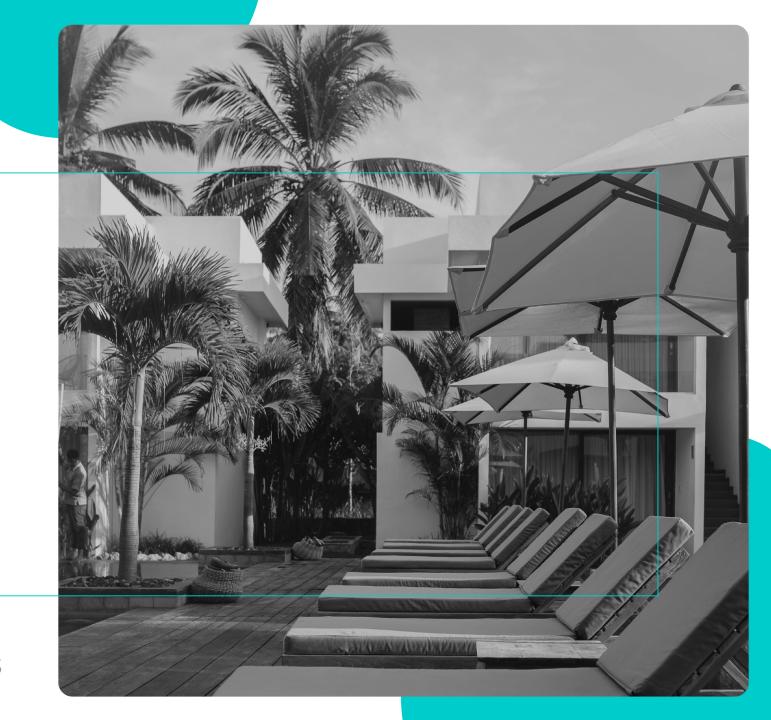


Black Friday

Hotel Strategies

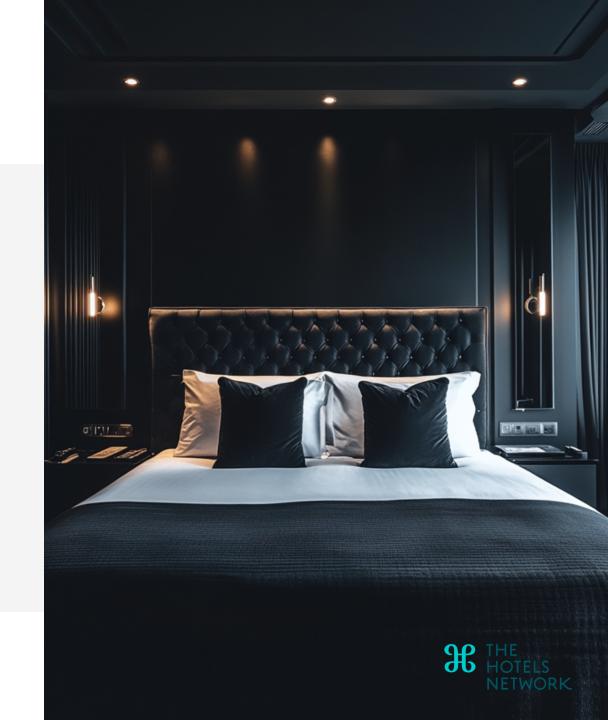


The Black Friday Playbook

As shoppers eagerly prepare for the year's biggest deals, Black Friday has evolved far beyond the realm of retail, becoming a valuable marketing opportunity for hotels as well. This annual shopping event offers hoteliers the chance to showcase their unique offerings, attract new guests, and drive revenue.

By strategically leveraging direct channels, hotels can capture the attention of prospective guests, inviting them to explore exclusive offers and converting interest into bookings. It's an ideal moment to create compelling experiences that stand out.

In this guide, we'll walk through the essential steps for building a successful Black Friday campaign, from customizing website content and designing engaging promotions to making the most of social media channels.





