



Airbnb Summer Travel Report: 2015

In 2007, Airbnb co-founders Brian and Joe hosted the first three Airbnb guests: Michael, Kat, and Amol. At the time, none of them thought they were onto something big. Brian and Joe simply needed to pay the rent. And Michael, Kat, and Amol needed a place to stay during a design conference.

They were the first five members of the Airbnb community – but none of them imagined just how big that community would grow. Just eight years later, the Airbnb community now spans 191 countries and 34,000 cities around the world. Over 50 million total guests have followed in the footsteps of Michael, Kat, and Amol – over 30 million just in the last year.

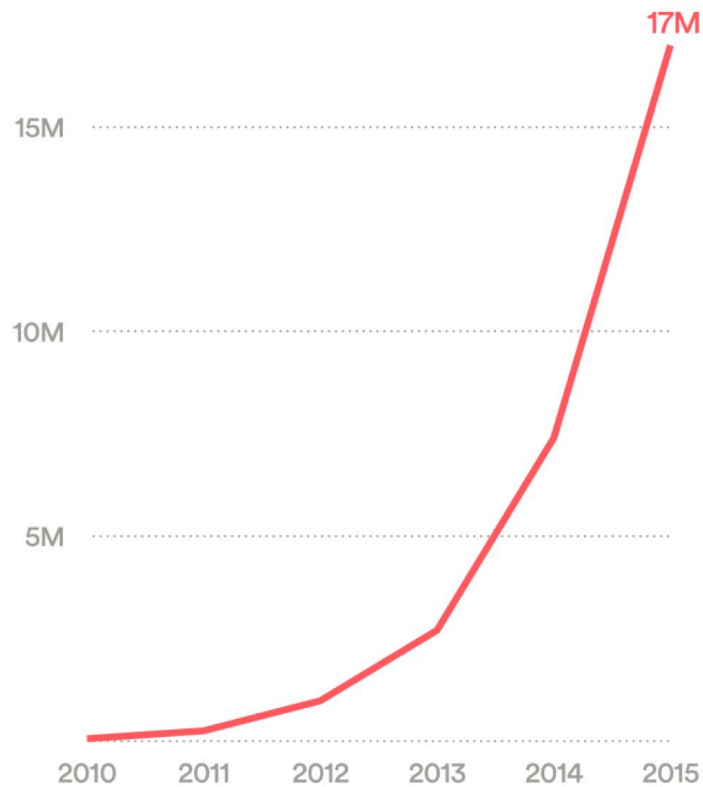
These guests are traveling on Airbnb because staying in a home gives them a unique experience that they can't get anywhere else. And like Brian and Joe in 2007, the majority of Airbnb hosts are sharing their space to make ends meet. Most Airbnb hosts use the money they earn sharing their space to pay the bills, and a study earlier this summer showed that Airbnb income is providing an economic lifeline to middle-class families.

This summer, millions of guests had the chance to have a unique, local travel experience in communities around the world. They visited local coffee shops and small businesses that haven't benefitted from tourism in the past, and they met community members they never would have encountered if they stayed in traditional accommodations.

As the summer travel season winds down, we took a look at the numbers and analyzed travel that took place between the end of May and early September. This report briefly summarizes our findings and includes additional details regarding the Airbnb community.

17 Million Travelers

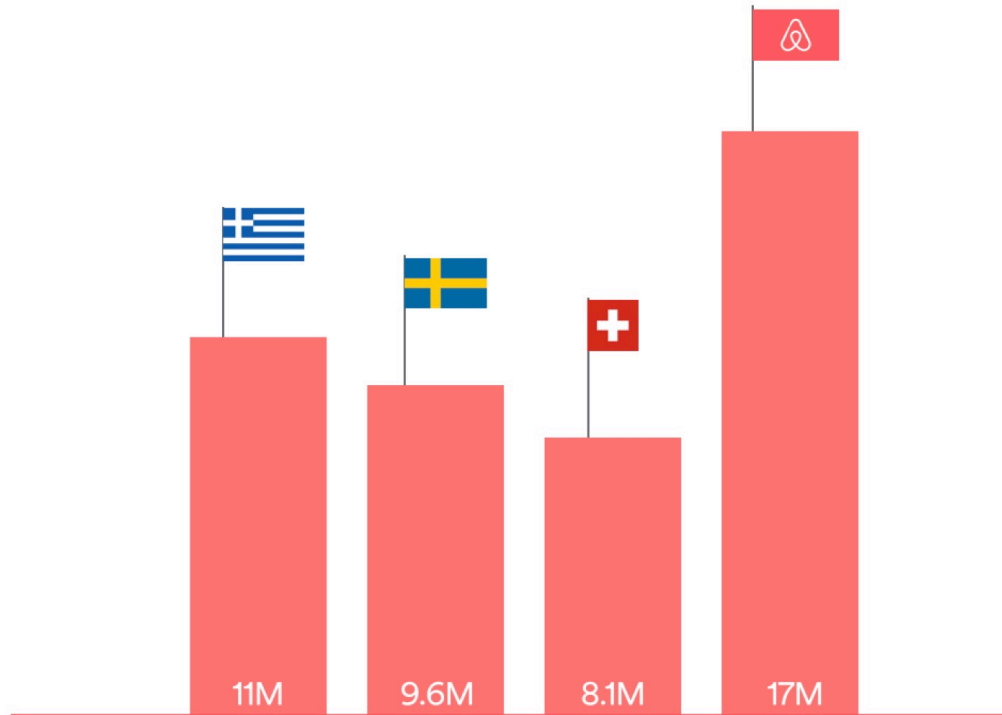
Five years ago, in the summer of 2010, roughly 47,000 people stayed with Airbnb hosts. This summer, nearly 17 million total guests stayed with Airbnb hosts around the world. That means that in the last five years, summer travel on Airbnb has grown 353 times over.



