

STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC

Form 424B3

September 23, 2005

Table of Contents

Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)

Registration No. 333-127464

PROSPECTUS

Strategic Hotel Capital, Inc.

4,000,000 Shares

8.50% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares

(Liquidation Preference \$25.00 per share)

This prospectus relates to the offering for resale from time to time of up to 4,000,000 shares of our 8.50% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, which we refer to in this prospectus as the Series A Preferred Shares, by any of the selling stockholders identified in this prospectus and any additional selling stockholders that may be identified in a supplement to this prospectus or an amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. We issued and sold 4,000,000 of the Series A Preferred Shares in a private placement in reliance on Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the Securities Act) and Rule 144A under the Securities Act. The selling stockholders may offer the securities at fixed prices, at prevailing market prices at the time of sale, at varying prices or negotiated prices. We will not receive any cash proceeds from the selling stockholders sales of these securities.

The Series A Preferred Shares will not be redeemable before March 16, 2010. Beginning March 16, 2010, we may redeem Series A Preferred Shares at \$25 per share plus accrued distributions. Distributions on the Series A Preferred Shares will be cumulative from the date of issuance and are payable quarterly, starting June 30, 2005.

For a more detailed description of the Series A Preferred Shares, see Description of Series A Preferred Shares beginning on page 12.

To ensure that we maintain our qualification as a real estate investment trust under the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, ownership of our equity securities by any person is subject to certain limitations. See Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and of our Charter and Bylaws Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer.

Shares of our common stock are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SLH . There is currently no public trading market for the Series A Preferred Shares. We have applied to list the Series A Preferred Shares on the New York Stock Exchange. No assurances can be given that the shares will be so listed.

We maintain our executive offices at 77 West Wacker Drive, Suite 4600, Chicago, Illinois 60601. Our telephone number is (312) 658-5000.

Investing in the Series A Preferred Shares involves risks. You should read the risk factors beginning on page 3 in their entirety.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is September 21, 2005.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	
<u>FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	2
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	4
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED DIVIDENDS</u>	4
<u>THE COMPANY</u>	5
<u>SELLING STOCKHOLDERS</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF SERIES A PREFERRED SHARES</u>	12
<u>CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND OF OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS</u>	19
<u>CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u>	26
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	45
<u>EXPERTS</u>	47
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	47
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	47
<u>INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE</u>	48

Table of Contents

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained in this prospectus. The selling stockholders are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, the securities described in this prospectus only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The information contained in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus. You should not assume that the information appearing in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement or the documents incorporated by reference herein or therein is accurate as of any date other than their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operation and prospects may have changed since those dates.

As used in this prospectus, references to we, our, us, the Company and the REIT are to Strategic Hotel Capital, Inc. and, except as the context otherwise requires, its consolidated subsidiaries, including Strategic Hotel Funding, L.L.C. and its consolidated subsidiaries. References to SHC Funding or the limited liability company are to Strategic Hotel Funding, L.L.C. References to Whitehall are to Whitehall Street Real Estate Non-managing membership VII, Whitehall Street Real Estate Non-managing membership IX and their affiliates. Whitehall is controlled by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., which is the parent company of Goldman, Sachs & Co. References to Prudential are to Prudential Financial, Inc. and its affiliates, including Strategic Value Investors, LLC, The Prudential Insurance Company of America, Prudential Investment Management, Inc., PIC Realty Corporation and Prudential Assets, LLC, and to entities owning our securities over which Prudential Financial, Inc. or its affiliates have investment management discretion, including (SHC/Olayan) Redemption Vehicle, LLC and SVI (SHC/Houston) Redemption Vehicle, LLC.

This prospectus contains registered trademarks that are the exclusive property of their respective owners, which are companies other than us, including Embassy Suites®, Four Seasons®, Hilton®, Hyatt®, InterContinental®, Loews®, Marriott® and Ritz-Carlton®. None of the owners of these trademarks, their affiliates or any of their respective officers, directors, agents or employees is an issuer or underwriter of the securities being offered hereby. In addition, none of the owners of these trademarks, their affiliates or any of their respective officers, directors, agents or employees has or will have any liability arising out of or related to the sale or offer of the securities being offered hereby, including any liability or responsibility for any financial statements, projections or other financial information or other information contained in this prospectus or otherwise disseminated in connection with the offer or sale of the securities offered hereby.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC using a shelf registration process or continuous offering process. Under this shelf registration process, the selling stockholders may, from time to time, sell the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities that may be offered by the selling stockholders. We may also file, from time to time, a prospectus supplement or an amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part containing specific information about the selling stockholders and the terms of the securities being offered. That prospectus supplement or amendment may include additional risk factors or other special considerations applicable to those securities. Any prospectus supplement or amendment may also add, update, or change information in this prospectus. If there is any supplement or amendment, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement or amendment.

This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement do not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. For further information, we refer you to the registration statement and any amendments to such registration statement, including its exhibits. Statements contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement about the provisions or contents of any agreement or other document are not necessarily complete. If the SEC's rules and regulations require that an agreement or document be filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, please see that agreement or document for a complete description of these matters.

You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described below under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**. Information incorporated by reference with the SEC after the date of this prospectus, or information included in any prospectus supplement or an amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, may add, update, or change information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. If information in these subsequent filings, prospectus supplements or amendments is inconsistent with this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, the information incorporated by reference or included in the subsequent prospectus supplement or amendment will supersede the information in this prospectus or any earlier prospectus supplement. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of each document.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements contained in this prospectus constitute forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements relate to expectations, beliefs, projections, future plans and strategies, anticipated events or trends and similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as may, will, should, expects, plans, anticipates, believes, estimates, predicts, potential or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology.

The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus reflect our current views about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties, assumptions and changes in circumstances that may cause our actual results to differ significantly from those expressed in any forward-looking statement. The factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from expected results include changes in economic, business, competitive market and regulatory conditions. Important risks and factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from any forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to:

The factors discussed in this prospectus set forth under the section titled Risk Factors ;

Downturns in economic and market conditions, particularly levels of spending in the travel and leisure industries in the markets where we invest;

Hostilities, including future terrorist attacks, or apprehension of hostilities that affect travel within or to the United States, Mexico, Czech Republic, Germany, France or other countries where we invest;

Increases in interest rates and operating costs;

Difficulties in identifying properties to acquire and completing acquisitions;

Our ability to dispose of existing properties in a manner consistent with our investment strategy;

Risks related to natural disasters;

General volatility of the capital markets and the market price of our common shares;

Our failure to qualify and maintain our status as a real estate investment trust (a REIT);

Changes in real estate and zoning laws or regulations;

Increases in real property tax rates; and

Edgar Filing: STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC - Form 424B3

Changes in the competitive environment in our industry and the markets where we invest.

We do not intend, and disclaim any duty or obligation, to update or revise any industry information or forward-looking statements set forth in this prospectus to reflect new information, future events or otherwise.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the risk factors set forth below as well as the additional risk factors set forth in the documents incorporated herein by reference before purchasing the Series A Preferred Shares offered pursuant to this prospectus. See Incorporation by Reference. An investment in the Series A Preferred Shares involves a significant degree of risk, including but not limited to the risks described below and in the documents incorporated herein by reference. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial may also materially and adversely affect our business operations. Any of the following risks could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations. In such case, you could lose a portion of your original investment.

Risks Related to the Offering

A trading market for the Series A Preferred Shares may not develop.

There is currently no public market for the Series A Preferred Shares and none may develop. If there is limited trading of the Series A Preferred Shares, this may adversely affect the price at which you can sell your Series A Preferred Shares and your ability to sell at the time you want to sell. Although we have applied for listing of the Series A Preferred Shares on the New York Stock Exchange, our listing application may not be approved. Even if the Series A Preferred Shares are approved for listing, an active trading market for such shares may never develop or be sustained following such listing.

We could be prevented from paying dividends on the Series A Preferred Shares.

You will only receive cash dividends on the Series A Preferred Shares if we have funds legally available for the payment of dividends and such payment is not restricted or prohibited by law. Our business may not generate sufficient cash flow from operations to enable us to pay dividends on the Series A Preferred Shares when payable. Accordingly, there is no guarantee that we will be able to pay any cash dividends on our Series A Preferred Shares.

Holders of Series A Preferred Shares have limited voting rights and no rights as a holder of common stock.

Except as expressly stated in the Articles Supplementary governing the Series A Preferred Shares, as a holder of Series A Preferred Shares, you will not have any relative, participating, optional or other special voting rights and powers and your approval will not be required for the taking of any corporate action. For example, your approval would not be required for any merger or consolidation in which we are involved or a sale of all or substantially all of our assets, except to the extent that such transaction materially adversely affects the express power, preferences, rights or privileges of the holders of Series A Preferred Shares. See Description of Series A Preferred Shares Voting Rights.

Table of Contents**USE OF PROCEEDS**

All sales of the Series A Preferred Shares will be by or for the account of the selling stockholders named in this prospectus, in any supplement to this prospectus or in an amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale by any selling stockholders of the Series A Preferred Shares. We have agreed to pay all expenses of effecting the registration of the Series A Preferred Shares offered herein, other than underwriting discounts and selling commissions, relating to the sale or disposition of the Series A Preferred Shares, which will be paid by the selling stockholders.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED DIVIDENDS

The following table sets forth the ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred dividends for the periods indicated below.

Six Months Ended June 30, 2005	Year Ended December 31,				
	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
1.75	0.27	0.31	0.55	0.23	0.82

We have calculated our earnings by adding loss on debt extinguishments, fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest and preferred dividends), amortization of capitalized interest and distributed income of unconsolidated joint ventures, to income from continuing operations before minority interest, and by subtracting equity in earnings of unconsolidated joint ventures. Fixed charges consist of interest expense, including the amortization of capitalized debt issuance costs and capitalized interest costs and loss on debt extinguishments and preferred unit distributions. We computed our ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred dividends by dividing our earnings by our fixed charges and preferred dividends.

Table of Contents

THE COMPANY

We were incorporated in January 2004 to own and asset manage upper upscale and luxury hotels in North America and Europe. We went public in an initial public offering in June 2004. Our founder and accounting predecessor, Strategic Hotel Capital, L.L.C., or SHC LLC, was founded in 1997 by Laurence Geller, our President and Chief Executive Officer, Whitehall and others. We own our properties through our investment in SHC Funding, our operating partnership.

We:

own the fee interest in 11 hotels, comprising approximately 4,961 rooms, located in Arizona, California, Florida, Illinois and Louisiana and in Mexico;

lease three hotels from unaffiliated lessors: a ground lease in a hotel in Lincolnshire, Illinois and operating leases in hotels in Paris, France and Hamburg, Germany, comprising an aggregate of approximately 859 rooms;

own a 35% interest in a joint venture, with an unaffiliated party, that owns a hotel in Prague, Czech Republic comprising approximately 372 rooms, and we asset manage such hotel on behalf of the joint venture;

own an 85% interest in each of the InterContinental Hotel in Miami and the InterContinental Hotel in Chicago;

own a 31% interest in and act as asset manager for a joint venture, which joint venture is with two unaffiliated parties, that is developing the Four Seasons Residence Club Punta Mita, a luxury vacation home product that will be sold in fractional ownership interests on property adjacent to our Four Seasons Punta Mita Resort hotel in Mexico; and

asset manage seven hotels for SHC LLC under an asset management agreement. SHC LLC has entered into a purchase and sale agreement for the disposition of one of its properties that we manage.

We do not operate any of our hotels directly; instead we employ internationally known hotel management companies to operate them for us under management contracts or operating leases. Our existing hotels are operated under the widely recognized upper upscale and luxury brands of Embassy Suites®, Four Seasons®, Hilton®, Hyatt®, InterContinental®, Loews®, Marriott® and Ritz-Carlton®.

Table of Contents

SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

We originally issued 4,000,000 Series A Preferred Shares on March 16, 2005 in a private placement to Deutsche Bank Securities and Goldman, Sachs & Co., as initial purchasers. The initial purchasers then resold the Series A Preferred Shares in transactions not requiring registration under the Securities Act or applicable state securities laws to persons the initial purchasers reasonably believed to be qualified institutional buyers, as defined in Rule 144A under the Securities Act, in compliance with Rule 144A.

This prospectus relates to resales of the Series A Preferred Shares by the selling stockholders as described below under Plan of Distribution. We filed the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part with the SEC pursuant to the registration rights granted in connection with the original issue of the Series A Preferred Shares to afford the holders of the Series A Preferred Shares the opportunity to sell their securities in public transactions rather than pursuant to exemptions from the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act. To take advantage of that opportunity, a holder of the Series A Preferred Shares must provide information about itself and the securities it is selling as required under the Securities Act.

The selling stockholders listed below and the beneficial owners of the Series A Preferred Shares and their transferees, pledgees, donees or other successors, if not identified in this prospectus then so identified in supplements to this prospectus or in an amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, as required, are the selling stockholders under this prospectus. The following table sets forth information, as of a recent practicable date prior to the effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, with respect to the selling stockholders named below and the respective:

number of Series A Preferred Share owned by each selling stockholder that may be offered pursuant to this prospectus; and

number of Series A Preferred Shares owned by each selling stockholder prior to this offering.

number of Series A Preferred Shares owned by each selling stockholder following the completion of this offering, assuming all the Series A Preferred Shares that may be offered pursuant to this prospectus are sold by the selling stockholder.

The information is based on information provided by or on behalf of the selling stockholders to us in selling stockholders questionnaires and is as of the date specified by the holders of the questionnaires. We have not sought to verify the information contained in the table. Because the selling stockholders may offer all or some portion of the Series A Preferred Shares pursuant to this prospectus, and because we are not currently aware of any agreements, arrangements or understandings with respect to the sale of these securities, we cannot predict the number of shares or principal amount of the securities that will be held by the selling stockholders upon termination of this offering. In addition, some of the selling stockholders may have sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of all or a portion of their securities since the date on which they provided the information about themselves and the securities they were selling in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. See Plan of Distribution.

Unless otherwise disclosed in the footnotes to the table below, no selling stockholder has, or within the past three years has had, any position, office or other material relationship with us or any of our predecessors or affiliates.