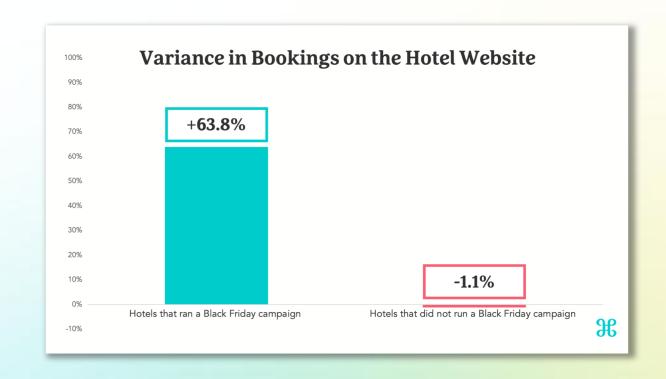
Learnings from 2024...

For the following study, we examined data from the direct channels of over 4,300 hotels worldwide that are clients of THN. The analysis compared the performance of hotel websites during the month including Black Friday (November 3rd - December 2nd, 2024) with the previous month (October 3rd - November 2nd, 2024).

Black Friday promotions turn interest into bookings

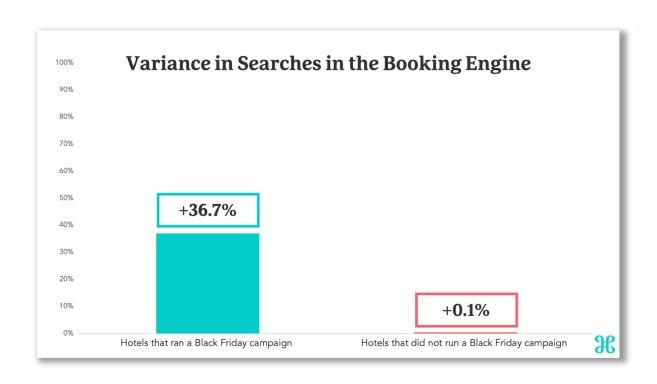
Hotels running Black Friday campaigns boosted bookings by +63.8%, showing the strong impact of targeted promotions in converting interest into stays.

Meanwhile, hotels without campaigns saw a -1.2% drop in direct bookings, underlining consumer expectations for compelling Black Friday offers.





Black Friday strategies significantly boost search engagement on hotel booking engines



Hotels with Black Friday campaigns saw unique visitors grow +9.2% vs October, while those without campaigns lost -4.0%, showing the visibility gap created by promotions.

Engagement was even stronger in booking engines, with campaign hotels driving a +36.7% surge in searches, compared to just +0.1% for non-participants—evidence of rising consumer responsiveness to Black Friday offers.

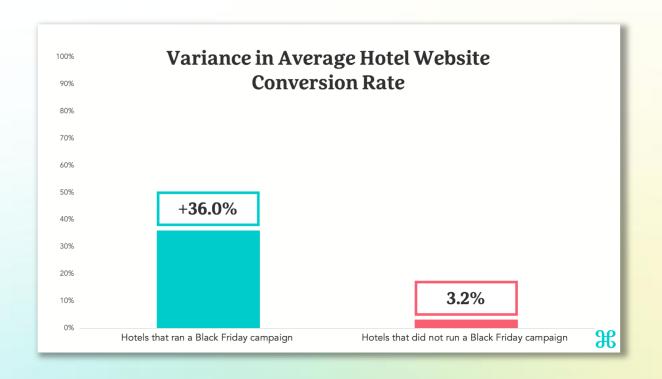




Black Friday campaigns drive up website conversion rates

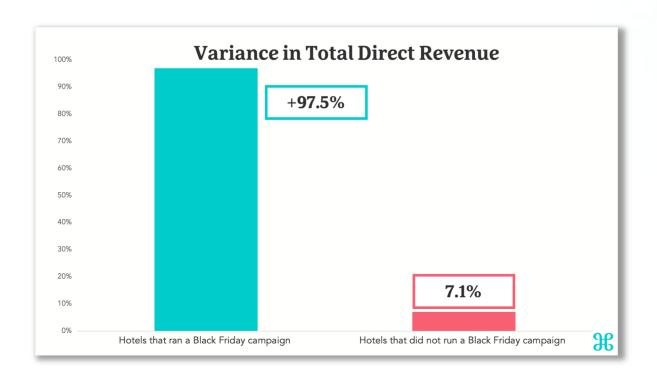
Hotels running Black Friday campaigns boosted website conversion rates by +36.0%, compared to just +3.2% for non-participants. In booking engines, campaign hotels achieved a +24.6% uplift, far ahead of the +7.4% seen without promotions.

