

Premier Inn announces £100 million London expansion



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Press Release Author: [Whitbread PLC](#)

Industry: [Consumer Services](#)

Press Release Summary: Premier Inn announce the development of six new Premier Inn hotels to be opened in London over the next three years, with an overall investment of £100 million

Press Release Body: **Whitbread PLC**, the UK's largest hotel and restaurant group, has announced the development of six new **Premier Inn hotels**, with 1200 rooms, to be opened in London over the next three years, with an overall investment equivalent to £100 million.

[Whitbread](#) has agreed to acquire the **Quality Hotel (Westminster)**, **Comfort Inn (Kensington)** and **Purple Hotel (City of London)** from the **Real Hotel Company PLC (RHC)** for £18.5 million, adding 400 new rooms. An additional £12 million will be spent converting them to **Premier Inn hotels**. **Whitbread** has also secured the first right of refusal to acquire all 12 of the remaining **Purple hotels from RHC** should they be earmarked for sale. The proposed acquisition is subject to **RHC** shareholder approval and certain property related consents.

[Premier Inn](#) is also developing three new build hotels in the Greater London area, which together with extension to existing properties adds 800 new rooms. The three new [London hotel](#) builds are located at Waterloo, Ealing and Old Street in the City and are scheduled to open by 2011. The equivalent of £70 million* will be invested in these leasehold developments.

Premier Inn is the largest group of [hotels in London](#) by number of properties with 44 hotels and 5,300 rooms. These latest plans will increase the total number of rooms in the Capital to 6,500, with a further pipeline of 2,000 rooms expected to be announced over the next twelve months. Together, these will represent an increase of 60% to **Premier Inn's** London estate.

Alan Parker, Chief Executive Officer of Whitbread PLC, said:

*"We have exciting expansion plans for **Premier Inn** in London and the addition of 1200 rooms is a great start. The Capital is an important focus for Premier Inn, and there is an increasing need for high quality, affordable accommodation. Our further pipeline will position us as the largest hotel chain in London with at least 8,500 rooms before the Olympics in 2012".*

* The £70 million relates to the capital value of the lease commitments, the cash capital to be invested amounts to £6.5 million.

About Whitbread PLC is the UK's largest hotel and restaurant group with market leading businesses Premier Inn, Brewers Fayre, Beefeater and Costa. Founded in 1742, the company is listed on the London Stock Exchange (as WTB.L) and is a member of the FTSE4Good indices.

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