Each selling stockholder listed below may, under this prospectus, from time to time offer and sell some, all or none of the number of Series A Preferred Shares listed below opposite its name. Prior to any use of this prospectus in connection with an offering of these securities by a

Edgar Filing: STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC - Form 424B3

beneficial owner not listed as a selling stockholder below or its transferee, pledgee, donee or other successor, the name and information with respect to such person will be set forth in a supplement to this prospectus or in an amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Table of Contents

Name of Selling Stockholder	Number of Series A Preferred Shares That May Be Offered Hereby	Number of Series A Preferred Shares Owned Prior to this Offering	Number of Series A Preferred Shares Owned After this Offering
Security Capital Preferred Growth Incorporated ¹	1,100,000	1,100,000	0
Cohen & Steers Utility Fund, Inc. ²	28,200	28,200	0
Cohen & Steers Realty Income Fund, Inc. ³	129,700	129,700	0
Cohen & Steers Quality Income Realty Fund, Inc. ⁴	132,200	132,200	0
Cohen & Steers Premium Income Realty Fund, Inc. ⁵	111,200	111,200	0
Cohen & Steers Advantage Income Realty Fund, Inc. ⁶	87,900	87,900	0
Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc. ⁷	59,700	59,700	0
ING Clarion Global Real Estate Income Fund ⁸	275,000	275,000	0
The Commerce Insurance Company ⁹	215,000	215,000	0

¹ This Selling Stockholder indicated that the portfolio management committee of Security Capital Research & Management Incorporated ("SC-R&M") (Security Capital Preferred Growth Incorporated's ("SC-Preferred Growth's") investment advisor pursuant to an investment advisory agreement) exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares. The portfolio management committee of SC-R&M consists of Anthony R. Manno Jr., President and Managing Director, Kenneth D. Statz, Managing Director, David E. Rosenbaum, Managing Director and Kevin W. Bedell, Managing Director. SC-R&M does not own an equity interest in SC-Preferred Growth. SC-R&M is a wholly owned subsidiary of JPMorgan Chase & Co. JPMorgan Chase & Co. is affiliated with registered broker-dealers.

² This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

³ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

⁴ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

⁵ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

⁶ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

⁷ Shares indicated as owned by such entity are owned directly by various private investment accounts, primarily employee benefit plans for which Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc. serves as the investment advisor. Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc. is a reporting company under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in its public filings.

⁸ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

⁹ This Selling Stockholder indicated that John Weston Hawie, Chief Investment Officer of The Commerce Insurance Company and American Commerce Insurance Company, exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.

Table of Contents

American Commerce Insurance Company ¹⁰	40,000	40,000	0
Wachovia Capital Markets LLC ¹¹	285,000	285,000	0
Columbia-Woodbourne Holdings LLC ¹²	60,000	60,000	0
Scudder RREEF Real Estate Fund II, Inc. ¹³	332,500	332,500	0
Fidelity Securities Fund: Real Estate Income Fund ¹⁴	119,500	119,500	0
Fidelity Advisor Series IV: Fidelity Real Estate High Income Portfolio ¹⁵	50,000	50,000	0

¹⁰ This Selling Stockholder indicated that John Weston Hawie, Chief Investment Officer of The Commerce Insurance Company and American Commerce Insurance Company, exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.

¹¹ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings. This Selling Stockholder is also a registered broker-dealer.

¹² This Selling Stockholder indicated that Michael L. Steinberg of Woodbourne Investment Management LLC exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.

¹³ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

¹⁴ The entity is a registered investment fund (the Fund) advised by Fidelity Management & Research Company (FMR Co.), a registered investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. FMR Co., 82 Devonshire Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR Corp. and an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 is the beneficial owner of 0 shares of the Common Stock outstanding of the Company as a result of acting as investment adviser to various investment companies registered under Section 8 of the Investment Act of 1940.

Edward C. Johnson 3d, FMR Corp, through its control of FMR Co., and the Fund each has sole power to dispose of the Securities owned by the Fund.

Neither FMR Corp. nor Edward C. Johnson 3d, Chairman of FMR Corp., has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of the shares owned directly by the Fund, which power resides with the Fund's Board of Trustees.

The Fund is an affiliate of a broker-dealer. The Fund purchased the Securities in the ordinary course of business and, as the time of the purchase of the Securities to be resold, the Fund did not have any agreement or understandings, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the notes or conversion shares.

The holdings are as of July 5, 2005.

¹⁵ The entity is a registered investment fund (the Fund) advised by Fidelity Management & Research Company (FMR Co.), a registered investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. FMR Co., 82 Devonshire Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR Corp. and an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 is the beneficial owner of 0 shares of the Common Stock outstanding of the Company as a

Table of Contents

Fidelity Management Trust Company on behalf of accounts managed by it ¹⁶	28,500	28,500	0
Fidelity Monthly Income Fund ¹⁷	3,000	3,000	0
Scudder RREEF Real Estate Fund, Inc. ¹⁸	167,500	167,500	0
ARBCO Associates, LP ¹⁹	20,000	20,000	0
Kayne Anderson Capital Income Partners (QP), LP ²⁰	31,700	31,700	0
Kayne Anderson REIT Fund, LP ²¹	47,500	47,500	0

(... cont d)

result of acting as investment adviser to various investment companies registered under Section 8 of the Investment Act of 1940.

Edward C. Johnson 3d, FMR Corp, through its control of FMR Co., and the Fund each has sole power to dispose of the Securities owned by the Fund.

Neither FMR Corp. nor Edward C. Johnson 3d, Chairman of FMR Corp., has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of the shares owned directly by the Fund, which power resides with the Fund's Board of Trustees.

The Fund is an affiliate of a broker-dealer. The Fund purchased the Securities in the ordinary course of business and, as the time of the purchase of the Securities to be resold, the Fund did not have any agreement or understandings, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the notes or conversion shares.

The holdings are as of July 5, 2005.

¹⁶ Shares indicated as owned by such entity are owned directly by various private investment accounts, primarily employee benefit plans for which Fidelity Management Trust Company (FMTC) serves as trustee or managing agent. FMTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR Corp. and a bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. FMTC is the beneficial owner of 0 shares of the Common Stock outstanding of the Company as a result of its serving as investment manager of the institutional account(s). Edward C. Johnson 3d and FMR Corp., through its control of Fidelity Management Trust Company, each has sole dispositive power over 0 shares and sole power to vote or to direct the voting of 0 shares of Common Stock owned by the institutional account(s) as reported above.

These holdings are as of July 5, 2005.

¹⁷ The entity is an Ontario Mutual Fund Trust. Its trustee and manager is Fidelity Investment Canada Limited (FICL). FICL is advised by FMR Co. FMR Co. shares investment power over the notes and the conversion shares held by the selling securityholder with Mr. Edward C. Johnson 3rd. These holdings are as of July 5, 2005.

None of the Selling Holders listed above has, or within the past three years has had, any position, office or other material relationship with the Company or any of its predecessors or affiliates.

Because the Selling Holders may offer all or some portion of the above referenced security pursuant to this Prospectus or otherwise, no estimate can be given as to the amount or percentage of such securities that will be held by the Selling Holders upon termination of any such sale. In addition, the Selling Holders identified above may have sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of all or a portion of such securities since July 5, 2005 in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933. The Selling Holders may sell all, part or none of the securities listed above.

¹⁸ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

¹⁹ This Selling Stockholder has indicated that Richard A. Kayne exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.

²⁰ This Selling Stockholder has indicated that Richard A. Kayne exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.

²¹ This Selling Stockholder has indicated that Richard A. Kayne exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.

Table of Contents

Kayne Anderson Income Partners, LP ²²	7,900	7,900	0
Kayne Anderson Non-Traditional Investments, LP ²³	20,000	20,000	0
Kayne Anderson Capital Income Fund Ltd. ²⁴	7,900	7,900	0
Millenco, L.P. ²⁵	120,000	120,000	0
Seafin & Co. ²⁶	24,550	24,550	0
Janus World Funds ²⁷	42,450	42,450	0
Neuberger Berman Realty Income Fund Inc. ²⁸	40,000	40,000	0
Neuberger Berman Real Estate Securities Income Fund Inc. ²⁹	50,000	50,000	0
Quadrant Fund, Inc. ³⁰	30,000	30,000	0

- ²² This Selling Stockholder has indicated that Richard A. Kayne exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.
- ²³ This Selling Stockholder has indicated that Richard A. Kayne exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.
- ²⁴ This Selling Stockholder has indicated that Richard A. Kayne exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.
- ²⁵ Millennium Management, L.L.C. a Delaware limited liability company, is the general partner of Millenco, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership and registered broker-dealer, and consequently may be deemed to have voting control and investment discretion over securities owned by Millenco, L.P. Israel A. Englander is the managing member of Millennium Management, L.L.C. As a result, Mr. Englander may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of any shares deemed to be beneficially owned by Millennium Management, L.L.C. The foregoing should not be construed in and of itself as an admission by either of Millennium Management, L.L.C. or Mr. Englander as to beneficial ownership of the shares of the Company's stock owned by Millenco, L.P.
- ²⁶ Seafin & Co. is nominee for Janus High Yield Fund, a series of Janus Investment Fund. Janus Investment Fund is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in its public filings.
- ²⁷ Janus World Funds holds these Series A Preferred Shares on behalf of its fund High Yield Fund. Janus World Funds indicated that Richard G. Smith, Portfolio Manager, exercises voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.
- ²⁸ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.
- ²⁹ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.
- ³⁰ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

Table of Contents

Quadrant Parallel Fund, LLC ³¹	37,154	37,154	0
Quadrant Fund REIT, Inc. ³²	7,846	7,846	0
Dividend Capital Realty Income Allocation Fund ³³	172,000	172,000	0
Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. ³⁴	100,000	100,000	0
Cashel Capital L.P. ³⁵	15,000	15,000	0
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. ³⁶	700	700	0
Miscellaneous other holders	400	400	0

³¹ The Selling Stockholder has indicated that Jeff Williams and Kurt Wright, portfolio managers of the Selling Stockholder, exercise voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.

³² The Selling Stockholder has indicated that Jeff Williams and Kurt Wright, portfolio managers of the Selling Stockholder, exercise voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.

³³ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

³⁴ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings.

³⁵ The Selling Stockholder has indicated that James Lang, Joseph McInerney and Ryan McGuire, authorized officers of Cashel Capital Advisors Inc., the managing member of Cashel Capital LLC, the general partner of Cashel Capital L.P., exercise voting and dispositive power with respect to these Series A Preferred Shares.

³⁶ This Selling Stockholder is a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the identities of its management are disclosed in the Selling Stockholder's public filings. This Selling Stockholder is also a registered broker-dealer.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES A PREFERRED SHARES

The summary of certain terms and provisions of the Series A Preferred Shares contained in this prospectus does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the terms and provisions of the articles supplementary relating to the Series A Preferred Shares and our Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation, as amended and supplemented, which are incorporated by reference herein.

General

Our board of directors is authorized to cause us to issue, from our authorized but unissued shares of preferred stock, shares of preferred stock in series and to establish from time to time the number of preferred shares to be included in such series and to fix the designation and any preferences, conversion and other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications and terms and conditions of redemption of the shares of each such series.

The Series A Preferred Shares were validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable. The holders of the Series A Preferred Shares have no preemptive rights with respect to any of our stock or any securities convertible into or carrying rights or options to purchase any such stock. The Series A Preferred Shares are not subject to any sinking fund or other obligation of us to redeem or retire the Series A Preferred Shares. Unless otherwise redeemed by us, the Series A Preferred Shares will have a perpetual term with no maturity. Holders of Series A Preferred Shares are not entitled to statutory appraisal rights.

The transfer agent, registrar and dividend disbursing agent for the Series A Preferred Shares is LaSalle Bank, N.A., Chicago, Illinois.

We have filed an application to list the Series A Preferred Shares on the New York Stock Exchange. No assurances can be given that the Series A Preferred Shares will be so listed.

Ranking

The Series A Preferred Shares rank senior to our common stock and any other shares of junior stock that we may issue in the future, and equal to any shares of parity stock that we may issue in the future, in each case with respect to payment of dividends and amounts upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up.

Dividends

Holders of the Series A Preferred Shares shall be entitled to receive, when and as authorized by the Board of Directors and declared by us out of funds legally available for the payment of dividends, cumulative, preferential cash dividends at the rate of 8.50% of the liquidation preference

Edgar Filing: STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC - Form 424B3

per annum (equivalent to \$2.125 per share per annum). Such dividends shall be cumulative from the date of original issue and shall be payable quarterly in arrears on the last day of each March, June, September and December or, if not a business day, the next succeeding business day (each such day being a dividend payment date). The first dividend, which was paid on June 30, 2005, was for more than a full quarter. Such dividend was, and any dividend payable on the Series A Preferred Shares for any partial dividend period will be, computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. Dividends will be payable to holders of record as they appear in our records at the close of business on the applicable record date, which shall be on such date designated by the board of directors for the payment of dividends that is not more than 50 nor less than 10 days prior to such dividend payment date (which we refer to as a dividend record date), which in the normal course we would expect to be on or about the 15th day prior to the dividend payment date.

No dividends on Series A Preferred Shares shall be declared or paid or set apart for payment by us at such time as the terms and provisions of any agreement we have entered into, including any agreement relating to our indebtedness for borrowed money, prohibits such declaration, payment or setting apart for payment or provides that such declaration, payment or setting apart for payment would constitute a breach thereof or a default thereunder, or if such declaration or payment shall be restricted or prohibited by law.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, dividends on the Series A Preferred Shares will accrue whether or not we have earnings, whether or not there are funds legally available for the payment of such dividends and whether or not such dividends are declared. Accrued but unpaid dividends on the Series A Preferred Shares will not bear interest. Holders of the Series A Preferred Shares will not be entitled to any dividends in excess of full cumulative dividends as described above.

If, for any taxable year, we elect to designate as capital gain dividends (as defined in Section 857 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code)), any portion of the dividends (as determined for U.S. Federal income tax purposes) paid or made available for the year to holders of all classes of shares, then the portion of such designated amount that shall be allocable to the holders of Series A Preferred Shares shall be the amount that the total dividends (as determined for U.S. Federal income tax purposes) paid or made available to the holders of the Series A Preferred Shares for the year bears to the total dividends paid or made available for the year to holders of all classes of shares.

Table of Contents

If any Series A Preferred Shares are outstanding, no full dividends shall be declared or paid or set apart for payment on any series of preferred stock ranking, as to dividends, on a parity with or junior to the Series A Preferred Shares for any period unless full cumulative dividends have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for such payments on the Series A Preferred Shares for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period. When dividends are not paid in full (or a sum sufficient for such full payment is not so set apart) upon the Series A Preferred Shares and the shares of any other series of preferred stock ranking on parity as to dividends with the Series A Preferred Shares, all dividends declared upon Series A Preferred Shares and any other series of preferred stock ranking on a parity as to dividends with the Series A Preferred Shares shall be declared pro rata so that the amount of dividends declared per share on the Series A Preferred Shares and such other series of preferred stock shall in all cases bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends per share on the Series A Preferred Shares and such other series of preferred stock bear to each other. If such other preferred stock does not have a cumulative dividend, there will be no accrual in respect of unpaid dividends for prior periods for such preferred stock. No interest, or sum of money in lieu of interest, shall be payable in respect of any dividend payment or payments on Series A Preferred Shares which may be in arrears.