**Summer travel has grown
353x in just five years.**

To put that in context, that's more people than the population of Greece, or Sweden, or Switzerland. And more people traveled on

Airbnb this summer than travel to Paris, or Dubai, or New York, in an entire year ([source](#)).



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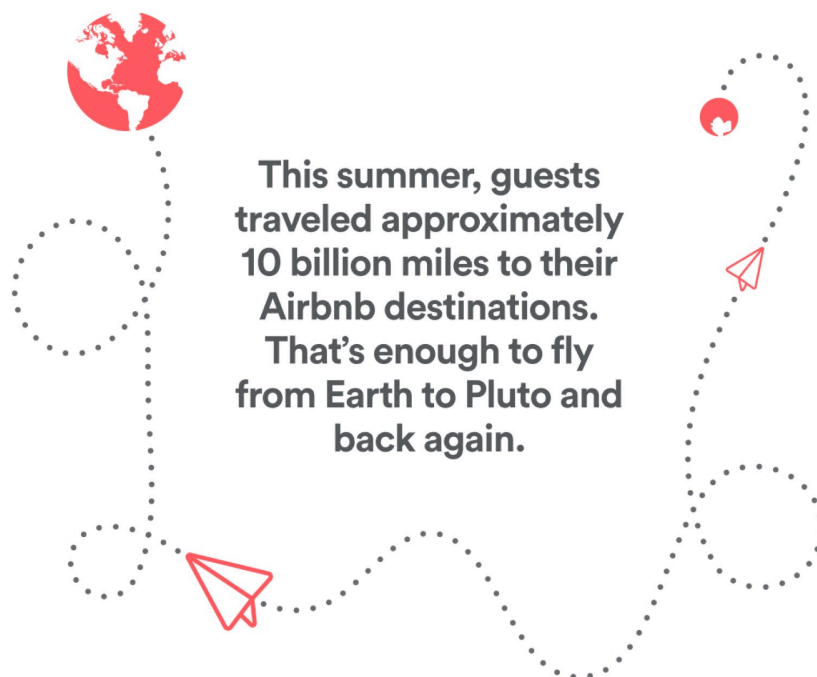
August 8 was the biggest night in Airbnb history, with nearly 1 million guests staying with hosts worldwide. If the Airbnb community was a city, on August 8 it would have been the 10th largest city in the United States. That night, Airbnb guests were staying in 150 different countries around the world – even in destinations as far-flung as Madagascar, Greenland, and the Faroe Islands.

At this point five years ago, fewer than 90,000 total guests had ever stayed with Airbnb hosts. Today, that number is nearly 55 million. Total guests have grown more than 600x in just five years.

Guests from Around The World

The Airbnb guests traveling this summer came from all over the world, traveling from 57,000 different cities. The average age of these travelers was 35 years old, and 54% of the guests were women and 46% were men.

These guests traveled over 10 billion miles to their Airbnb destinations. That's enough to fly from Earth to Pluto and back again. The most popular routes for Airbnb guests weren't quite so out-of-this-world. Three of the biggest routes were Paris to Lisbon, New York City to the Catskills and Hudson Valley, and Seoul to Osaka.



These guests were staying in unique listings in hundreds of countries. In fact, over 10,000 guests stayed in tree houses on Airbnb this summer, over 12,000 guests stayed in yurts, and nearly 13,000 guests stayed in castles. Guests stayed everywhere from a [private island](#) in Nicaragua to [cave homes](#) in the Greek Islands.

Guests stayed in unique listings worldwide:



Hosts Welcoming the World to Their Neighborhood

Airbnb guests this summer stayed with hosts in over 150 different countries. According to our research, the overwhelming majority of

our hosts are middle class families who share the home in which they live.

A [study](#) by former White House National Economic Advisor Gene Sperling found that the supplemental money earned by our U.S. hosts essentially represents a 14 percent annual raise for middle class families on our platform, and comes at a time when middle-class income has stagnated across the U.S. The average host in the study earns approximately \$7,350 – vital income for middle-class households trying to make ends meet.



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Often, Airbnb hosts are welcoming travelers who are visiting their city for major events like a [Grateful Dead](#) concert, the Copa America soccer tournament in Chile, or the start of the Tour De France in the Netherlands. There are even more events on the horizon, from Super Bowl 50 in the Bay Area to the [Rio 2016 Olympic Games](#), for which Airbnb is the [official alternative accommodation services supplier](#).

And thousands of hosts are preparing to open their doors to travelers when the Pope visits Philadelphia and Cuba. In terms of listings, Philadelphia and Cuba are Airbnb's two fastest-growing markets over the past six months. During these major events, Airbnb can help a city complement its existing tourism infrastructure and bring valuable income to the local neighborhoods that Airbnb hosts call home.



Safe Travels

The Airbnb community has grown quickly because it is built on a foundation of respect and kindness. We've developed a Trust and Safety team of over 250 people that are available around-the-clock in every time zone. We are constantly working on new products and features to help make Airbnb safer.

These tools are making a difference. 17 million guests were traveling this summer, but there were under 300 calls into our Trust and Safety team that were classified by our team as urgent situations.

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What started as one small apartment in San Francisco has grown to a community of travelers and hosts that spans the globe. We're proud that our community has continued to grow, and it's no surprise that more and more people are embracing home-sharing. Airbnb is helping middle-class families pay the bills and making it possible for travelers to see neighborhoods they might have missed in the past. We can't wait to see what next summer has in store.