiscal is over \$12.1 Million
- · Launched "Coffee & Cocktails are on Us" Meeting Incentive









SALES BY THE NUMBERS

5%

30%
ROOM NIGHT LEAD

248,610

†10.1 MILLION

\$12.1 MILLION CONOMIC IMPACT OF BOOKED BUSINES

20

TRADESHOWS ATTENDED

ES MISSIONS TO THE

3% DOKING RATIO INCREASE

9 SPOUP FAM TOURS

100+ CUSTOMERS HOSTED FROM ITALY, NORWAY, SWEDEN, UK, IRELAND

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### INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION

Visit Oakland's presence in the international market grew through sales and media missions with Visit California and Brand USA as well as leveraging partnerships with OAK. Visitoakland.com international website traffic has increased 176% from Canada and 171% from the UK.



Oakland International Airport secured non stop service to the London/Gatwick, Barcelona and Rome in 2016/17 from British Airways, Norwegian Airlines and Level Airlines.

Visit Oakland met with Key International Travel Trade & Media at IPW, World Travel Market and during Sales Missions in Canada, Mexico and the UK.



Oakland Hosted Travel Trade representatives from 5 countries including: Italy, UK, North Korea, Mexico and Canada.

Launched first ever Oakland travel trade advertising program for UK & Canadian Markets.



To educate Canadian and British Travel Agents on Oakland, Visit Oakland capitalized on the "adult coloring book" trend by polybagging a black and white version of the cover of the Oakland Inspiration Guide into Travel Weekly in the UK and Canada. Agents were asked to submit their colored in posters for a chance to win a prize. Over 200 agents submitted to the contest. This was done in conjunction with an expanded media buy in Travel Weekly and Travel Age in both the Canadian and UK Markets.



# MARKETING

Visit Oakland shifted strategy to feature multiple advertising campaigns to niche markets.

### ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS



### **SUMMER IS COOL**

Greater Bay Area Drive Market, Sacramento, Los Angeles

Target Audience: Couples, Singles, Families, Ages 25-55



#### OAKLAND ALE TRAIL

Greater Bay Area Drive Market, Sacramento, Los Angeles

Target Audience: Males, Ages 25-50



#### OAKLAND URBAN WINE TRAIL

Greater Bay Area Drive Market, Sacramento, Los Angeles

Target Audience: Females, Ages 25-50



### OAKLAND IS HELLA PROUD

Greater Bay Area Drive Market, Sacramento, Los Angeles

Target Audience: LGBTQ+

### COLLATERAL



Oakland Inspiration Guide

OAKLAND CHEAT SHEET



Convention Card Wine Trail



Oakland Urban 100 Things to Do in Oakland

Oakland Maps

Oakland Ale Trail Passport

## MARKETING BY THE NUMBERS

SUMMER LANDING PAGE

# Over 75 million in Advertising Impressions

Youtube Channel Views 251%



**Facebook Followers** Facebook Reach Facebook Video Minute Views

22% 329% 63.500%

Instagram Followers 37.6%



#oaklandloveit used in 39,847 posts

# CONTENT DEVELOPMENT

Visit Oakland's content marketing, native advertising and video creation model works to deliver results.



**URBAN WINE TRAIL VIDEO** 







**ALE TRAIL VIDEO** 

### **Top 10 Oakland Attractions**

Like 16 people like this. Be the first of your friends.



Coming to Oakland soon and wondering what to do? Laser shows, fairylands, urban lakes, we've got you covered in Oakland. Here are our picks for the top 10 attractions in Oakland!

# Top Things to Do in Jack London District \*\*\*Com To Dopped Not this. Do the first of your frames.

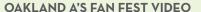


Oaklands waterfront neighborhood - named for the famed American author who grew up here - is a mix of stunning scenery, fantastic food, and lively events. It doesn't matter the time, day or season Jack London Square is always the place to be.