Except as provided in the immediately preceding paragraph, unless full cumulative dividends on the Series A Preferred Shares have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for payment for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period, no dividends (other than in common shares or other stock ranking junior to the Series A Preferred Shares as to dividends and upon liquidation) shall be declared or paid or set aside for payment or other dividend or distribution shall be declared or made upon the common stock or any other of our stock ranking junior to or on a parity with the Series A Preferred Shares as to dividends or upon liquidation, nor shall any common stock or any other of our stock ranking junior to or on a parity with the Series A Preferred Shares as to dividends or upon liquidation be redeemed, purchased or otherwise acquired for any consideration (or any moneys be paid to or made available for a sinking fund for the redemption of any such shares) by us or any of our subsidiaries, except by conversion into or exchange for other of our stock ranking junior to the Series A Preferred Shares as to dividends and upon liquidation.

Any dividend payment made on Series A Preferred Shares shall first be credited against the earliest accrued but unpaid dividend due with respect to Series A Preferred Shares which remains payable.

In determining whether a distribution (other than upon voluntary or involuntary liquidation), by dividend, redemption or other acquisition of shares of stock or otherwise, is permitted under the Maryland law, amounts that would be needed, if we were to be dissolved at the time of distribution, to satisfy the preferential rights upon dissolution of holders of Series A Preferred Shares shall not be added to our total liabilities.

Liquidation Rights

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, then, before any dividend or payment shall be made to the holders of any common stock or any other class or series of our stock ranking junior to the Series A Preferred Shares in the distribution of assets upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us, the holders of Series A Preferred Shares shall be entitled to receive out of our assets legally available for distribution to shareholders, liquidating dividends in the amount of the liquidation preference (\$25.00 per share), plus an amount equal to all dividends accrued and unpaid thereon. After payment of the full amount of the liquidating dividends to which they are entitled, the holders of Series A Preferred Shares will have no right or claim to any of our remaining assets. In the event that, upon any such voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up,

Table of Contents

our available assets are insufficient to pay the amount of the liquidating dividends on all outstanding Series A Preferred Shares and the corresponding amounts payable on all shares of other classes or series of our stock ranking on a parity with the Series A Preferred Shares in the distribution of assets, then the holders of the Series A Preferred Shares and all other such classes or series of stock shall share ratably in any such distribution of assets in proportion to the full liquidating dividends to which they would otherwise be respectively entitled. For such purposes, the consolidation or merger of us with or into any other entity, or the sale, lease or conveyance of all or substantially all of our property or business, or a statutory share exchange shall not be deemed to constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us.

Redemption

The Series A Preferred Shares are not redeemable prior to March 16, 2010. On or after March 16, 2010, we, at our option upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days written notice, may redeem the Series A Preferred Shares, in whole or in part, at any time or from time to time, for cash at a redemption price of \$25.00 per share, plus all accrued and unpaid dividends thereon to the date fixed for redemption, without interest. Holders of Series A Preferred Shares to be redeemed shall surrender such Series A Preferred Shares at the place designated in such notice and shall be entitled to the redemption price and any accrued and unpaid dividends payable upon such redemption following such surrender. If fewer than all of the outstanding Series A Preferred Shares are to be redeemed, the number of shares to be redeemed will be determined by us and such shares may be redeemed pro rata from the holders of record of such shares in proportion to the number of such shares held by such holders (with adjustments to avoid redemption of fractional shares) or by lot in an equitable manner determined by us.

Unless full cumulative dividends on all Series A Preferred Shares and all stock ranking on a parity with the Series A Preferred Shares with respect to the payment of dividends and amounts upon liquidation, dissolution and winding up (referred to as parity shares) shall have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for payment for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period, no Series A Preferred Shares or shares of parity stock shall be redeemed unless all outstanding Series A Preferred Shares and shares of parity stock are simultaneously redeemed; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not prevent the purchase or acquisition of Series A Preferred Shares or shares of parity stock pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to holders of all outstanding Series A Preferred Shares and shares of parity stock. Furthermore, unless full cumulative dividends on all outstanding Series A Preferred Shares and shares of parity stock have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for payment for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period, we shall not purchase or otherwise acquire directly or indirectly any Series A Preferred Shares or shares of parity stock (except by conversion into or exchange for our stock ranking junior to the Series A Preferred Shares and shares of parity stock as to dividends and upon liquidation).

Notice of redemption will be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each holder of record of Series A Preferred Shares at the address shown on our share transfer books. Each notice shall state: (i) the redemption date; (ii) the number of Series A Preferred Shares to be redeemed; (iii) the redemption price of \$25.00 per Series A Preferred Share, plus any accrued and unpaid dividends through the date of redemption; (iv) the place or places where certificates for Series A Preferred Shares are to be surrendered for payment of the redemption price; and (v) that dividends on the Series A Preferred Shares will cease to accrue on such redemption date. If fewer than all Series A Preferred Shares are to be redeemed, the notice mailed to each such holder thereof shall also specify the number of Series A Preferred Shares to be redeemed from each such holder. If notice of redemption of any Series A Preferred Shares has been given and if the funds necessary for such redemption have been set aside by us in trust for the benefit of the holders of Series A Preferred Shares so called for redemption, then from and after the redemption date,

Table of Contents

dividends will cease to accrue on the Series A Preferred Shares, such Series A Preferred Shares shall no longer be deemed outstanding and all rights of the holders of such shares will terminate, except the right to receive the redemption price.

If we redeem any Series A Preferred Shares and if the redemption date occurs after a dividend record date and on or prior to the related dividend payment date, the dividend payable on such dividend payment date with respect to such shares called for redemption shall be payable on such dividend payment date to the holders of record at the close of business on such dividend record date, and shall not be payable as part of the redemption price for such shares.

The Series A Preferred Shares have no stated maturity and will not be subject to any sinking fund or mandatory redemption. However, in order to preserve our status as a REIT as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, the Series A Preferred Shares may be subject to redemption as described in Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and of our Charter and Bylaws Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer. Any such redemption would apply only to shares held, directly or indirectly, by those shareholders with concentrated share ownership that would violate the ownership limit provision. In addition, the number of shares subject to such a redemption would be limited to that number of concentrated shares sufficient in the opinion of the board of directors to maintain or bring the ownership of shares into conformity with the ownership limit provision. See Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and of our Charter and Bylaws Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer.

Voting Rights

Except as indicated below, the holders of Series A Preferred Shares have no voting rights.

If and whenever six quarterly dividends (whether or not consecutive) payable on the Series A Preferred Shares or any shares of parity stock are in arrears (which, for any quarterly dividend, means that such dividend has not been paid in full), whether or not earned or declared, the number of directors then constituting the board of directors will be increased by two, and the holders of Series A Preferred Shares, voting together as a class with the holders of any other series of parity stock (any such other series, being voting preferred shares), will have the right to elect two additional directors to serve on our board of directors at any annual meeting of shareholders or a special meeting of the holders of Series A Preferred Shares and such voting preferred shares called at the request of any holder of record of the Series A Preferred Shares or by a holder of such voting preferred shares and at each subsequent annual meeting of shareholders until all such dividends and all dividends for the current quarterly period on the Series A Preferred Shares and such other voting preferred shares have been paid or declared and paid or set aside for payment. The term of office of all directors so elected will terminate with the termination of such voting rights.

The approval of two-thirds of the outstanding Series A Preferred Shares and all other series of voting preferred shares similarly affected, voting as a single class, is required in order to (i) amend our charter to affect materially and adversely the rights, preferences or voting power of the holders of the Series A Preferred Shares or the voting preferred shares, (ii) enter into a share exchange that affects the Series A Preferred Shares, consolidate with or merge into another entity, or permit another entity to consolidate with or merge into us, unless in each such case each Series A Preferred Share remains outstanding without a material adverse change to its terms and rights or is converted into or exchanged for preferred stock of the surviving entity having preferences, rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption thereof identical to that of a Series A Preferred Share (except for changes that do not materially and adversely affect the holders of the Series A Preferred Shares) or (iii) authorize, reclassify, create, or increase the authorized amount of any class of stock having rights senior to the Series A Preferred Shares with respect to the payment of dividends or amounts upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up. However, we may

Table of Contents

create additional classes of parity shares and shares ranking junior to the Series A Preferred Shares as to dividends or upon liquidation (each, referred to as "junior shares"), increase the authorized number of parity shares and junior shares and issue additional series of parity shares and junior shares without the consent of any holder of Series A Preferred Shares.

The foregoing voting provisions will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required will be effected, all outstanding Series A Preferred Shares have been redeemed in accordance with their terms or called for redemption in accordance with their terms and sufficient funds shall have been deposited in trust to effect such redemption.

Except as provided above or as required by law, the holders of Series A Preferred Shares are not entitled to vote on any merger or consolidation involving us or a sale of all or substantially all of our assets or any amendment to our charter.

Conversion

The Series A Preferred Shares are not convertible into or exchangeable for any of our other property or securities.

Restrictions on Transfer

The Series A Preferred Shares are subject to the restrictions described under "Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and of our Charter and Bylaws" Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer.

Book-Entry Procedures

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") acts as securities depository for the Series A Preferred Shares. We issued one or more fully registered global securities certificates in the name of DTC's nominee, Cede & Co. These certificates represent the total aggregate number of Series A Preferred Shares. We deposited these certificates with DTC or a custodian appointed by DTC. We will not issue certificates to you for the Series A Preferred Shares that you purchase, unless DTC's services are discontinued as described below.

Title to book-entry interests in the Series A Preferred Shares will pass by book-entry registration of the transfer within the records of DTC, as the case may be, in accordance with their respective procedures. Book-entry interests in the securities may be transferred within DTC in accordance with procedures established for these purposes by DTC.

Each person owning a beneficial interest in the Series A Preferred Shares must rely on the procedures of DTC and the participant through which such person owns its interest to exercise its rights as a holder of the Series A Preferred Shares.

Edgar Filing: STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC - Form 424B3

DTC has advised us that it is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency registered under the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. DTC holds securities that its participants (Direct Participants) deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among Direct Participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in Direct Participants accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is owned

Table of Contents

by a number of its Direct Participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange LLC, and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly (Indirect Participants). The rules applicable to DTC and its Direct and Indirect Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

When you purchase the Series A Preferred Shares within the DTC system, the purchase must be made by or through a Direct Participant. The Direct Participant will receive a credit for the Series A Preferred Shares on DTC's records. You, as the actual owner of the Series A Preferred Shares, are the beneficial owner. Your beneficial ownership interest will be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records, but DTC will have no knowledge of your individual ownership. DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts Series A Preferred Shares are credited.

You will not receive written confirmation from DTC of your purchase. The Direct or Indirect Participants through whom you purchased the Series A Preferred Shares should send you written confirmations providing details of your transactions, as well as periodic statements of your holdings. The Direct and Indirect Participants are responsible for keeping accurate account of the holdings of their customers like you.

Transfers of ownership interests held through Direct and Indirect Participants will be accomplished by entries on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of the beneficial owners.

The laws of some states may require that specified purchasers of securities take physical delivery of the Series A Preferred Shares in definitive form. These laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in the global certificates representing the Series A Preferred Shares.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to beneficial owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

We understand that, under DTC's existing practices, in the event that we request any action of holders, or an owner of a beneficial interest in a global security such as you desires to take any action which a holder is entitled to take under our Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust, as amended or supplemented, DTC would authorize the Direct Participants holding the relevant beneficial interests to take such action, and those Direct Participants and any Indirect Participants would authorize beneficial owners owning through those Direct and Indirect Participants to take such action or would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners owning through them.

Redemption notices will be sent to Cede & Co. If less than all of the Series A Preferred Shares are being redeemed, DTC will reduce each Direct Participant's holdings of Series A Preferred Shares in accordance with its procedures.

In those instances where a vote is required, neither DTC nor Cede & Co. itself will consent or vote with respect to the Series A Preferred Shares. Under its usual procedures, DTC would mail an omnibus proxy to us as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Series A Preferred Shares are credited on the record date, which are identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy.

Table of Contents

Dividends on the Series A Preferred Shares will be made directly to DTC. DTC's practice is to credit participants' accounts on the relevant payment date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records unless DTC has reason to believe that it will not receive payment on that payment date.

Payments by Direct and Indirect Participants to beneficial owners such as you will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name". These payments will be the responsibility of the participant and not of DTC, us or any agent of ours.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as securities depository with respect to the Series A Preferred Shares at any time by giving reasonable notice to us. Additionally, we may decide to discontinue the book-entry only system of transfers with respect to the Series A Preferred Shares. In that event, we will print and deliver certificates in fully registered form for the Series A Preferred Shares. If DTC notifies us that it is unwilling to continue as securities depository, or if it is unable to continue or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and a successor depository is not appointed by us within 90 days after receiving such notice or becoming aware that DTC is no longer so registered, we will issue the Series A Preferred Shares in definitive form, at our expense, upon registration of transfer of, or in exchange for, such global security.

According to DTC, the foregoing information with respect to DTC has been provided to the financial community for informational purposes only and is not intended to serve as a representation, warranty or contract modification of any kind.

Global Clearance and Settlement Procedures. Initial settlement for the Series A Preferred Shares will be made in immediately available funds. Secondary market trading between DTC's participants will occur in the ordinary way in accordance with DTC's rules and will be settled in immediately available funds using DTC's Same-Day Funds Settlement System.

Table of Contents

**CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND OF OUR
CHARTER AND BYLAWS**

The following paragraphs summarize the material provisions of Maryland law applicable to us and of our charter and bylaws. For a complete description, we refer you to Maryland law, our charter and our bylaws. We have filed our charter and bylaws as exhibits to materials we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

Amendment of Charter and Bylaws

Under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation generally cannot amend its charter, unless advised by its board of directors and approved by the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. However, a Maryland corporation may provide in its charter for approval of amendments by a lesser percentage of the shares entitled to vote on the matter, but not less than a majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our charter generally provides, except with respect to amendments to the provisions of our charter regarding restrictions on the transfer and ownership of our stock and certain provisions relating to our board of directors, for approval of amendments to our charter by a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. The board of directors has the exclusive power to adopt, alter or repeal any provision of the bylaws and to make new bylaws.

