First Choice USA
Directors' report and financial statements
for the year ended 30 September 2013
Company number 5675241

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## **First Choice USA**

# Directors' Report for the year ended 30 September 2013

The Directors present their report and the audited financial statements of First Choice USA ("the Company") for the year ended 30 September 2013

### Principal activity

The Company's principal activity during the year continued to be that of a holding company

# Results and dividends

The Company's profit on ordinary activities before taxation for the year ended 30 September 2013 was \$28,682,876 (2012 \$40,744,317)

During the year the Company reduced its ordinary issued share capital from \$39,240,821 to \$1,000,000, resulting in an increase in distributable reserves of \$38,240,821 During the year two of the Company's subsidiary undertakings – First Choice Orlando, Inc (previously called Caradonna Dive Adventures, Inc.) and iExplore, Inc. – disposed of their businesses and, as a result, the Company impaired its investments in those subsidiaries to a carrying value of \$nil (Note 8)

During the year the Company received dividends of \$20,378,645 (2012 \$63,633,289) from subsidiary entities within the TUI Travel PLC group of companies ("the Group") Interim dividends amounting to \$87,355,305 were paid during the year (2012 \$56,733,289) Of the dividends paid, \$71,068,359 was satisfied by the transfer to First Choice Holdings, Inc. of the entire issued share capital of First Choice Sailing, Inc., Intercruises Shoreside & Port Services, Inc. and EEFC, Inc. at market value, with the balance being settled in cash. The Directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend (2012 \$nil). Details of dividends received and paid after the year end are shown in note 15

The Directors consider the future outlook of the Company to be satisfactory

#### Strategic review

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006

# Funding and liquidity and going concern

The Directors have considered the funding and liquidity position of the Company and of its intermediate parent company TUI Travel PLC Following this review, the Directors consider it appropriate to continue to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis

### Directors

The Directors of the Company at the date of this report are

A L John R S Wheatley

## Independent auditors

Pursuant to Section 487 of the Companies Act 2006 PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP will be deemed to be re-appointed and will continue in office

# Directors' insurance

Throughout the financial year and at the date of the approval of these financial statements, the intermediate parent company, TUI Travel PLC, maintained Directors' & Officers' Liability insurance policies on behalf of the Directors of the Company These policies meet the 2006 Companies Act definition of a qualifying third party indemnity provision

# Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

The Directors confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and each Director has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a Director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information

## Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006

On behalf of the Board

R S Wheatley

Director

Company Number

5675241

Dated

12 December 2013

# Report on the financial statements

## Our opinion

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 30 September 2013 and of its profit for the year then ended.
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

This opinion is to be read in the context of what we say below

# What we have audited

The financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2013, which are prepared by First Choice USA, comprise

- the Profit and Loss Account,
- the Balance Sheet, and
- the related notes

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation comprises applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

In applying the financial reporting framework, the directors have made a number of subjective judgements, for example in respect of significant accounting estimates. In making such estimates, they have made assumptions and considered future events.

### What an audit of financial statements involves

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) (ISAs (UK & Ireland)) An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of

- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed,
- the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors, and
- the overall presentation of the financial statements

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in Directors report and financial statements to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

# Opinion on matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements

# Other matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion

- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law have not been made, or
- the directors were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Directors' Report

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility

# Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

# Our responsibilities and those of the directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page 2, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and ISAs (UK & Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the Company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing

Rosenay Shapland

Rosemary Shapland (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

**Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors** 

Gatwick

12 December 2013

First Choice USA
Profit and loss account for the year ended 30 September 2013

		Year ended 30 September 2013	Year ended 30 September 2012
	Note	\$	\$
Administrative expenses	2	(48,624)	(1,941,142)
Operating loss		(48,624)	(1,941,142)
Income from shares in Group undertakings	4	20,378,645	63,633,289
Profit on disposal of investments	8	17,687,197	•
Amounts written off investments	8	(1,599,534)	(15,753,618)
Profit on ordinary activities before interest and taxation	<del>-</del>	36,417,684	45,938,529
Interest receivable and similar income	5	994	1,224
Interest payable and similar charges	6	(7,735,802)	(5,195,436)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	2	28,682,876	40,744,317
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	7	-	-
Profit for the financial year	12	28,682,876	40,744,317

The results stated above are all derived from continuing operations

A note on historical cost profits and losses has not been included as part of these financial statements as the results as disclosed in the profit and loss account are prepared on an unmodified cost basis

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the profit and loss account. Accordingly no statement of total recognised gains and losses is presented.

