

## **The Esquire Hotel Joins Ascend Hotel Collection**

### **Gastonia's Newest Boutique Hotel Breathes New Life into National Landmark Building**

ROCKVILLE, Md., Dec. 23, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- The Esquire Hotel is the latest addition to the growing Ascend Hotel Collection by Choice Hotels International, Inc. (NYSE: CHH), a portfolio of resort, boutique and historic hotels that reflect their surrounding communities. Situated in the heart of Gastonia at 168 West Main Ave., just outside of Charlotte, North Carolina, the hotel provides visitors with convenient access to popular attractions in the state's largest city, while paying homage to its unique charm and rich history.

Built in 1918, the boutique Esquire Hotel is an adaptive reuse of a national landmark building that originally opened as the First National Bank of Gastonia and was later used as the town's famed Lawyer's Building. Following a multi-year transformation, the property, which still retains its stunning original classical-revival style exterior finishes, now features lavish guest rooms, distinctive design and several on-site amenities — including an exclusive restaurant offering southern, farm-to-table cuisine and a rooftop bar with stunning views of the Kings Pinnacle mountain peak.

The Esquire Hotel is across the street from the Gastonia Conference Center and a downtown park, and guests are within walking distance from several local restaurants and shops. Visitors to Gastonia can stop by the Schiele Museum of Natural History, drive a few miles southeast to see the beautiful Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens, or enjoy some outdoor activities in Crowders Mountain State Park. The hotel features 35 guestrooms decorated with glamorous Hollywood-inspired furniture and is conveniently located less than a mile from an Amtrak stop on the Crescent line, which runs daily between New York and New Orleans.

The Ascend Hotel Collection, which includes a portfolio of resort, historic and boutique hotels, recently surpassed a milestone of 300 hotels open and also has over 100 properties in the pipeline worldwide. This year, the brand has welcomed several new hotels in major U.S. cities like Brooklyn, N.Y.; New Orleans; Philadelphia; Portland, Maine; and Napa, Calif.

As a member of the Ascend Hotel Collection, guests of the Esquire Hotel can participate in the award-winning Choice Privileges loyalty rewards program, rated a top hotel loyalty program by both USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards and U.S. News & World Report for four consecutive years. Choice Privileges membership is free and offers fast rewards and exclusive member rates for those who book directly at [www.choicehotels.com](http://www.choicehotels.com), through the Choice Hotels mobile app, or by calling 1-800-4CHOICE. Members can earn and redeem points towards free nights, airline miles, and more while staying at any of Choice's participating branded hotels.

### **Ascend Hotel Collection: Let the Destination Reach You.**

The Ascend Hotel Collection global portfolio of independent resort, historic, and boutique hotels is part of Choice Hotels, one of the world's largest leading hotel companies. Recognized as the hotel industry's first "soft brand" concept, there are more than 300 Ascend Hotel Collection properties open and operating worldwide, including in France, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Australia, Canada, Ecuador, and the Caribbean region. Membership with the Ascend Hotel Collection enables distinctive, independent properties to gain a global presence while maintaining their local charm. For more information, visit [www.choicehotels.com/ascend](http://www.choicehotels.com/ascend).

### **About Choice Hotels**

Choice Hotels International, Inc. (NYSE: CHH) is one of the largest lodging franchisors in the world. With more than 7,000 hotels, representing nearly 575,000 rooms, in over 40 countries and territories as of September 30, 2019, the Choice® family of hotel brands provides business and leisure travelers with a range of high-quality lodging options from limited-service to full-service hotels in the upscale, midscale, extended stay and economy segments. The award-winning Choice Privileges® loyalty program offers members benefits ranging from everyday rewards to exceptional experiences. For more information, visit [www.choicehotels.com](http://www.choicehotels.com).

### **Forward-Looking Statement**

This communication includes "forward-looking statements" about future events, including anticipated development and hotel openings. Such statements are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, including construction delays, availability and cost of financing and the other "Risk Factors" described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, any of which could cause actual results to be materially different from our expectations.

### **Addendum**

This is not an offering. No offer or sale of a franchise will be made except by a Franchise Disclosure Document first filed and registered with applicable state authorities. A copy of the Franchise Disclosure Document can be obtained through contacting Choice Hotels International at 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, MD 20850, [development@choicehotels.com](mailto:development@choicehotels.com).

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