Meetings of Stockholders

Under our bylaws, annual meetings of stockholders are to be held in May of each year at a date and time as determined by our board. Special meetings of stockholders may be called only by a majority of our directors, our Chairman, our President or our Chief Executive Officer and must be called by our Secretary upon the written request of the holders of a majority of the shares of our common stock entitled to vote at a meeting. Only matters set forth in the notice of the meeting may be considered and acted upon at such a meeting. Maryland law provides that any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of stockholders may be taken without a meeting by unanimous written consent, if that consent sets forth that action and is signed by each stockholder entitled to vote on the matter.

Advance Notice Provisions for Stockholder Nominations and Stockholder Proposals

Our bylaws provide that, with respect to an annual meeting of stockholders, nominations of individuals for election to our board of directors and the proposal of business to be considered by stockholders may be made only (i) pursuant to our notice of the meeting, (ii) by our board of directors or (iii) by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has complied with the advance notice procedures of our bylaws. With respect to special meetings of stockholders, only the business specified in our notice of the meeting may be brought before the meeting. Nominations of individuals for election to our board of directors at a special meeting may be made only (i) pursuant to our notice of the meeting, (ii) by our board of directors or (iii) provided that the board of directors has determined that directors will be elected at the meeting, by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has complied with the advance notice provisions of our bylaws.

The purpose of requiring stockholders to give advance notice of nominations and other proposals is to afford our board the opportunity to consider the qualifications of the proposed nominees or the advisability of the other proposals and, to the extent considered necessary by our board, to inform stockholders and make recommendations regarding the nominations or other proposals. The advance notice procedures also

permit a more orderly procedure for conducting our stockholder meetings. Although our bylaws do not give our board the power to disapprove timely stockholder nominations and proposals, they may have the effect of precluding a contest for the election of directors or proposals for other action if the proper procedures are not followed, and of discouraging or deterring a third party from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect its own slate of directors to our board or to approve its own proposal.

Board of Directors

Our board of directors consists of seven directors and may be increased or decreased by our board to a number of directors not less than the minimum number required by the MGCL nor more than 15. Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast at each annual meeting of stockholders to serve until the next annual meeting and until their successors are elected and qualify. Any vacancy will be filled, including any vacancy created by an increase in the number of directors, by a majority of the remaining directors in office, even if the remaining directors do not constitute a quorum.

Removal of Directors

Our charter provides that a director may be removed, with or without cause, upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast in the election of directors. Absent removal of all of our directors, this provision, when coupled with the

Table of Contents

provision in our charter and bylaws authorizing our board of directors to fill vacant directorships, precludes stockholders from removing incumbent directors, except upon a substantial affirmative vote, and filling the vacancies created by such removal with their own nominees.

Extraordinary Transactions

Under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation generally cannot dissolve, merge, sell all or substantially all of its assets, engage in a share exchange or engage in similar transactions outside the ordinary course of business unless advised by its board of directors and approved by the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. However, a Maryland corporation may provide in its charter for approval of these matters by a lesser percentage of the shares entitled to vote on the matter, but not less than a majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our charter provides for approval of these matters by a majority of the votes entitled to be cast. Maryland law permits a corporation to transfer all or substantially all of its assets without the approval of the stockholders of the corporation to one or more persons if all of the equity interests of the person or persons are owned, directly or indirectly, by the corporation. Maryland law also does not require approval of the stockholders of a parent corporation to merge or sell all or substantially all of the assets of a subsidiary entity. Because operating assets may be held by a corporation's subsidiaries, as in our situation, this may mean that a subsidiary may be able to merge or sell all or substantially all of its assets without a vote of the corporation's stockholders.

Business Combinations

Maryland law prohibits business combinations between us and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share exchange or, in circumstances specified in the statute, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities. Maryland law defines an interested stockholder as:

any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of our stock; or

an affiliate or associate of ours who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the voting power of our then outstanding voting stock.

A person is not an interested stockholder if our board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which the person otherwise would have become an interested stockholder. However, in approving a transaction, our board of directors may provide that its approval is subject to compliance, at or after the time of approval, with any terms and conditions determined by our board of directors.

After the five-year prohibition, any business combination between us and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by our board of directors and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of our then outstanding shares of voting stock; and

Edgar Filing: STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC - Form 424B3

two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of our voting stock other than stock held by the interested stockholder with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or stock held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

Table of Contents

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if our common stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their stock in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its stock.

The statute permits various exemptions from its provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by the board of directors before the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. As permitted by the MGCL, we have exempted any business combinations involving the issuance of shares to Prudential and Whitehall. Accordingly, the five-year prohibition and the super-majority vote requirements will not apply to any business combinations between Prudential and Whitehall and us.

Control Share Acquisitions

With certain exceptions, the MGCL provides that control shares of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition have no voting rights except to the extent approved by a vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, excluding shares owned by the acquiring person or by our officers or directors who are our employees. Control shares are voting shares which, if aggregated with all other shares owned or voted by the acquiror, would entitle the acquiror to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power: (i) one-tenth or more but less than one-third, (ii) one-third or more but less than a majority, or (iii) a majority or more of all voting power. Control shares do not include shares the acquiror is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval. A control share acquisition means, subject to certain exceptions, the acquisition by any person of ownership or voting power of issued and outstanding control shares. A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition, upon satisfaction of certain conditions, including an undertaking to pay expenses, may compel our board to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the control shares in question. If no request for a meeting is made, we may present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the stockholders meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver the statement required by Maryland law, then, subject to certain conditions and limitations, we may redeem any or all of the control shares, except those for which voting rights have previously been approved, for fair value. Fair value is determined without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares and as of the date of the last control share acquisition or of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of the shares were considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders meeting and the acquiror may then vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, then all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares for purposes of these appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquiror in the control share acquisition. The control share acquisition statute does not apply to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if we are a party to the transaction, nor does it apply to acquisitions approved or exempted by our charter or bylaws.

Our bylaws contain a provision exempting any and all acquisitions of our stock from the control share provisions of Maryland law. Nothing prevents our board from amending or repealing this provision in the future, except with respect to Prudential and Whitehall, who will not be subject to the operation of the control shares provision of the MGCL without their prior consent in the event that our board amends or repeals this provision in the future.

Table of Contents

Maryland Unsolicited Takeovers Act

The MGCL permits a Maryland corporation with a class of equity securities registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and at least three independent directors to elect to be subject, by provision in its charter or bylaws or a resolution of its board of directors and notwithstanding any contrary provision in the charter or bylaws, to any or all of five provisions:

a classified board;

a two-thirds vote requirement for removing a director;

a requirement that the number of directors be fixed only by the directors;

a requirement that a vacancy on the board be filled only by the remaining directors and for the full remainder of the term of the class of directors in which the vacancy occurred; and

a majority requirement for the calling of a special meeting of stockholders.

Through provisions in our charter and bylaws, we already (a) require a two-thirds vote for the removal of any director from our board, (b) vest in our board the exclusive power to fix the number of directorships and (c) require, unless called by our Chairman, our President, our Chief Executive Officer, or our board, the request of holders of a majority of outstanding shares to call a special meeting. We have also elected to be subject to the provisions of Title 3, Subtitle 8 of the MGCL relating to the filling of vacancies on our board.

Limitation of Liability and Indemnification

Maryland law permits us to include in our charter a provision limiting the liability of our directors and officers to us and our stockholders for money damages, except for liability resulting from (a) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services or (b) active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final judgment and which is material to the cause of action. Our charter contains a provision which eliminates directors' and officers' liability to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law.

Maryland law requires us (unless our charter provides otherwise, which our charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which he is made a party by reason of his service in that capacity. Maryland law permits us to indemnify our present and former directors and officers, among others, against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made a party by reason of their service in those or other capacities unless it is established that:

the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and (i) was committed in bad faith or (ii) was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty;

Edgar Filing: STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC - Form 424B3

the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services; or

in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful.

Table of Contents

A court may order indemnification if it determines that the director or officer is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification, even though the director or officer did not meet the prescribed standard of conduct or was adjudged liable on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received. However, indemnification for an adverse judgment in a suit by us or in our right, or for a judgment of liability on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received, is limited to expenses.

In addition, Maryland law permits us to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer upon receipt of (a) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification and (b) a written undertaking by him or her or on his or her behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed if it is ultimately determined that the standard of conduct was not met.

Our charter also authorizes us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, to obligate us to indemnify (a) any present or former director or officer or (b) any individual who, while a director or officer and, at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee, against any claim or liability arising from that service and to pay or reimburse their reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. Our bylaws obligate us to provide such indemnification and advance of expenses. Our charter and bylaws also permit us to indemnify and advance expenses to any individual who served our predecessor in any of the capacities described above and any employee or agent of us or our predecessor.

REIT Status

Our charter provides that our board of directors may revoke or otherwise terminate our REIT election if it determines that it is no longer in our best interest to continue to qualify as a REIT. If our board of directors so determines, the restrictions in the section below entitled **Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer** will no longer apply.

Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer

For us to qualify as a REIT under the Code, our stock must be beneficially owned by 100 or more persons during at least 335 days of a taxable year of twelve months or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year. Also, not more than 50% of the value of our outstanding stock may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals (as defined in the Code to include certain entities such as qualified pension plans) during the last half of a taxable year.

Our charter contains restrictions on the number of shares of our stock that a person may own. No person may acquire or hold, directly or indirectly, in excess of 9.8% in value of our outstanding shares of stock. In addition, no person may acquire or hold, directly or indirectly, common stock in excess of 9.8% (in value or in number of shares, whichever is more restrictive) of our outstanding shares of common stock.

Our charter further prohibits (a) any person from owning shares of our stock that would result in our being **closely held** under Section 856(h) of the Code or otherwise cause us to fail to qualify as a REIT and (b) any person from transferring shares of our stock if the transfer would result in our stock being owned by fewer than 100 persons. Any person who acquires or intends to acquire shares of our stock that may violate any of these restrictions, or who is the intended transferee of shares of our stock which are transferred to the Trust, as defined below, is required to give us immediate notice and provide us with such information as we may request in order to determine the effect of the transfer on our status as a

Edgar Filing: STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC - Form 424B3

REIT. The above restrictions will not apply if our board of directors determines that it is no longer in our best interest to continue to qualify as a REIT.

Table of Contents

Our board of directors, in its sole discretion, may exempt a person from these limits. However, our board may not exempt any person whose ownership of our outstanding stock would result in our being closely held within the meaning of Section 856(h) of the Code or otherwise would result in our failing to qualify as a REIT. In order to be considered by our board for exemption, a person also must not own, directly or indirectly, an interest in any of our tenants (or a tenant of any entity which we own or control) that would cause us to own, directly or indirectly, more than a 9.9% interest in the tenant. The person seeking an exemption must represent to the satisfaction of our board that it will not violate these two restrictions. The person also must agree that any violation or attempted violation of these restrictions will result in the automatic transfer of the shares of stock causing the violation to the Trust. In connection with our initial public offering, our board waived the ownership limit with respect to Prudential and Whitehall. Therefore, the above ownership limits do not apply to the common stock owned, directly or indirectly, by Prudential and Whitehall. Thus, there can be no assurance that there will not be five or fewer individuals who will own more than 50% in value of our outstanding stock, thereby causing us to fail to qualify as a REIT. Our board of directors may require a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, or an opinion of counsel in order to determine or ensure our status as a REIT in circumstances where it has received a request for exemption and is unable to satisfy itself that the ownership limitations will not be violated.

Any attempted transfer of our stock which, if effective, would result in our stock being owned by fewer than 100 persons will be null and void. Any attempted transfer of our stock which, if effective, would result in violation of the ownership limits discussed above or in our being closely held under Section 856(h) of the Code or otherwise failing to qualify as a REIT will cause the number of shares causing the violation (rounded up to the nearest whole share) to be automatically transferred to a trust (the Trust) for the exclusive benefit of one or more charitable beneficiaries (Charitable Beneficiaries), and the proposed transferee will not acquire any rights in the shares. The automatic transfer will be deemed to be effective as of the close of business on the business day prior to the date of the transfer. Shares of our stock held in the Trust will be issued and outstanding shares. The proposed transferee will not benefit economically from ownership of any shares of stock held in the Trust, will have no rights to dividends and no rights to vote or other rights attributable to the shares of stock held in the Trust. The trustee (the Trustee) of the Trust will have all voting rights and rights to dividends or other distributions with respect to shares held in the Trust. These rights will be exercised for the exclusive benefit of the Charitable Beneficiary. Any dividend or other distribution paid prior to our discovery that shares of stock have been transferred to the Trust will be paid by the recipient to the Trustee upon demand. Any dividend or other distribution authorized but unpaid will be paid when due to the Trustee. Any dividend or distribution paid to the Trustee will be held in trust for the Charitable Beneficiary. Subject to Maryland law, the Trustee will have the authority (i) to rescind as void any vote cast by the proposed transferee prior to our discovery that the shares have been transferred to the Trust and (ii) to recast the vote in accordance with the desires of the Trustee acting for the benefit of the Charitable Beneficiary. However, if we have already taken irreversible corporate action, then the Trustee will not have the authority to rescind and recast the vote.

Within 20 days of receiving notice from us that shares of our stock have been transferred to the Trust, the Trustee will sell the shares to a person designated by the Trustee, whose ownership of the shares will not violate the above ownership limitations. Upon the sale, the interest of the Charitable Beneficiary in the shares sold will terminate and the Trustee will distribute the net proceeds of the sale to the proposed transferee and to the Charitable Beneficiary as follows. The proposed transferee will receive the lesser of (i) the price paid by the proposed transferee for the shares or, if the proposed transferee did not give a value for the shares in connection with the event causing the shares to be held in the Trust (e.g., a gift, devise or other similar transaction), the Market Price (as defined

Table of Contents

in our charter) of the shares on the day of the event causing the shares to be held in the Trust and (ii) the price received by the Trustee from the sale or other disposition of the shares. Any net sale proceeds in excess of the amount payable to the proposed transferee will be paid immediately to the Charitable Beneficiary. If, prior to our discovery that shares of our stock have been transferred to the Trust, the shares are sold by the proposed transferee, then (i) the shares shall be deemed to have been sold on behalf of the Trust and (ii) to the extent that the proposed transferee received an amount for the shares that exceeds the amount he was entitled to receive, the excess shall be paid to the Trustee upon demand.

In addition, shares of our stock held in the Trust will be deemed to have been offered for sale to us, or our designee, at a price per share equal to the lesser of (i) the price per share in the transaction that resulted in the transfer to the Trust (or, in the case of a devise or gift, the Market Price at the time of the devise or gift) and (ii) the Market Price on the date we, or our designee, accept the offer. We will have the right to accept the offer until the Trustee has sold the shares. Upon a sale to us, the interest of the Charitable Beneficiary in the shares sold will terminate and the Trustee will distribute the net proceeds of the sale to the proposed transferee.

