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Photos courtesy of the featured hotels

EMPIRE EXPANSION

Hotel development isn't slowing in the city that never sleeps

1+2. Renderings of public spaces in the 190-key SLS New York, designed by Philippe Starck and set to open next summer.

3. Designed by GKA, Choice Hotels' 135-room Cambria Suites recently debuted in Chelsea.

The numbers speak for themselves. According to Bruce Ford of Lodging Econometrics, New York currently has 210 hotels in the new construction pipeline, totaling 33,875 rooms (it's the only city with more than 30,000 rooms projected; the next six markets are looking at more than 20,000). Last year alone, 25 hotels with 4,332 rooms made their debut in New York, and as of August of this year, an additional 17 hotels have opened (that's 2,758 keys) with 21 more hotels scheduled by the end of the year. And 2016 may be a record-breaking year if all goes as planned, with another 59 hotels for almost 8,000 rooms. As might be expected, they range from a few very exclusive brands to a host of offerings from major companies like Hyatt, Hilton, and Marriott.

On the heels of the Park Hyatt and Baccarat openings come several other much-anticipated luxury offerings. There's the 190-key SLS New York on Park Avenue South with interiors by Philippe Starck, which is planned to be the sbe brand's fourth outlet and pegged to open next summer. Also promised next year, the second U.S. location by Spanish brand RIU, a new-build in Times Square with 600-plus rooms featuring "elegant, avant-garde décor." And the city's second Four Seasons Hotel, developed by Silverstein Properties with 185 keys and 157 private residences, will be located in 30 Park Place, a slender, 82-story tower designed by Robert A.M. Stern Architects.

And that's just the tip of the iceberg. In terms of lifestyle offerings, there's Virgin Hotels' New York debut, a 400-room new-build in the ever-popular NoMad neighborhood, with architecture and interiors from VOA Associates; a first and second locale for the Marriott-Ian Schrager Edition, the latter which will offer 452-rooms in Times Square; and the 370-room Public, another Schrager brand, in a SoHo new-build by Herzog & de Meuron.

The second, and perhaps hottest, New York hospitality trend: the explosion of the hotel scenes in Brooklyn and Queens. The former remains especially in demand, with development focused on central locales like downtown Brooklyn and Brooklyn Heights—including the 195-key 1 Hotel in tony Brooklyn Bridge Park, developed in partnership with Toll Brothers—as well as trendy Williamsburg, where for instance, London brand the Hoxton is making its U.S. debut. Also Queens—always well stocked with airport hotels—is gaining ground in the boutique arena, particularly in the environs of Long Island City.

Unsurprisingly, the big players are using the city for both their new brands and a testing ground for innovative concepts for their staples. Wyndham Hotels just opened its second TRYP, a 336-room property in Times Square; Hyatt Hotels recently debuted its property in Herald Square (among others) with a Garment District-inspired design by Edgewater, New Jersey-based VLDG; and Choice Hotels' 135-room Cambria Suites debuted in Chelsea, where local designer GKA took cues from its location in the flower district, infusing public spaces with oak plank flooring, mirror mosaics, bronze-tinted glass, and several wall hangings of abundant jewel-toned blossoms in bloom by artist Liora Manne.

Including all that New York has to offer is nearly impossible, but here's a look at some of the latest and greatest—and what's to come.