



Doing Business in Dominican Republic

Establishing Dominican Hotels

I. Introduction

The establishment of Hotels in the Dominican Republic requires the assistance by qualified Dominican Legal Counsel that is certified to act before the Ministry of Tourism (MT), who will represent the petitioner and follow up throughout the tourism business license application process.

Dominican Tourism Regulations are updated every year and requirements often change without notice. The MT reserves its right to request additional information and short periods of time are provided to the requesting party to cure or satisfy any missing original documents or information in the form required by the MT.

Dominican Tourism license approval often depends on proper filing of legal documents proving Dominican legal entity existence, identification of owners, activities description, place, service level conditions, among others.

II. Dominican Hotel Establishment Norms for Classification

Dominican Republic Tourism Regulation 2115 of July 13, 1984 norms the classification, start-up, registration, and all there is in connection with hospitality within the Dominican Republic territory. In order to begin hotel establishments, Aparthotels and hospitality establishment's star-ups, the regulation establishes that obtaining the operation or license authorization granted by the Ministry of Tourism is mandatory, and renewable annually.

The regulation establishes different types of Hotel Establishments, depending on their location, characteristics and services, namely: a) City hotels; b) Beach hotels; c) Mountain hotels; d) Aparthotels and e) Bungalow or Cabins and Villas.

Establishments that are interested in starting up hotel operations, should inform the Ministry of Tourism, according to the provisions of Regulation 2115 dated July 13, 1984 and apply for an authorization.

The Ministry of Tourism shall set the corresponding category for each establishment, and will be vigilant in compliance with pricing matters, inspect the good functioning of the establishment and resolve claims that may arise, as well as assess the dimensions and characteristics that must be met by the hotel establishments, and fix each room capacity indicating the number of people that may occupy it.

Questions about this information can be directed to Our Team at 809.472.2222 (info@aclaw.com) or to our lead contact Felipe Isa Castillo (fcastillo@aclaw.com).

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