

Duff on Hospitality Law

## **OTA & Travel Distribution Update: Airbnb introduces new 'Cooking' Category on Airbnb Experiences; Pegasus partners with Alibaba-backed Shiji Group to grow its Asia-Pacific market presence**

By Greg Duff on 12.6.19 | Posted in OTA Update

### **Need a Recipe? Ask Airbnb**

*("Introducing 'Cooking' on Airbnb Experiences," Hospitality Net - Latest Industry News on Nov 26, 2019)*

Last Monday, Airbnb introduced "Cooking" on [Airbnb Experiences](#). The new category of experiences allows travelers to book non-traditional experiential cooking classes hosted by families, farmers and other local hosts. The experiences category also provides access to more than 3,000 global family recipes vetted by Slow Food, a grassroots organization dedicated to preserving local foods and customs.

### **Shiji Is Becoming a Household Name in Asian Hospitality**

*("Pegasus Partners with Shiji Group to Grow Asia-Pacific Market Presence," Hospitality Net - Latest Industry News on Nov 27, 2019)*

This past year, we've featured three stories detailing Alibaba-backed Shiji Group's dramatic expansion in the Asian hospitality industry. That trend continued last week with Pegasus' announcement that it plans to partner with Shiji to expand Pegasus' distribution in the Asia-Pacific region. The partnership will allow Pegasus to connect to the social media (and booking) platform WeChat as well as Shiji's network of global and regional distribution partners.

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Other news:

### **Leavy.co, the App for Millennials Who Want to Rent Out Their Room While Travelling, Discloses \$14M Funding**

*Tech Crunch on Nov 26, 2019*

[Leavy.co](#), the Paris-born startup that offers a travel app for millennials to help them travel more without getting into further debt, has quietly raised \$14 million in funding.