LAUNCHED OAKLAND'S FIRST EVER 360 VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE







**BLACK HISTORY MONTH VIDEO** 









### 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

### PRESENTED BY VISIT OAKLAND AND AMERICAN EXPRESS

# OAKLAND RESTAURANT WEEK





"The city's growing rep as a 'hot culinary destination on the west coast' can be attributed to its unique selection of independent, non-touristy eateries" -Hoodline







In the 7th year of Oakland Restaurant Week the program garnered praise from restaurants and diners alike. New this year was an expanded media buy, online consumer engagements, viral videos and more local sponsorships.



"Our customers loved it. said it was a great way to try new restaurants."

-Terrace Room Restaurant & Bar



Expanded advertising and outdoor media buys.

### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

5,000

454.396

### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

















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# **DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT**



#### OAKLAND URBAN WINE TRAIL

Oakland's Urban Wine Trail is a program developed in partnership with ten Oakland wineries. The goal is to drive brand awareness from key drive markets (Greater Bay Area, Los Angeles and Sacramento) encouraging travel to Oakland for wine tasting and a weekend stay.



Oakland is home to ten wineries within minutes from each other. Explore the new Oakland Urban Wine Trail and taste delicious California wines in a hella hip, urban setting.

Plan your trip today at OAKLANDURBANWINETRAIL.COM

#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- 30 second Television Spots during Golden State Warriors Playoffs
- Media Impressions
- 25,048 website views
- Tasting Room Traffic Increased by 15%





### **OAKLAND ALE TRAIL**

The objective of the Oakland Ale Trail is to develop a cohesive brand that encompasses all of the craft beer community within Oakland. This brand has enabled Visit Oakland to more concisely and efficiently promote the industry outside of Oakland, enticing enhanced media coverage and resulting in increased visitation to Oakland for our craft beer community.



- · Developed a Passport Program to entice visitors to visit all the breweries and to receive a branded Growler
- · Sponsored SF Beer Week
- · Launched the Oakland Ale Trail Brand · Sponsored East Bay Brewers Festival
  - · Launched a digital marketing campaign "The Brew Code"
  - · Media Impressions
  - 36,000 website views





### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

#### **NBA FINALS**

In 2016/17 Visit Oakland worked in partnership with the City of Oakland and the Golden State Warriors during the NBA Finals. From helping source live shots for shows like ESPN's First Take, to providing media with Oakland images, this world-wide exposure brought the beauty of Oakland to millions of basketball fans for the past three years.

#### **#ROOTEDINOAKLAND**

Meanwhile, the Oakland Athletics have a renewed commitment to Oakland and Visit Oakland is collaborating with them on new promotions. A few of note, the 510 Ticket Promotion presented by Visit Oakland provided 20 field level tickets for \$510 to fans. VO was a sponsor of the Oakland A's Mural in downtown Oakland and also assisted in securing Oakland Fan Fest in Jack London Square.









#### TOURISM CARES IN OAKLAND

Visit Oakland hosted 170 travel professionals that spent 2 days doing volunteer projects in Oakland, including creating a mural, a clean up at Lake Merritt and building sheds for Children's Fairyland.





### **OAKLAND MURAL GRANT**

Visit Oakland's Public Mural Grant Program (PMGP) is a recognition that the arts community within Oakland is valuable in building visitor interest, as well as vital in establishing a strong sense of place for local residents of the city. The program intends to increase the number of public murals for display on the outward walls of buildings within city limits as a way to further enhance the aesthetics of the city, while supporting the incredibly talented artist community within Oakland. The PMGP will identify and fund the projects that highlight positive images of Oakland's history and culture.



### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

### **PR ACHIEVEMENTS**

The Visit Oakland PR team continues to shape the stories told about Oakland as a destination, highlighting the city's culinary landscape, arts and culture, and position as a gateway to the Bay Area. Ongoing positive media coverage and debunking of Oakland's negative stereotypes continue, focusing on the city's appeal to an international audience.



- Launched "Oakland Spotlight," a monthly press release that features a neighborhood in Oakland and strategically focuses PR efforts around the area's businesses and attractions. Kicked off the 2-year program with a press conference in Fruitvale with Mayor Schaaf and City Council members.
- Andre Ward as an Oakland hero story to press in preparation for his last Oakland fight at Oracle Arena.
- at the Wine Bloggers Conference in Lodi.
- including NYC, LA, Seattle and Mexico.