All certificates representing shares of our stock will bear a legend referring to the restrictions described above.

Every owner of more than 5% (or such lower percentage as required by the Code or the regulations promulgated thereunder) of our stock, within 30 days after the end of each taxable year, is required to give us written notice, stating his name and address, the number of shares of each class and series of our stock which he beneficially owns and a description of the manner in which the shares are held. Each such owner shall provide us with such additional information as we may request in order to determine the effect, if any, of his beneficial ownership on our status as a REIT and to ensure compliance with the ownership limits. In addition, each stockholder shall upon demand be required to provide us with such information as we may request in good faith in order to determine our status as a REIT and to comply with the requirements of any taxing authority or governmental authority or to determine such compliance.

These ownership limits could delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for the common stock or otherwise be in the best interest of the stockholders.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion summarizes our taxation and the material U.S. Federal income tax consequences to stockholders of their ownership of Series A Preferred Shares. The tax treatment of stockholders will vary depending upon the stockholder's particular situation, and this discussion addresses only stockholders that hold Series A Preferred Shares as a capital asset and does not deal with all aspects of taxation that may be relevant to particular stockholders in light of their personal investment or tax circumstances. This section also does not deal with all aspects of taxation that may be relevant to certain types of stockholders to which special provisions of the U.S. Federal income tax laws apply, including:

dealers in securities or currencies;

traders in securities that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for their securities holdings;

banks;

tax-exempt organizations;

certain insurance companies;

persons liable for the alternative minimum tax;

persons that hold Series A Preferred Shares as a hedge against interest rate or currency risks or as part of a straddle or conversion transaction; and

stockholders whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar.

This summary is based on the Code, its legislative history, existing and proposed regulations under the Code, published rulings and court decisions. This summary describes the provisions of these sources of law only as they are currently in effect. All of these sources of law may change at any time, and any change in the law may apply retroactively.

We urge you to consult with your own tax advisor regarding the tax consequences to you of acquiring, owning and selling Series A Preferred Shares including the U.S. Federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of acquiring, owning and selling Series A Preferred Shares in your particular circumstances and potential changes in applicable laws.

Taxation of the Company as a REIT

Edgar Filing: STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC - Form 424B3

In the opinion of Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP, commencing with our taxable year ending December 31, 2004, we have been organized in conformity with the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code, and our proposed method of operation will enable us to continue to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code. You should be aware, however, that opinions of counsel are not binding upon the IRS or any court.

In providing its opinion, Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP is relying as to certain factual matters upon the statements and representations contained in certificates provided to Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP by us. Commencing with our taxable year ending December 31, 2004, we have been organized in conformity with the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code, and our proposed method of operation will enable us to continue to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code.

Our qualification as a REIT will depend upon our continuing satisfaction of the requirements of the Code relating to qualification for REIT status. Some of these requirements depend upon actual operating results, distribution levels, diversity of stock ownership, asset composition, source of income and record keeping. Accordingly, while we intend to continue to qualify to be taxed as a REIT, the actual results of our operations for any particular year might not satisfy these requirements.

The sections of the Code applicable to REITs are highly technical and complex. The following discussion summarizes the material aspects of relevant sections of the Code.

As a REIT, we generally will not have to pay U.S. Federal corporate income taxes on net income that we currently distribute to our stockholders. This treatment substantially eliminates the double taxation at the corporate and stockholder levels that generally results from investment in a regular corporation. Our dividends, however, will generally not be eligible for (i) the reduced tax rates applicable to dividends received by individuals or (ii) the corporate dividends received deduction. In addition, our domestic taxable REIT subsidiary will be subject to U.S. Federal, state and local corporate income tax.

Table of Contents

Foreign countries impose taxes on our hotels and our operations within their jurisdictions. To the extent possible, we will structure our acquisitions of foreign properties and activities to minimize our foreign tax liability. However, there can be no complete assurance that we will be able to eliminate our foreign tax liability or to reduce it to a specified level. Furthermore, as a REIT, both we and our stockholders will derive little or no benefit from foreign tax credits arising from those taxes.

Certain of our subsidiaries will be required to indemnify certain of their members if such members are not allocated a certain minimum level of debt for U.S. Federal income tax purposes. Although we expect to maintain a sufficient amount of debt to allocate to such members so as to not trigger such indemnification obligation, it is possible that an indemnity payment will have to be made by us to members of such subsidiaries if the amount of debt allocated to such members is reduced beyond a certain minimum amount.

Even if we qualify for taxation as a REIT, we may be subject to U.S. Federal income tax as follows:

First, we will have to pay tax at regular corporate rates on any undistributed real estate investment trust taxable income, including undistributed net capital gains.

Second, under certain circumstances, we may have to pay the alternative minimum tax on items of tax preference, if any.

Third, if we have (a) net income from the sale or other disposition of foreclosure property, as defined in the Code, which is held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business or (b) other non-qualifying net income from foreclosure property, we will have to pay tax at the highest corporate rate on that income.

Fourth, if we have net income from prohibited transactions, as defined in the Code, we will have to pay a 100% tax on that income. Prohibited transactions are, in general, certain sales or other dispositions of property, other than foreclosure property, held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business. Under current law, unless a sale of real property qualifies for a safe harbor, the question of whether the sale of a hotel (or other property) constitutes the sale of property held primarily for sale to customers is generally a question of the facts and circumstances regarding a particular transaction. We and our subsidiaries intend to hold the interests in our hotels for investment with a view to long-term appreciation, to engage in the business of acquiring and owning hotels and to make occasional sales as are consistent with our investment objectives. We do not intend to engage in prohibited transactions. We cannot assure you, however, that we will only make sales that satisfy the requirements of the safe harbors or that the IRS will not successfully assert that one or more of such sales are prohibited transactions.

Fifth, if we should fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test, as discussed below under **Income Tests**, but we have nonetheless maintained our qualification as a REIT because we have satisfied other requirements necessary to maintain REIT qualification, we will have to pay a 100% tax on an amount equal to (a) the gross income attributable to the greater of (i) 75% of our gross income over the amount of gross income that is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% test, and (ii) 95% of our gross income over the amount of gross income that is qualifying income for purposes of the 95% test, multiplied by (b) a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.

Table of Contents

Sixth, if we should fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of (1) 85% of our real estate investment trust ordinary income for that year, (2) 95% of our real estate investment trust capital gain net income for that year and (3) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, we would have to pay a non-deductible 4% excise tax on the excess of that required distribution over the amounts actually distributed.

Seventh, if we acquire any asset from a C corporation in certain transactions in which we must adopt the basis of the asset or any other property in the hands of the C corporation as our basis of the asset in our hands, and we subsequently recognize gain on the disposition of that asset during the 10-year period beginning on the date on which we acquired that asset, then we will have to pay tax on the built-in gain at the highest regular corporate rate. A C corporation means generally a corporation that has to pay full corporate-level tax.

Eighth, if we receive non-arm's length income from one of our taxable REIT subsidiaries (as defined under "Asset Tests"), we will be subject to a 100% tax on the amount of our non-arm's length income.

Ninth, if we should fail to satisfy the asset test (as discussed below) but nonetheless maintain our qualification as a REIT because certain other requirements have been met, we may be subject to a tax that would be the greater of (a) \$50,000; or (b) an amount determined by multiplying the highest rate of tax for corporations by the net income generated by the assets for the period beginning on the first date of the failure and ending on the day we dispose of the assets (or otherwise satisfy the requirements for maintaining REIT qualification).

Tenth, if we should fail to satisfy one or more requirements for REIT qualification, other than the 95% and 75% gross income tests and other than the asset test, but nonetheless maintain our qualification as a REIT because certain other requirements have been met, we may be subject to a \$50,000 penalty for each failure.

Requirements for Qualification as a REIT

The Code defines a REIT as a corporation, trust or association that is:

managed by one or more trustees or directors;

the beneficial ownership of which is evidenced by transferable shares, or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest;

that would otherwise be taxable as a domestic corporation, but for Sections 856 through 859 of the Code;

that is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company to which certain provisions of the Code apply;

the beneficial ownership of which is held by 100 or more persons;

Table of Contents

that, during the last half of each taxable year, has no more than 50% in value of its outstanding stock owned, directly or constructively, by five or fewer individuals, as defined in the Code to include certain entities; and

that meets certain other tests, described below, regarding the nature of its income and assets.

The Code provides that the conditions described in the first through fourth bullet points above must be met during the entire taxable year and that the condition described in the fifth bullet point above must be met during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months, or during a proportionate part of a taxable year of less than 12 months. Under applicable Treasury regulations, we must maintain certain records and request certain information from our stockholders designed to disclose the actual ownership of our stock.

We expect that we will satisfy the conditions described in the first through sixth bullet points of the second preceding paragraph. In addition, our charter provides for restrictions regarding the ownership and transfer of our stock. These restrictions are intended to assist us in continuing to satisfy the share ownership requirements described in the fifth and sixth bullet points of the second preceding paragraph. The ownership and transfer restrictions pertaining to our stock are described in this prospectus under the heading **Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and of our Charter and Bylaws Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer**. Our board of directors will require an IRS ruling or an opinion of counsel before granting any request for an exemption from such ownership limitations in circumstances where it is unable to satisfy itself that the ownership limitations would not be violated.

We own indirect interests in a number of corporate subsidiaries. Code Section 856(i) provides that unless a REIT makes an election to treat the corporation as a taxable REIT subsidiary (as defined below), a wholly owned corporate subsidiary of a REIT which is a qualified REIT subsidiary, as defined in the Code, will not be treated as a separate corporation, and all assets, liabilities and items of income, deduction and credit of a qualified REIT subsidiary will be treated as assets, liabilities and items of these kinds of the REIT. Thus, in applying the requirements described in this section, our qualified REIT subsidiaries, if any, will be ignored, and all assets, liabilities and items of income, deduction and credit of these subsidiaries will be treated as assets, liabilities and items of these kinds of ours. Because our principal and probably only asset will be an interest in SHC Funding, we do not intend to have any wholly-owned corporate subsidiaries.

If, as in our case, a REIT is a partner in a partnership, Treasury regulations provide that the REIT will be deemed to own its proportionate capital share of the assets of the partnership and will be deemed to be entitled to the income of the partnership attributable to that share. In addition, the character of the assets and gross income of the partnership will retain the same character in the hands of the REIT for purposes of Section 856 of the Code, including satisfying the gross income tests and the asset tests described below. Thus, our proportionate share of the assets, liabilities and items of income of SHC Funding, which is our principal asset, are treated as assets, liabilities and items of income of ours for purposes of applying the requirements described in this section. In addition, actions taken by SHC Funding or any other entity that is either a disregarded entity (including a qualified REIT subsidiary) or partnership in which we own an interest, either directly or through one or more tiers of disregarded entities (including qualified REIT subsidiaries) or partnerships such as SHC Funding, can affect our ability to satisfy the REIT income and assets tests and the determination of whether we have net income from prohibited transactions. See the fourth bullet point under the section **Taxation of the Company as a REIT** for a discussion of prohibited transactions. Accordingly, for purposes of this discussion, when we discuss our actions, income or assets we intend that to include the actions, income or assets of SHC Funding or any entity that is either a disregarded entity (including a qualified REIT subsidiary) or partnership for U.S. Federal income tax purposes in which we maintain an interest through multiple tiers of disregarded entities (including qualified REIT subsidiaries) or partnerships.

Table of Contents

Taxable REIT Subsidiaries

A taxable REIT subsidiary, or TRS, is any corporation in which a REIT directly or indirectly owns stock, provided that the REIT and that corporation make a joint election to treat that corporation as a TRS. The election can be revoked at any time as long as the REIT and the TRS revoke such election jointly. In addition, if a TRS holds directly or indirectly, more than 35% of the securities of any other corporation (by vote or by value), then that other corporation is also treated as a TRS. A corporation can be a TRS with respect to more than one REIT.

A TRS is subject to U.S. Federal income tax at regular corporate rates (currently a maximum rate of 35%), and may also be subject to state and local taxation.

Any dividends paid or deemed paid by any one of our TRSs will also be subject to tax, either (i) to us if we do not pay the dividends received to our stockholders as dividends, or (ii) to our stockholders if we do pay out the dividends received to our stockholders. We may hold more than 10% of the stock of a TRS without jeopardizing our qualification as a REIT notwithstanding the rule described below under **Asset Tests** that generally precludes ownership of more than 10% of any issuer's securities. However, as noted below, in order for us to qualify as a REIT, the securities of all of the TRSs in which we have invested either directly or indirectly may not represent more than 20% of the total value of our assets. Although we expect that the aggregate value of all of our interests in TRSs will represent less than 20% of the total value of our assets, we cannot assure that this will always be true. Other than certain activities related to operating or managing a lodging or health care facility as more fully described below in the section entitled **Income Tests**, a TRS may generally engage in any business including the provision of customary or non-customary services to tenants of the parent REIT.

As described below, income we receive from operating or managing hotels is not qualified income for either the 75% or 95% income tests described more fully below in the section entitled **Income Tests**. Accordingly, the entity through which we hold an interest in the hotels generally leases the hotels to a TRS (or an entity that is treated as a branch of the TRS for tax purposes), and the TRS engages independent third parties to operate the hotels. Currently, our hotels are operated and managed by hotel management companies. For purposes of the discussion below, the term **TRS** shall include any entity that is treated as a branch of the TRS for U.S. Federal income tax purposes. We do not lease the Paris Marriott Champs Elysées to a TRS. In order to comply with French law and the REIT qualification rules, SanMon Services, LLC, or a subsidiary thereof, an entity controlled by an independent third party, subleases the hotel from us, pays us rent and has entered into a management agreement with the property manager. The owner of SanMon Services, LLC bears the economic risks and benefits of this arrangement.

A TRS is not permitted to directly or indirectly operate or manage a hotel but a TRS can lease a hotel provided that the TRS meets the following conditions:

First, the hotel must be a qualified lodging facility. A qualified lodging facility is a hotel, motel or other establishment more than one-half of the dwelling units in which are used on a transient basis, unless wagering activities are conducted at or in connection with such facility by any person who is engaged in the business of accepting wagers and who is legally authorized to engage in such business at or in connection with such facility. Accordingly, we are not permitted to have gambling or wagering activity on the premises of any of our hotels or to earn income from gambling or wagering activities.