	Note	30 September 2013 \$	30 September 2012 \$
Fixed assets			
Investments	8	162,133,373	217,114,069
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		4,220,274	5,570,459
Total assets less current liabilities		166,353,647	222,684,528
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	9	(155,864,994)	(153,523,446)
Net assets		10,488,653	69,161,082
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	10	1,000,002	39,240,823
Profit and loss account	12	9,488,651	29,920,259
Total shareholders' funds	13	10,488,653	69,161,082

The notes on pages 6 to 11 form part of these financial statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 12 December 2013 and signed on their behalf by

R S Wheatley **Director** 

## 1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been consistently applied in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Company's financial statements

### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and under the historical cost convention

The Company is exempt by virtue of Section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to prepare group financial statements. These financial statements present information about the Company as an individual undertaking and not about its group.

The functional currency of the Company is considered to be US dollars, based on the economic operating environment of the Company The Company's investments and principal borrowings are denominated in US dollars

# Going concern

The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis as the intermediate parent company, TUI Travel PLC, has agreed to provide financial support to the Company in order that it can continue to trade and meet its liabilities as they fall due, for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements

#### **Cash Flow**

Under Financial Reporting Standard 1 (revised 1996) the Company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that a parent undertaking includes the Company in its own published consolidated financial statements

#### Investments

Investments are stated at cost less provision for diminution in value. The carrying amounts of the Company's investments are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the investment may not be recoverable. If such an indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. An impairment loss is recognised in the profit and loss account whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount.

# Taxation

Taxation comprises current and deferred tax. Current tax is the expected tax payable (or recoverable) for the current period, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous periods, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

Except as otherwise required by accounting standards, full provision without discounting is made for all deferred taxation timing differences which have arisen but not reversed at the balance sheet date. Timing differences arise when items of income and expenditure are included in tax computations in periods which are different from their inclusion in the financial statements. A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be used.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rate that is expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on the rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date

## Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currency are converted to US Dollars at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into US Dollars at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the balance sheet. Foreign exchange gains and losses are recognised in the profit and loss account.

# 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Dividends

Dividend distribution to the Company's shareholders is recognised as a liability in the Company's financial statements in the period in which the dividends are approved for payment. Dividends receivable are recognised as an asset in the Company's financial statements in the period in which the Company's subsidiary recognises the dividend liability in its financial statements.

# 2. Profit on ordinary activities before taxation

Profit on ordinary activities before taxation for the year is stated after charging/(crediting) the following

	Year ended	Year ended
	30 September	30 September
	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Administration expenses	48,624	1,941,142
Profit on disposal of investment (Note 8)	(17,687,197)	-
Amounts written off investments (Note 8)	1,599,534	15,753,618
Fees for the audit of the Company	2,000	2,000

In 2013 and 2012 the auditors' remuneration was paid by another Group company. The allocated audit fee relating to the Company for 2013 is shown above

The administration costs in the prior year relates to the write-off of Group relief no longer receivable

# 3. Remuneration of Directors

The remuneration of all of the Directors was borne by a fellow Group subsidiary which makes no recharge to the Company The Directors are also Directors of a number of fellow Group subsidiaries. It is therefore not possible to make an accurate apportionment of their remuneration in respect of each of the fellow Group subsidiaries where they are a Director

4. Income from shares in Group Undertakings	Year ended	Year ended
	30 September	30 September
	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Dividends received from Group undertakings	20,378,645	63,633,289

The following dividends were received during the year

- On 25 October 2012 the Company received interim dividends from its subsidiaries Travel Turf, Inc. and TCS & Starquest Expeditions, Inc. of \$1,500,000 and \$10,000,000 respectively,
- On 29 October 2012 the Company received an interim dividend from its subsidiary Your Man Tours, Inc. of \$2,791,699,
- On 22 May 2013 the Company received an interim dividend from its subsidiary First Choice Orlando, Inc. (formerly Caradonna Dive Adventures, Inc.) of \$4,086,946, and
- On 9 September 2013 the Company received an interim dividend from its subsidiary Travel Turf, Inc. of \$2,000,000

5. Interest receivable and similar income	Year ended	Year ended
	30 September	30 September
	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Bank interest receivable	994	1,224

6. Interest payable and similar charges	Year ended 30 September	Year ended 30 September
	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Bank charges	1,065	616
Payable to Group companies	7,734,737	5,194,820
	7,735,802	5,195,436

# 7. Tax on profit on ordinary activities

# (i) Analysis of tax charge in the year

In both the current and prior year, there was \$nil tax charge on profit on ordinary activities

# (ii) Factors affecting the current tax charge for the year

There is no tax charge or credit in the current or prior year. This is different to (2012) different to) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 23.5% (2012) 25%). The differences are shown below.