### LOCAL NEWS & COMMUNITY OUTREACH







### **HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:**

- · In partnership with Roc Nation, promoted
- · Sponsored and led a wine blending session
- In-person pitches to out of market media

PR BY THE **NUMBERS** 

238 MIL

634,869,068

**FEATURED PUBLICATIONS** 















# **OAKLAND SPOTLIGHT**

Oakland Spotlight is a program designed to showcase the diverse and vibrant neighborhoods in Oakland. Every month we feature a new neighborhood to highlight the unique cultural institutions, attractions, restaurants that make it a great place to live, and an unforgettable place to visit.



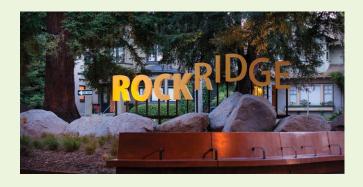




### **FEATURED NEIGHBORHOODS**

Fruitvale, KONO, Jack London, Chinatown, Downtown, East Oakland, Grand Lake, Lake Merritt, Rockridge, West Oakland





### **UPCOMING FEATURES**

Uptown, Airport District, Oakland Hills, Old Oakland, Lower Hills, Temescal, Piedmont

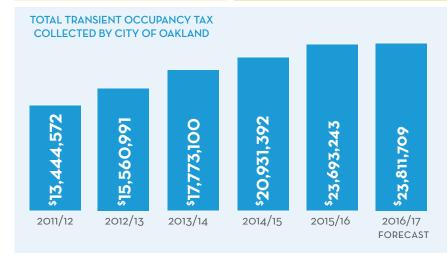
# **VISIT OAKLAND BUDGET 2016/17**











(Source: City of Oakland)

# LOOKING AHEAD TO 2017/18







**NEW MOBILE VISITORS CENTER** 



NEW FLIGHTS AND ROUTES FROM OAK



JACK LONDON SQUARE VISITOR CENTER RENOVATION

**OAKLAND WILL HOST** 







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### - ACCOLADES & AWARDS -

No. 9 among the 10 Most Walkable Cities of 2017 - Redfin, May 2017

No. 5 among the Top 10 Vegan Cities in America - VegNews, May 2017

2017's 3rd Best City for Basketball Fans - WalletHub, May 2017

8th Happiest Place to Live - WalletHub, March 2017

15th among super cool U.S. cities to visit - Expedia Viewfinder, March 2017

Top 10 Cities Where Downtown Is Making a Comeback - Realtor.com, March 2017

7th Most Culturally Diverse U.S. City and 1st in Ethnoracial Diversity - WalletHub, February 2017

Among the Top 10 U.S. cities for employee happiness - Kununu, February 2017

10th Best U.S. City for Living Without a Car - Redfin, February 2017

9th Best City to Score Your Dream Job - GoBanking, January 2017

Oakland's Bushrod neighborhood named the Hottest Neighborhood of 2017 - RedFin, January 2017

America's best new bike lanes of 2016 - People for Bikes, December 2016

7th Greenest City in America - WalletHub, October 2016

No. 7 on roster of cities with the Best Local Food Scene - USA Today, September 2016

11th Best City for Coffee Lovers - WalletHub, September 2016

No. 1 among Top 10 U.S. Cities for International Foods - Travel Channel, September 2016

Area with the highest rate of same-sex female marriage and 6th highest rate of same-sex male marriage
- New York Times, September 2016

11th Best Large City to Live in - WalletHub, July 2016

Oakland MSA Ranked 3rd Best Place for Tech Careers - Value Penguin, June 2016

Oakland is the most diverse large city in the U.S. - WalletHub, May 2016

Oakland ranks as foodie heaven: nation's best city for coffee, food trucks, breakfast and more by Estately
- San Francisco Chronicle, March 30, 2016

Oakland was named the 5th Best City for Basketball Fans - WalletHub, March 2016

Ranked No. 13 among America's Fastest-Growing Cities 2016 - Forbes, March 2016

Among the 52 Places to Go in 2016 - New York Times, January 2016