Table of Contents

Second, the manager must be an eligible independent contractor. An eligible independent contractor is a hotel operator that is not related to the REIT or the TRS and that, at the time the management contract is entered into, is in the trade or business of managing hotels for persons not related to the REIT or the TRS. For this purpose, a contractor is not related to the REIT or the TRS if such person does not own (taking into account relevant attribution rules) more than 35% of the stock of the REIT or TRS and no person or group owning directly or indirectly (taking into account relevant attribution rules) 35% or more of the REIT or TRS owns 35% or more directly or indirectly (taking into account relevant attribution rules) of the ownership interest in the contractor, and the REIT or TRS does not directly or indirectly derive any income from such person. Accordingly, our TRSs do not directly operate or manage the hotels. Rather, our TRSs have entered into management contracts with hotel management companies which operate and manage the hotels. To the best of our knowledge and belief, the hotel management companies are not related to us or the TRSs. The TRSs are permitted to bear the expenses of the eligible independent contractor of operating the hotel pursuant to the management contract.

Income Tests

In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we annually must satisfy two gross income requirements:

First, we must derive at least 75% of our gross income, excluding gross income from prohibited transactions, for each taxable year directly or indirectly from investments relating to real property or mortgages on real property, including rents from real property, as defined in the Code, or from certain types of temporary investments. Rents from real property generally include our expenses that are paid or reimbursed by tenants.

Second, at least 95% of our gross income, excluding gross income from prohibited transactions, for each taxable year must be derived from real property investments as described in the preceding bullet point, dividends (including dividends from a TRS), interest and gain from the sale or disposition of stock or securities that do not constitute dealer property, or from any combination of these types of sources.

For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2005, the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, signed into law on October 22, 2004, or the 2004 Act, clarifies the types of transactions that are hedging transactions for purposes of the 95% gross income test and states that any income from a hedging transaction that is clearly and timely identified and hedges indebtedness incurred or to be incurred to acquire or carry real estate assets will not constitute gross income, rather than being treated as qualifying or nonqualifying income, for purposes of the 95% gross income test.

Rents that we receive or are deemed to have received will qualify as rents from real property in satisfying the gross income requirements for a REIT described above only if the rents satisfy several conditions:

First, the amount of rent must not be based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. However, an amount received or accrued generally will not be excluded from rents from real property solely because it is based on a fixed percentage or percentages of receipts or sales. Accordingly, the leases of our hotels to the TRSs are based on the gross receipts of the TRSs from the hotels.

Table of Contents

Second, the Code provides that rents received from a tenant will not qualify as rents from real property in satisfying the gross income tests if the REIT, or a direct or indirect owner of 10% or more of the REIT, directly or under the applicable attribution rules, owns a 10% or greater interest in that tenant; except that rents received from a TRS under certain circumstances qualify as rents from real property even if we own more than a 10% interest in the subsidiary. We refer to a tenant in which we own a 10% or greater interest as a related party tenant. As described above, most of our rental income is from the leases to our TRSs.

Third, if rent attributable to personal property leased in connection with a lease of real property is greater than 15% of the total rent received under the lease, then the portion of rent attributable to the personal property will not qualify as rents from real property.

Finally, for rents received to qualify as rents from real property, the REIT generally must not operate or manage the property or furnish or render services to the tenants of the property, other than through an independent contractor from whom the REIT derives no revenue and who is adequately compensated or through a TRS. However, we may directly perform certain services that landlords usually or customarily render when renting space for occupancy only or that are not considered rendered to the occupant of the property. In addition, as described more fully below, rent paid by a TRS to a REIT pursuant to a lease of a qualified lodging facility that is managed and operated by an eligible independent contractor can qualify as rents from real property.

Each of our domestic hotels is leased to a separate limited liability company owned directly by our domestic TRS. The use of limited liability companies below a single TRS allows the losses of one limited liability company that leases a hotel to be offset against the profits of the other limited liability companies. If a TRS has an overall net loss, that loss cannot be used to offset our taxable income. Rather, the TRS can carry the loss back or forward pursuant to IRS rules. In the case of certain of our foreign hotels, a separate TRS has been set up in the foreign jurisdiction in which the hotel is located and the foreign TRS leases the hotel from us. With respect to other foreign hotels and certain other foreign assets, we hold our interest through a TRS which will pay us dividends from its profits, except in the case of the Paris Marriott Champs Elysées, where we sublease our interest to an affiliate of an independent third party.

These leases provide for a base rent plus a fixed percentage of the gross revenues from the operation of the hotel. Each lease must be a true lease. If our leases are not respected as true leases, we could be disqualified as a REIT. While we intend that each lease will be respected as a true lease, the determination of whether a lease is a true lease is inherently a question of fact and circumstances and we can give no assurance that the IRS will not successfully assert that the leases should not be respected as true leases.

Except as described above with respect to a TRS, we do not expect to derive significant rents from related party tenants. We also do not intend to derive rental income attributable to personal property, other than personal property leased in connection with the lease of real property, the amount of which is less than 15% of the total rent received under the lease.

We believe that each of the leases with our TRSs conform with normal business practice, contain arm's length terms and that the rent payable under those leases will be treated as rents from real property for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests. However, there can be no assurance that the IRS will not successfully assert a contrary position or that a change in circumstances will not cause a portion of the rent payable under the leases to fail to qualify as rents from real property. If such failures were in sufficient amounts, we might not be able to satisfy either of the 75% or 95% gross income tests and could lose our REIT status. In

Table of Contents

addition, if the IRS successfully reapportions or reallocates items of income, deduction and credit among and between us and our TRS under the leases or any intercompany transaction because it determines that doing so is necessary to prevent the evasion of taxes or to clearly reflect income, we could be subject to a 100% excise tax on those amounts.

While we will monitor the activities of the eligible independent contractor to maximize the value of our hotel investments, neither we nor any of our TRSs directly or indirectly manage our hotels. Similarly, while our tenants may benefit from the services we provide related to monitoring and, when appropriate, advising the eligible independent contractor regarding the management of the hotel for the purpose of maximizing the value of our investments, we do not believe that these activities will cause gross income attributable to the leases with our TRSs to fail to be treated as rents from real property.

Other than as described in the preceding paragraph, we do not expect to perform any services for our tenants. If we were to provide services to a tenant that are other than those landlords usually or customarily provide when renting space for occupancy only, amounts received or accrued by us for any of these services will not be treated as rents from real property for purposes of the REIT gross income tests. However, the amounts received or accrued for these services will not cause other amounts received with respect to the property to fail to be treated as rents from real property unless the amounts treated as received in respect of the services, together with amounts received for certain management services, exceed 1% of all amounts received or accrued by us during the taxable year with respect to the property. For purposes of the 1% threshold, the amount treated as received for any service may not be less than 150% of the direct cost incurred in furnishing or rendering the service. If the sum of the amounts received in respect of the services to tenants and management services described in the preceding sentence exceeds the 1% threshold, then all amounts received or accrued by us with respect to the property will not qualify as rents from real property, even if we provide the impermissible services to some, but not all, of the tenants of the property.

For purposes of the gross income tests, the term interest generally does not include any amount received or accrued, directly or indirectly, if the determination of that amount depends in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. However, an amount received or accrued generally will not be excluded from the term interest solely because it is based on a fixed percentage or percentages of receipts or sales.

If we fail to satisfy one or both of the 75% and 95% gross income tests for any taxable year, we may nevertheless qualify as a REIT for that year if we satisfy the requirements of other provisions of the Code that allow relief from disqualification as a REIT. These relief provisions, as modified by the 2004 Act, will generally be available if:

our failure to meet the income tests was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect; and

following our identification of the failure, we file with the IRS a schedule describing each item of our qualifying gross income for the taxable year of the failure.

We might not be entitled to the benefit of these relief provisions, however. As discussed in the fifth bullet point under the section Taxation of the Company as a REIT, even if these relief provisions apply, we would have to pay a tax on the excess income.

Table of Contents

Asset Tests

At the close of each quarter of our taxable year, we must also satisfy three tests relating to the nature of our assets:

First, at least 75% of the value of our total assets must be represented by real estate assets, including (a) real estate assets held by our qualified REIT subsidiaries, our allocable share of real estate assets held by partnerships in which we own an interest and stock issued by another REIT, (b) for a period of one year from the date of our receipt of proceeds of an offering of its shares of beneficial interest or publicly offered debt with a term of at least five years, stock or debt instruments purchased with these proceeds and (c) cash, cash items and government securities.

Second, not more than 25% of our total assets may be represented by securities other than those in the 75% asset class.

Third, not more than 20% of our total assets may constitute securities issued by one or more TRSs and of the investments included in the 25% asset class, the value of any one issuer's securities, other than securities issued by another REIT or by a TRS may not exceed 5% of the value (5% test) of our total assets, and we may not own more than 10% of the vote (10% voting test) or value (10% value test) of any one issuer's outstanding securities, except in the case of a TRS as described above. As a consequence, if the IRS would successfully challenge the partnership status of any of the partnerships in which we maintain an interest, and the partnership is reclassified as a corporation or a publicly traded partnership taxable as a corporation we could lose our REIT status.

The following assets are not treated as securities held by us for purposes of the 10% value test (i) straight debt meeting certain requirements, unless we hold (either directly or through our controlled taxable REIT subsidiaries) certain other securities of the same corporate or partnership issuer that have an aggregate value greater than 1% of such issuer's outstanding securities; (ii) loans to individuals or estates; (iii) certain rental agreements calling for deferred rents or increasing rents that are subject to Section 467 of the Code, other than with certain related persons; (iv) obligations to pay us amounts qualifying as rents from real property under the 75% and 95% gross income tests; (v) securities issued by a state or any political subdivision of a state, the District of Columbia, a foreign government, any political subdivision of a foreign government, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, but only if the determination of any payment received or accrued under the security does not depend in whole or in part on the profits of any person not described in this category, or payments on any obligation issued by such an entity; (vi) securities issued by another qualifying REIT; and (vii) other arrangements identified in Treasury regulations (which have not yet been issued or proposed). In addition, any debt instrument issued by a partnership will not be treated as a security under the 10% value test if at least 75% of the partnership's gross income (excluding gross income from prohibited transactions) is derived from sources meeting the requirements of the 75% gross income test. If the partnership fails to meet the 75% gross income test, then the debt instrument issued by the partnership nevertheless will not be treated as a security to the extent of our interest as a partner in the partnership. Also, in looking through any partnership to determine our allocable share of any securities owned by the partnership, our share of the assets of the partnership, solely for purposes of applying the 10% value test in taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2005, will correspond not only to our interest as a partner in the partnership but also to our proportionate interest in certain debt securities issued by the partnership.

If we fail to meet the 5% test, the 10% value test or the 10% voting test described in the third bullet point of the second paragraph above at the end of any quarter and such failure is not cured within 30 days thereafter, we would fail to qualify as a REIT.

Table of Contents

Under the 2004 Act, after the 30 day cure period, we could dispose of sufficient assets to cure such a violation that does not exceed the lesser of 1% of our assets at the end of the relevant quarter or \$10,000,000 if the disposition occurs within six months after the last day of the calendar quarter in which we identify the violation. For violations of these tests that are larger than this amount and for violations of the other asset tests described in the preceding paragraph, where such violations are due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, the 2004 Act permits us to avoid disqualification as a REIT, after the 30 day cure period, by taking steps including the disposition of sufficient assets to meet the asset tests (within six months after the last day of the calendar quarter in which we identify the violation) and paying a tax equal to the greater of \$50,000 or the highest corporate tax rate multiplied by our net income generated by the non-qualifying assets during the period beginning on the first date of the failure and ending on the date we dispose of the asset (or otherwise cure the asset test failure).

Annual Distribution Requirement

We are required to distribute dividends, other than capital gain dividends, to our stockholders in an amount at least equal to (1) the sum of (a) 90% of our real estate investment trust taxable income, computed without regard to the dividends paid deduction, and our net capital gain, and (b) 90% of the net after-tax income, if any, from foreclosure property minus (2) the sum of certain items of non-cash income.

These distributions must be paid in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if declared before we timely file our tax return for the year to which they relate and if paid on or before the first regular dividend payment after the declaration.

To the extent that we do not distribute all of our net capital gain or distribute at least 90%, but less than 100% of our real estate investment trust taxable income, as adjusted, we will have to pay tax on those amounts at regular ordinary and capital gain corporate tax rates, as the case may be. If we so choose, we may retain, rather than distribute, our net long-term capital gains and pay the tax on those gains. In this case, our stockholders would include their proportionate share of the undistributed long-term capital gains in income. However, our stockholders would then be deemed to have paid their share of the tax, which would be credited or refunded to them. In addition, our stockholders would be able to increase their basis in our shares they hold by the amount of the undistributed long-term capital gains, less the amount of capital gains tax we paid, included in the stockholders' long-term capital gains. Furthermore, if we fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of (a) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for that year, (b) 95% of our REIT capital gain income for that year, and (c) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, we would have to pay a 4% excise tax on the excess of the required distribution over the amounts actually distributed.

We intend to satisfy the annual distribution requirements.

From time to time, we may not have sufficient cash or other liquid assets to meet the 90% distribution requirement due to timing differences between (a) when we actually receive income and when we actually pay deductible expenses and (b) when we include the income and deduct the expenses in arriving at our taxable income. Further, it is possible that, from time to time, we may be allocated a share of net capital gain attributable to the sale of depreciated property which exceeds our allocable share of cash attributable to that sale. In these cases, we may have less cash available for distribution than is necessary to meet our annual 90% distribution requirement. To meet the 90% distribution requirement, we may find it necessary to arrange for short-term, or possibly long-term, borrowings or to pay dividends in the form of taxable stock dividends.

Table of Contents

Under certain circumstances, we may be able to rectify a failure to meet the distribution requirement for a year by paying deficiency dividends to stockholders in a later year, which may be included in our deduction for dividends paid for the earlier year. Thus, we may be able to avoid being taxed on amounts distributed as deficiency dividends; however, we will be required to pay penalties and interest based upon the amount of any deduction taken for deficiency dividends.

Failure to Qualify as a REIT

If we fail to qualify for taxation as a REIT in any taxable year, and the relief provisions do not apply, we will have to pay tax, including any applicable alternative minimum tax, on our taxable income at regular corporate rates. We will not be able to deduct distributions to stockholders in any year in which we fail to qualify, nor will we be required to make distributions to stockholders. In this event, to the extent of current and accumulated earnings and profits, all distributions to stockholders will be taxable to the stockholders as dividend income (which may be subject to tax at preferential rates) and corporate distributees may be eligible for the dividends received deduction if they satisfy the relevant provisions of the Code. Unless entitled to relief under specific statutory provisions, we will also be disqualified from taxation as a REIT for the four taxable years following the year during which qualification was lost. We might not be entitled to the statutory relief described in this paragraph in all circumstances.