	Year ended 30 September 2013 \$	Year ended 30 September 2012 \$
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	28,682,876	40,744,317
Profit on ordinary activities at the standard rate of UK corporation tax of 23 5 % (2012 25%)	6,740,476	10,186,079
Effects of  - Amounts not deductible for tax purposes  - Income not taxable  - Group relief surrendered for no payment	477,848 (8,945,474) 1,727,150	4,423,691 (15,908,322) 1,298,552
Current tax charge for the year	<u>-</u>	-

# (III) Factors affecting the future tax charge

The rate of taxation is expected to follow the standard rate of UK corporation tax in future periods

At the balance sheet date, the Finance Bill 2013 had been substantively enacted confirming that the main UK corporation tax rate will reduce to 21% with effect from 1 April 2014 and 20% from 1 April 2015. Therefore, at 30 September 2013, deferred tax assets and liabilities have been calculated based on a rate of 20% where the temporary difference is expected to reverse after 1 April 2015. These reductions may also reduce the Company's future current tax charges accordingly.

There are no unprovided deferred tax assets nor unrecognised deferred tax liabilities at either 30 September 2013 or 30 September 2012

8. Investments	Investments in subsidiary undertakings c
Cost	*
As at 1 October 2012	386,521,890
Disposals	(53,381,162)
As at 30 September 2013	333,140,728
Impairment	
As at 1 October 2012	(169,407,821)
Charge for the year	(1,599,534)
As at 30 September 2013	(171,007,355)
Net book value	
As at 30 September 2013	162,133,373
As at 30 September 2012	217,114,069

## Investment in principal subsidiary undertakings

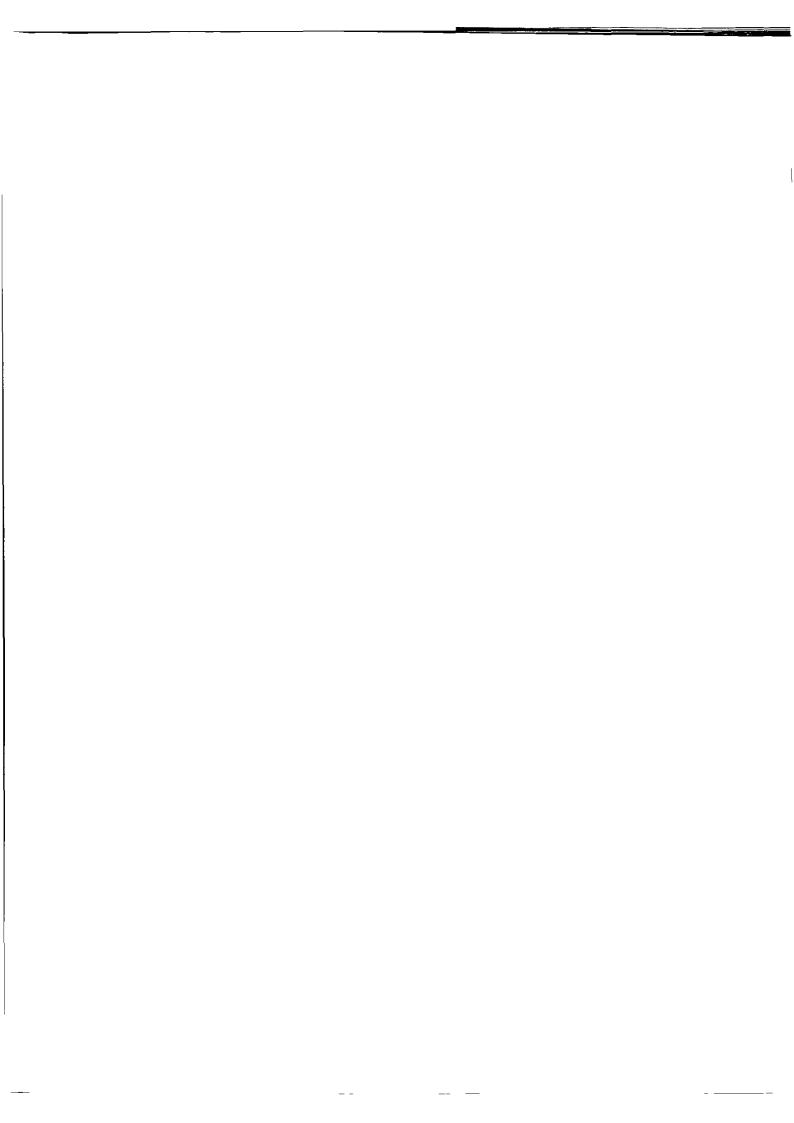
	% Ownership of		Country of
Name	ordinary shares	Principal activity	incorporation
Brightspark Travel, Inc	100%	Tour Operator	USA
First Choice Expeditions, Inc	100%	Holding Company	USA
Hotelbeds USA, Inc	100%	Destination services	USA
Quark Expeditions, Inc	100%	Tour Operator	USA
Studentcity com, Inc	100%	Tour Operator	USA
TCS & Starquest Expeditions, Inc	100%	Tour Operator	USA
Travel Turf, Inc	100%	Tour Operator	USA
Your Man Tours, Inc	100%	Tour Operator	USA
Zegrahm Expeditions, Inc	100%	Tour Operator	USA

All principal operating subsidiaries are either engaged in tour operating or holding companies of Group tour operating companies or provide support to tour operating companies and are incorporated in the USA 100% of the ordinary issued share capital of each subsidiary is held by the Company

On 25 October 2012 the Company declared a dividend of \$71,068,359 to its immediate parent company, First Choice Holdings, Inc. In satisfaction of this dividend the Company transferred to First Choice Holdings, Inc. the entire issued share capital of EEFC, Inc, First Choice Sailing, Inc. and Intercruises Shoreside and Port Services, Inc. which had cost \$53,381,162. As a result the Company made a profit on disposal of \$17,687,197.

During the year, two of the Company's subsidiary undertakings — First Choice Orlando, Inc. (previously called Caradonna Dive Adventures, Inc.) and iExplore, Inc. sold their trade and assets to third party companies. As a result the Company further impaired the investments in First Choice Orlando, Inc. by \$1,300,000 to a carrying value of \$nil and iExplore, Inc. by \$299,534 to a carrying value of \$nil. As part of the terms of the sale agreement Caradonna Dive Adventures, Inc. was required to change its name, and on 31 December 2012 it changed its name to First Choice Orlando, Inc.

The Directors believe that the book value of the investments is supported by their underlying net assets



9.	Creditors amounts falling due after more than one year	30 September 2013 \$	30 September 2012 \$
	Amounts owed to Group undertakings	155,864,994	153,523,446
	Amounts owed to Group undertakings comprise an intercompany I unsecured, and bears interest at the US Libor rate plus 4 25% acc 2017		<del>-</del> -
10.	Called up share capital	30 September 2013 \$	30 September 2012 \$
	Issued	T	•
	1 deferred ordinary share of £1	2	2
	Issued and fully paid		
	1,000,000 ordinary shares of \$1 each (2012 39,240,821)	1,000,000	39,240,821
		1,000,002	39,240,823
	On 10 October 2012 the Company reduced its ordinary issued s \$38,240,821 to the profit and loss reserve	share capital to \$1,000,0	00 and transferred
11.	Dividends paid	Year ended	Year ended
		30 September	30 September
		2013	2012
		2013 \$	•

- On 4 October 2012 the Company paid a dividend of \$2,000,000,
- On 31 October 2012 the Company paid a dividend of \$71,068,359,
- On 16 November 2012 the Company paid a dividend of \$9,000,000,
- On 20 June 2013 the Company paid a dividend of \$2,786,946, and
- On 24 September 2013 the Company paid a dividend of \$2,500,000

12. F	Reserves	Profit and loss account \$
A	At 1 October 2012	29,920,259
	Dividends paid	(87,355,305)
P	Profit for the financial year	28,682,876
C	Capital reduction	38,240,821
£	At 30 September 2013	9,488,651

## 13. Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds

	30 September	30 September
	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Opening shareholders' funds	69,161,082	85,150,054
Dividends paid	(87,355,305)	(56,733,289)
Profit for the financial year	28,682,876	40,744,317
Closing shareholders' funds	10,488,653	69,161,082

All shareholder funds relate to equity interests

### 14. Related party transactions

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption contained in Financial Reporting Standard No 8 "Related Party Disclosure" as it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of TUI Travel PLC. Therefore the Company has not disclosed transactions or balances with wholly-owned entities that form part of the Group headed by TUI Travel PLC.

# 15. Post balance sheet events

The following events took place after the year end

- On 27 November 2013 the company received an interim dividend from its subsidiary Intrav, Inc. of \$18,935,778,
- On 27 November 2013 the company paid a dividend to its sole shareholder First Choice Holdings, Inc. of \$18,935,778, and
- On 28 November 2013 the company received an interim dividend from its subsidiary Hotelbeds USA, Inc. of \$12,000,000

# 16 Ultimate parent company

The Company is a subsidiary undertaking of TUI AG - a company registered in Berlin and Hanover (Federal Republic of Germany) which is the ultimate parent company and controlling party. The intermediate holding company is TUI Travel PLC. The immediate parent company is First Choice Holdings, Inc.

The largest group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by TUI AG. The smallest group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by TUI Travel PLC, incorporated in the United Kingdom. No other group financial statements include the results of the Company.

Copies of the TUI Travel PLC financial statements are available from the Company Secretary, TUI Travel House, Crawley Business Quarter, Fleming Way, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 9QL or from the website www tuitravelplc com Copies of the TUI AG financial statements are available from investor Relations, TUI AG, Karl-Wiechert-Allee 4, D-30625, Hanover or the website address www tui-group com