The 2004 Act provides additional relief in the event that we fail to satisfy one or more requirements for qualification as a REIT, other than the 75% gross income test and the 95% gross income test and other than the new rules provided for failures of the asset tests described above if:

the violation is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect; and

we pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each failure to satisfy the provision.

Tax Basis of Assets

Our share of SHC Funding's basis in its assets will not be adjusted in connection with this prospectus and will generally be substantially less than the fair market value of the hotels as of the date of this offering. Furthermore, we intend to generally use the traditional method for making allocations under Section 704(c) of the Code as opposed to the curative or remedial method for making such allocations. Consequently, (a) our depreciation deductions with respect to our hotels will likely be substantially less than the depreciation deductions that would have been available to us had our tax basis been equal to the fair market value of the hotels as of the date of this prospectus and (b) we may recognize income upon a sale of an asset that is attributable to appreciation in the value of the asset that accrued prior to the date of this prospectus.

Taxation of Stockholders

U.S. Stockholders

As used in this section, the term U.S. stockholder means a holder of Series A Preferred Shares who, for U.S. Federal income tax purposes, is:

a citizen or resident of the United States;

a domestic corporation, partnership or other entity created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of any political subdivision of the United States;

Table of Contents

an estate whose income is subject to U.S. Federal income taxation regardless of its source;

a trust if a United States court can exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more United States persons have authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust; or

a person or entity otherwise subject to U.S. Federal income taxation on a net income basis.

Distributions. As long as we qualify as a REIT, distributions made by us out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, and not designated as capital gain dividends, will constitute dividends taxable to our taxable U.S. stockholders as ordinary income. Our individual U.S. stockholders will generally not be entitled to the lower tax rate applicable to certain types of dividends under law enacted in 2003 except that individual U.S. stockholders may be eligible for the lower tax rate with respect to the portion of any distribution (a) that represents income from dividends we received from a corporation in which we own shares (but only if such dividends would be eligible for the lower rate on dividends if paid by the corporation to its individual stockholders) or (b) that is equal to our real estate investment trust taxable income (taking into account the dividends paid deduction available to us) and less any taxes paid by us on these items during our previous taxable year. Individual U.S. stockholders should consult their own tax advisors to determine the impact of this legislation. Distributions of this kind will not be eligible for the dividends received deduction in the case of U.S. stockholders that are corporations. Distributions made by us that we properly designate as capital gain dividends will be taxable to U.S. stockholders as gain from the sale of a capital asset held for more than one year, to the extent that they do not exceed our actual net capital gain for the taxable year, without regard to the period for which a U.S. stockholder has held his Series A Preferred Shares. Thus, with certain limitations, capital gain dividends received by an individual U.S. stockholder may be eligible for preferential rates of taxation. U.S. stockholders that are corporations may, however, be required to treat up to 20% of certain capital gain dividends as ordinary income. In addition, net capital gains attributable to the sale of depreciable real property held for more than twelve months are subject to a 25% maximum U.S. Federal income tax rate to the extent of previously claimed real property depreciation.

To the extent that we make distributions, not designated as capital gain dividends, in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits, these distributions will be treated first as a tax-free return of capital to each U.S. stockholder. Thus, these distributions will reduce the adjusted basis which the U.S. stockholder has in his Series A Preferred Shares for tax purposes by the amount of the distribution, but not below zero. Distributions in excess of a U.S. stockholder's adjusted basis in his Series A Preferred Shares will be taxable as capital gains, provided that the Series A Preferred Shares have been held as a capital asset.

Dividends authorized by us in October, November or December of any year and payable to a stockholder of record on a specified date in any of these months will be treated as both paid by us and received by the stockholder on December 31 of that year, provided that we actually pay the dividend on or before January 31 of the following calendar year. Stockholders may not include in their own income tax returns any of our net operating losses or capital losses.

U.S. stockholders holding Series A Preferred Shares at the close of our taxable year will be required to include, in computing their long-term capital gains for the taxable year in which the last day of our taxable year falls, the amount that we designate in a written notice mailed to our stockholders. We may not designate amounts in excess of our undistributed net capital gain for the taxable year. Each U.S. stockholder required to include the designated amount in determining the stockholder's long-term capital gains will be deemed to have paid, in the taxable year of the inclusion, the tax paid by us in respect of the undistributed net capital gains. U.S. stockholders to whom these rules apply will be allowed a credit or a refund, as the case may be, for the tax they are

Table of Contents

deemed to have paid. U.S. stockholders will increase their basis in their Series A Preferred Shares by the difference between the amount of the includible gains and the tax deemed paid by the stockholder in respect of these gains.

Distributions made by us and gain arising from a U.S. stockholder's sale or exchange of our Series A Preferred Shares will not be treated as passive activity income. As a result, U.S. stockholders generally will not be able to apply any passive losses against that income or gain.

Our dividends, to the extent they do not constitute a return of capital, will generally be treated as investment income for purposes of the investment interest limitation under Section 163 of the Code. Net capital gain from the disposition of our Series A Preferred Shares and capital gains generally will be eliminated from investment income unless the taxpayer elects to have the gain taxed at ordinary income rates.

Sales of Series A Preferred Shares. When a U.S. stockholder sells or otherwise disposes of our Series A Preferred Shares, the stockholder will recognize gain or loss for U.S. Federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the difference between (a) the amount of cash and the fair market value of any property received on the sale or other disposition and (b) the holder's adjusted basis in the Series A Preferred Shares for tax purposes. This gain or loss will be capital gain or loss if the U.S. stockholder has held the Series A Preferred Shares as a capital asset. The gain or loss will be long-term gain or loss if the U.S. stockholder has held the Series A Preferred Shares for more than one year. Long-term capital gain of an individual U.S. stockholder is generally taxed at preferential rates. In general, any loss recognized by a U.S. stockholder when the stockholder sells or otherwise disposes of our Series A Preferred Shares that the stockholder has held for six months or less, after applying certain holding period rules, will be treated as a long-term capital loss, to the extent of distributions received by the stockholder from us which were required to be treated as long-term capital gains.

Redemption of Series A Preferred Shares. The treatment to be accorded to any redemption by us of the Series A Preferred Shares can only be determined on the basis of particular facts as to each holder of Series A Preferred Shares at the time of redemption. In general, a preferred holder will recognize capital gain or loss measured by the difference between the amount realized by the holder upon the redemption and the holder's adjusted tax basis in the Series A Preferred Shares redeemed, provided the Series A Preferred Shares are held as a capital asset, if the redemption

results in a complete termination of the holder's shares interest in all classes of our stock under Section 302(b)(3) of the Code,

is substantially disproportionate with respect to the holder's interest in us under Section 302(b)(2) of the Code (which will not be the case if only Series A Preferred Shares are redeemed, since they generally do not have voting rights); or

is not essentially equivalent to a dividend with respect to the holder of Series A Preferred Shares under Section 302(b)(1) of the Code.

In determining whether any of these tests have been met, shares considered to be owned by the holder by reason of certain constructive ownership rules set forth in the Code, as well as shares actually owned, must generally be taken into account. Because the determination as to whether any of the alternative tests of Section 302(b) of the Code will be satisfied with respect to any particular holder of Series A Preferred Shares depends upon the facts and circumstances at the time when the determination must be made, prospective investors are advised to consult their own tax advisors to determine the tax treatment to them. Any portion of the redemption proceeds attributable to a declared but unpaid dividend will be treated as a distribution to the Series A Preferred Shares as described above under Taxation of Stockholders U.S. Stockholders Distributions .

Table of Contents

A substantially disproportionate reduction in the interest of a holder of Series A Preferred Shares will have occurred if, as a result of the redemption,

the holder's ownership of all of our outstanding voting stock is reduced immediately after the redemption to less than 80% of the holder's percentage interest in the shares immediately before the redemption;

the holder's percentage ownership of the interest of Series A Preferred Shares after and before the redemption meets the same 80% requirement; and

the holder owns, immediately after the redemption, less than 50% of the total combined voting power of all classes of shares entitled to vote.

Based upon current law, it is possible that a redemption of Series A Preferred Shares from a holder of Series A Preferred Shares would be considered not essentially equivalent to a dividend. However, whether a distribution is not essentially equivalent to a dividend depends on all of the facts and circumstances. The application of these tests to a redemption of Series A Preferred Shares is unclear, and a holder of Series A Preferred Shares should consult its own tax adviser to determine their application to its particular situation.

If the redemption does not meet any of the tests under Section 302 of the Code, then the redemption proceeds received from the Series A Preferred Shares will be treated as a distribution on the Series A Preferred Shares as described above under Taxation of Stockholders U.S. Stockholders Distributions. If the redemption is taxed as a dividend, the holders' adjusted tax basis in the Series A Preferred Shares will be transferred to any other shareholdings of the holder in us. If, however, the shareholder has no remaining shareholdings in us, such basis could be transferred to a related person or it may be lost.

Backup Withholding. We will report to our U.S. stockholders and the IRS the amount of dividends paid during each calendar year, and the amount of tax withheld, if any. Under the backup withholding rules, backup withholding may apply to a stockholder with respect to dividends paid unless the holder (a) is a corporation or comes within certain other exempt categories and, when required, demonstrates this fact, or (b) provides a taxpayer identification number, certifies as to no loss of exemption from backup withholding, and otherwise complies with applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. The IRS may also impose penalties on a U.S. stockholder that does not provide us with his correct taxpayer identification number. A stockholder may credit any amount paid as backup withholding against the stockholder's income tax liability. In addition, we may be required to withhold a portion of capital gain distributions to any stockholders who fail to certify their non-foreign status to us.

Taxation of Tax-Exempt Stockholders. The IRS has ruled that amounts distributed as dividends by a REIT generally do not constitute unrelated business taxable income when received by a tax-exempt entity. Based on that ruling, provided that a tax-exempt stockholder (i) is not an entity described in the next paragraph, (ii) has not held its Series A Preferred Shares as debt financed property within the meaning of the Code and (iii) does not hold its Series A Preferred Shares in a trade or business, the dividend income received by such stockholder with respect to the Series A Preferred Shares will not be unrelated business taxable income to a tax-exempt stockholder. Similarly, income from the sale of Series A Preferred Shares will not constitute unrelated business taxable income unless the tax-exempt stockholder has held the Series A Preferred Shares as debt financed property within the meaning of the Code or has used the Series A Preferred Shares in an unrelated trade or business.

Table of Contents

Income from an investment in our Series A Preferred Shares will constitute unrelated business taxable income for tax-exempt stockholders that are social clubs, voluntary employee benefit associations, supplemental unemployment benefit trusts, and qualified group legal services plans exempt from U.S. Federal income taxation under the applicable subsections of Section 501(c) of the Code, unless the organization is able to properly deduct amounts set aside or placed in reserve for certain purposes so as to offset the income generated by its Series A Preferred Shares. Prospective investors of the types described in the preceding sentence should consult their own tax advisors concerning these set aside and reserve requirements.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, a portion of the dividends paid by a pension-held REIT will be treated as unrelated business taxable income to any trust which:

is described in Section 401(a) of the Code;

is tax-exempt under Section 501(a) of the Code; and

holds more than 10% (by value) of the equity interests in the REIT.

Tax-exempt pension, profit-sharing and stock bonus funds that are described in Section 401(a) of the Code are referred to below as qualified trusts. A REIT is a pension-held REIT if:

it would not have qualified as a REIT but for the fact that Section 856(h)(3) of the Code provides that stock owned by qualified trusts will be treated, for purposes of the not closely held requirement, as owned by the beneficiaries of the trust (rather than by the trust itself); and

either (a) at least one qualified trust holds more than 25% by value of the interests in the REIT or (b) one or more qualified trusts, each of which owns more than 10% by value of the interests in the REIT, hold in the aggregate more than 50% by value of the interests in the REIT.

The percentage of any REIT dividend treated as unrelated business taxable income to a qualifying trust that owns more than 10% of the value of the REIT's interests is equal to the ratio of (a) the gross income of the REIT from unrelated trades or businesses, determined as though the REIT were a qualified trust, less direct expenses related to this gross income, to (b) the total gross income of the REIT, less direct expenses related to the total gross income. A de minimis exception applies where this percentage is less than 5% for any year. We do not expect to be classified as a pension-held REIT.

The rules described above under the heading Taxation of Stockholders U.S. Stockholders Distributions concerning the inclusion of our designated undistributed net capital gains in the income of our stockholders will apply to tax-exempt entities. Thus, tax-exempt entities will be allowed a credit or refund of the tax deemed paid by these entities in respect of the includible gains.

Under recently promulgated Treasury regulations, if a stockholder recognizes a loss with respect to the Series A Preferred Shares of \$2 million or more for an individual stockholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate stockholder, the stockholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Stockholders should consult their tax advisors to determine the applicability of these regulations in light

of their individual circumstances.

Table of Contents

Non-U.S. Stockholders

The rules governing U.S. Federal income taxation of nonresident alien individuals, foreign corporations, foreign partnerships and estates or trusts that in either case are not subject to U.S. Federal income tax on a net income basis who own Series A Preferred Shares, which we call non-U.S. stockholders, are complex. The following discussion is only a limited summary of these rules. Prospective non-U.S. stockholders should consult with their own tax advisors to determine the impact of U.S. Federal, state and local income tax laws with regard to an investment in the Series A Preferred Shares, including any reporting requirements.

Ordinary Dividends. Distributions, other than distributions that are treated as attributable to gain from sales or exchanges by us of U.S. real property interests, as discussed below, and other than distributions designated by us as capital gain dividends, will be treated as ordinary income dividends to the extent that they are made out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits. A withholding tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of the distribution will ordinarily apply to distributions of this kind to non-U.S. stockholders, unless an applicable tax treaty reduces that tax. However, if income from the investment in the Series A Preferred Shares is treated as effectively connected with the non-U.S. stockholder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business or is attributable to a permanent establishment that the non-U.S. stockholder maintains in the United States if that is required by an applicable income tax treaty as a condition for subjecting the non-U.S. stockholder to U.S. taxation on a net income basis, tax at graduated rates will generally apply to the non-U.S. stockholder in the same manner as U.S. stockholders are taxed with respect to dividends, and the 30% branch profits tax may also apply if the stockholder is a foreign corporation. We expect to withhold U.S. tax at the rate of 30% on the gross amount of any dividends, other than dividends treated as attributable to gain from sales or exchanges of U.S. real property interests and capital gain dividends, paid to a non-U.S. stockholder, unless (a) a lower treaty rate applies and the required form evidencing eligibility for that reduced rate is filed with us or the appropriate withholding agent or (b) the non-U.S. stockholder files an IRS Form W-8 ECI or a successor form with us or the appropriate withholding agent claiming that the distributions are effectively connected with the non-U.S. stockholder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business.

Distributions to a non-U.S. stockholder that are designated by us at the time of distribution as capital gain dividends which are not attributable to or treated as attributable to the disposition by us of a U.S. real property interest generally will not be subject to U.S. Federal income taxation, except as described below.

Return of Capital. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits, which are not treated as attributable to the gain from our disposition of a U.S. real property interest, will not be taxable to a non-U.S. stockholder to the extent that they do not exceed the adjusted basis of the non-U.S. stockholder's Series A Preferred Shares. Distributions of this kind will instead reduce the adjusted basis of the Series A Preferred Shares. To the extent that distributions of this kind exceed the adjusted basis of a non-U.S. stockholder's Series A Preferred Shares, they will give rise to tax liability if the non-U.S. stockholder otherwise would have to pay tax on any gain from the sale or disposition of its Series A Preferred Shares, as described below. If it cannot be determined at the time a distribution is made whether the distribution will be in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits, withholding will apply to the distribution at the rate applicable to dividends. However, the non-U.S. stockholder may seek a refund of these amounts from the IRS if it is subsequently determined that the distribution was, in fact, in excess of our current accumulated earnings and profits.

Table of Contents

Capital Gain Dividends. For any year in which we qualify as a REIT, distributions that are attributable to gain from sales or exchanges by us of U.S. real property interests will be taxed to a non-U.S. stockholder under the provisions of the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980, as amended. Under this statute, these distributions are taxed to a non-U.S. stockholder as if the gain were effectively connected with a U.S. business. Thus, non-U.S. stockholders will be taxed on the distributions at the normal capital gain rates applicable to U.S. stockholders, subject to any applicable alternative minimum tax and special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals. Distributions subject to the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act made to non-U.S. stockholders may also be subject to a 30% branch profits tax in the hands of a foreign corporate stockholder that is not entitled to a treaty exemption. We are required by applicable Treasury regulations under this statute to withhold and remit to the IRS 35% of any distribution that we could designate as a capital gain dividend. However, if we designate as a capital gain dividend a distribution made before the day we actually effect the designation, then although the distribution may be taxable to a non-U.S. stockholder, withholding does not apply to the distribution under this statute. Rather, we must effect the 35% withholding from distributions made on and after the date of the designation, until the distributions so withheld equal the amount of the prior distribution designated as a capital gain dividend. The non-U.S. stockholder may credit the amount withheld against its U.S. tax liability.

If the Series A Preferred Shares are regularly traded, as defined by applicable Treasury regulations, on an established securities market (e.g., the New York Stock Exchange), a distribution received by a non-U.S. stockholder that does not own more than 5% of our Series A Preferred Shares during the tax year within which the distribution is received will not be treated as gain that is effectively connected with a U.S. business. As such, a non-U.S. stockholder who does not own more than 5% of our Series A Preferred Shares at any time during the applicable taxable year would not be required to file a U.S. Federal income tax return by reason of receiving such a distribution. In this case, the distribution would be treated as a REIT dividend to that non-U.S. stockholder and taxed as a REIT dividend that is not a capital gain distribution as described above. In addition, the branch profits tax would not apply to such distributions. However, the Series A Preferred Shares currently are not regularly traded on an established securities market, and there can be no assurance that the Series A Preferred Shares will at any time become regularly traded on an established securities market.

Sales of Series A Preferred Shares. Gain recognized by a non-U.S. stockholder upon a sale or exchange of our Series A Preferred Shares generally will not be taxed under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act if we are a domestically controlled REIT, defined generally as a REIT, less than 50% in value of whose stock is and was held directly or indirectly by foreign persons at all times during a specified testing period. We believe that we will be a domestically controlled REIT, and, therefore, that taxation under this statute generally will not apply to the sale of our Series A Preferred Shares. However, gain to which this statute does not apply will be taxable to a non-U.S. stockholder if investment in the Series A Preferred Shares is treated as effectively connected with the non-U.S. stockholder's U.S. trade or business or is attributable to a permanent establishment that the non-U.S. stockholder maintains in the United States if that is required by an applicable income tax treaty as a condition for subjecting the non-U.S. stockholder to U.S. taxation on a net income basis. In this case, the same treatment will apply to the non-U.S. stockholder as to U.S. stockholders with respect to the gain. In addition, gain to which the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act does not apply will be taxable to a non-U.S. stockholder if the non-U.S. stockholder is a nonresident alien individual who was present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and has a tax home in the United States, or maintains an office or a fixed place of business in the United States to which the gain is attributable. In this case, a 30% tax will apply to the nonresident alien individual's capital gains. A similar rule will apply to capital gain dividends to which this statute does not apply.

Table of Contents

If we do not qualify as a domestically controlled REIT, tax under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act would apply to a non-U.S. stockholder's sale of Series A Preferred Shares, unless our Series A Preferred Shares are regularly traded on an established securities market at the time of such sale and such non-U.S. stockholder does not own more than 5% of our Series A Preferred Shares at any time during a specified period. This period is generally the shorter of the period that the non-U.S. stockholder owned the Series A Preferred Shares sold or the five-year period ending on the date when the stockholder disposed of the Series A Preferred Shares. However, the Series A Preferred Shares currently are not regularly traded on an established securities market and there can be no assurance that the Series A Preferred Shares will at any time become regularly traded on an established securities market. If tax under this statute applies to the gain on the sale of Series A Preferred Shares, the same treatment would apply to the non-U.S. stockholder as to U.S. stockholders with respect to the gain, subject to any applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals.

In any event, a purchaser of Series A Preferred Shares from a non-U.S. stockholder will not be required under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act to withhold on the purchase price if the purchased Series A Preferred Shares are regularly traded on an established securities market and the seller did not own more than 5% of our Series A Preferred Shares at any time during the taxable year or if we are a domestically controlled REIT. Otherwise, under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act, the purchaser of Series A Preferred Shares may be required to withhold 10% of the purchase price and remit that amount to the IRS.

Backup Withholding and Information Reporting. If you are a non-U.S. stockholder, you are generally exempt from backup withholding and information reporting requirements with respect to:

dividend payments and

the payment of the proceeds from the sale of Series A Preferred Shares effected at a U.S. office of a broker,

as long as the income associated with these payments is otherwise exempt from U.S. Federal income tax, and:

the payor or broker does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that you are a U.S. person and you have furnished to the payor or broker:

a valid IRS Form W-8BEN or an acceptable substitute form upon which you certify, under penalties of perjury, that you are a non-U.S. person, or

other documentation upon which it may rely to treat the payments as made to a non-U.S. person in accordance with U.S. Treasury regulations, or

you otherwise establish an exemption.

Payment of the proceeds from the sale of Series A Preferred Shares effected at a foreign office of a broker generally will not be subject to information reporting or backup withholding. However, a sale of Series A Preferred Shares that is effected at a foreign office of a broker will be subject to information reporting and backup withholding if:

the proceeds are transferred to an account maintained by you in the United States,

Table of Contents

the payment of proceeds or the confirmation of the sale is mailed to you at a U.S. address, or

the sale has some other specified connection with the United States as provided in U.S. Treasury regulations, unless the broker does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that you are a U.S. person and the documentation requirements described above are met or you otherwise establish an exemption.

In addition, a sale of Series A Preferred Shares will be subject to information reporting if it is effected at a foreign office of a broker that is:

a U.S. person,

a controlled foreign corporation for U.S. tax purposes,

a foreign person 50% or more of whose gross income is effectively connected with the conduct of a U.S. trade or business for a specified three-year period, or

a foreign partnership, if at any time during its tax year:

one or more of its partners are U.S. persons, as defined in U.S. Treasury regulations, who in the aggregate hold more than 50% of the income or capital interest in the partnership, or

such foreign partnership is engaged in the conduct of a U.S. trade or business,

unless the broker does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that you are a U.S. person and the documentation requirements described above are met or you otherwise establish an exemption. Backup withholding will apply if the sale is subject to information reporting and the broker has actual knowledge that you are a U.S. person.

You generally may obtain a refund of any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules that exceed your income tax liability by filing a refund claim with the IRS.

Other Tax Consequences

State or local taxation may apply to us and our stockholders in various state or local jurisdictions, including those in which we or they transact business or reside. The state and local tax treatment of us and our stockholders may not conform to the U.S. Federal income tax consequences discussed above. Consequently, prospective stockholders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the effect of state and local tax laws on an investment in our Series A Preferred Shares.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Series A Preferred Shares are being registered to permit public secondary trading of these securities by the holders thereof from time to time after the date of this prospectus. We have agreed, among other things, to bear all expenses (other than underwriting discounts and selling commissions) in connection with the registration and sale of the securities covered by this prospectus.

We will not receive any of the proceeds from the offering by the selling stockholders of the Series A Preferred Shares.

The selling stockholders may from time to time directly sell their Series A Preferred Shares to purchasers at fixed prices, at prevailing market prices at the time of sale, at varying prices determined at the time of sale, or at negotiated prices. Alternatively, the selling stockholders may from time to time offer these securities through underwriters, brokers, dealers or agents who may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the selling stockholders and/or the purchasers of these securities for whom they may act as agent.

We cannot assure you that any selling stockholder will sell any or all of its securities under this prospectus or that any selling stockholder will not transfer, devise or gift its securities by other means not described in this prospectus.

The selling stockholders and any brokers, dealers or agents who participate in the distribution of the securities covered by this prospectus may be deemed to be underwriters, and any profits on the sale of the securities by them and any discounts, commissions or concessions received by any brokers, dealers or agents may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. To the extent the selling stockholders may be deemed to be underwriters, the selling stockholders may be subject to some statutory liabilities of the Securities Act, including, but not limited to, Sections 11, 12 and 17 of the Securities Act and Rule 10b-5 under the Exchange Act. If the selling stockholders are deemed to be underwriters, they will be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act, which may include delivery through the facilities of the New York Stock Exchange pursuant to Rule 153 under the Securities Act.

The securities offered hereby may be sold from time to time by, as applicable, the selling stockholders or, to the extent permitted, by pledgees, donees, transferees or other successors in interest including by disposal from time to time in one or more transactions (including cross transactions) through any one or more of the following, as appropriate:

a block trade in which the broker or dealer so engaged will attempt to sell the securities as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;

purchases by a broker or dealer as principal and resale by that broker or dealer for its account;

ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker solicits purchasers;

an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of that exchange or transaction in the over-the-counter market;

Edgar Filing: STRATEGIC HOTEL CAPITAL INC - Form 424B3

in transactions otherwise than in the over-the-counter market;

through the writing of put or call options on the securities (including the issuance of derivative securities), whether the options or other derivative securities are listed on an options or other exchange or otherwise;

short sales of the securities and sales to cover the short sales;

the pledge of the securities as security for any loan or obligation, including pledges to brokers or dealers who may, from time to time, themselves effect distributions of the securities or interest therein;

the distribution of the securities by any selling stockholder to its partners, members or securityholders;

Table of Contents

sales through underwriters or dealers who may receive compensation in the form of underwriting discounts, concessions or commissions from the selling stockholders or successors in interest or from the purchase of the shares for whom they may act as agent; and

a combination of any of the above.

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

The financial statements and the related financial statement schedules incorporated in this prospectus by reference from the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which is incorporated herein by reference, and has been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The combined financial statements of CIMS Limited Partnership and Inter-Continental Florida Limited Partnership (entities under common ownership and management) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2004 incorporated by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 7, 2005, as amended, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors, as stated in their report which is incorporated herein by reference, and has been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the offered securities will be passed upon for Strategic Hotel Capital by Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP, Chicago, Illinois. Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP will rely on the opinion of Venable LLP as to matters of Maryland law. Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP has in the past represented and is currently representing Strategic Hotel Capital and some of its affiliates.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

Strategic Hotel Capital is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and, in accordance therewith, files reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Such reports, proxy statements and other information can be inspected, without charge, at the public reference facilities maintained by the Securities and Exchange Commission at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of such material can be obtained at prescribed rates from the Public Reference Room of the Securities and Exchange Commission at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. You may obtain information on the operation of the Securities and Exchange Commission's public reference room in Washington, D.C. by calling the Securities and Exchange Commission at 1-800-SEC-0330. Such materials may also be inspected on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at www.sec.gov. Strategic Hotel Capital's outstanding shares of common stock are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "SLH", and all such reports, proxy statements and other information filed by Strategic Hotel Capital with the New York Stock Exchange may be inspected at the New York Stock Exchange's offices at 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005. You can also obtain information about Strategic Hotel Capital at its website, www.shci.com.

This prospectus constitutes part of a registration statement on Form S-3 filed by Strategic Hotel Capital with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement, parts of which are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. For further information, reference is made to the registration statement.

Table of Contents

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

There are incorporated by reference in this prospectus the following documents previously filed by Strategic Hotel Capital with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

- (a) Strategic Hotel Capital's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004;
- (b) Strategic Hotel Capital's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2005 and June 30, 2005;
- (c) Strategic Hotel Capital's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on March 14, 2005, March 18, 2005, March 25, 2005, April 5, 2005, April 7, 2005, as amended, April 12, 2005, May 23, 2005, July 19, 2005 (other than the information in Item 7.01 and Exhibit 99.1 thereto), July 28, 2005, August 11, 2005 (other than the information in Item 7.01 and Exhibit 99.1 thereto), August 30, 2005 (other than the information in Item 7.01 and Exhibit 99.1 thereto), September 6, 2005, September 7, 2005 and September 13, 2005 (other than the information in Item 7.01 and Exhibit 99.1 thereto); and
- (d) The description of the shares of common stock contained in Strategic Hotel Capital's registration statement on Form 8-A filed on June 21, 2004.

The Securities and Exchange Commission has assigned file number 1-32223 to reports and other information that Strategic Hotel Capital files with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

All documents subsequently filed by Strategic Hotel Capital pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act of 1934 prior to the termination of the offering of the offered securities, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and to be a part of this prospectus from the date of filing of such documents. Any statement contained in this prospectus or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus, or in any subsequently filed document which is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus, modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

Strategic Hotel Capital will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a copy of this prospectus is delivered, upon the written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, other than exhibits to such documents unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into such documents. Requests should be addressed to:

Secretary

Strategic Hotel Capital, Inc.

77 West Wacker Drive, Suite 4600

Chicago, Illinois 60601

(312) 658-5000

Table of Contents

Strategic Hotel Capital, Inc.

4,000,000 Shares

8.50% Series A

Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares

(Liquidation Preference \$25.00 per share)

PROSPECTUS

September 21, 2005