These results show how Black Friday campaigns drive conversions at every stage of the booking journey, proving the value of tailored offers in turning consumer interest into direct bookings.





Black Friday offers don't reduce average booking value



Hotels with Black Friday campaigns grew average revenue per booking by +23.6% vs +10.9% for non-participants. Even more striking, total direct revenue surged +97.5%, compared to just +7.1% without campaigns.

These results show that targeted offers—like upselling higher-category rooms or adding minimum stay conditions—can increase both booking value and overall profitability during Black Friday.





The Step-By-Step Guide to Black Friday for Hoteliers

The Roadmap

1

Set your campaign goals & define offers

2

Plan your campaign timeline

3

Decide on the creatives and copies

4

Optimize your website communication for conversion

5

Determine your traffic acquisition strategy

6

Do post-campaign analysis

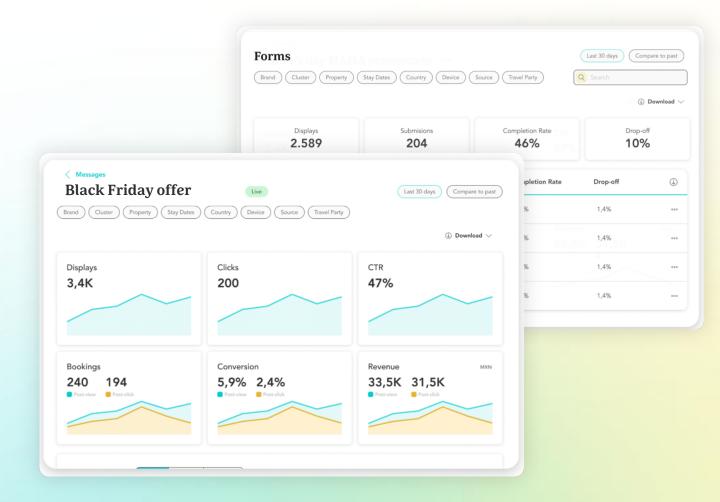


1. Mapping Out Your Campaign Success

Reflect on Last Year's Campaign Performance

Analyze all campaign metrics (overall & by channel):

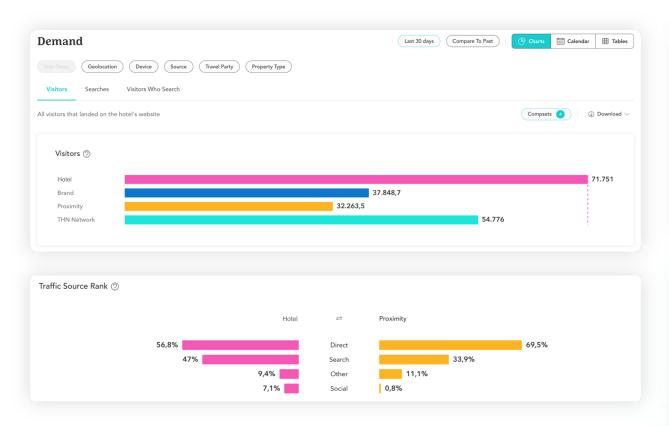
- Number of bookings
- Total revenue
- Average booking value
- ADR
- Length of stay



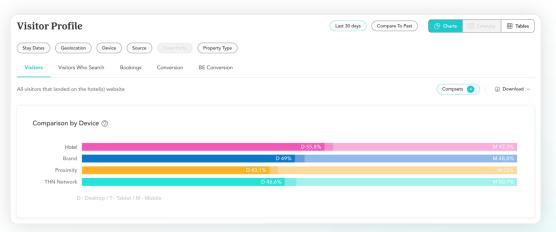


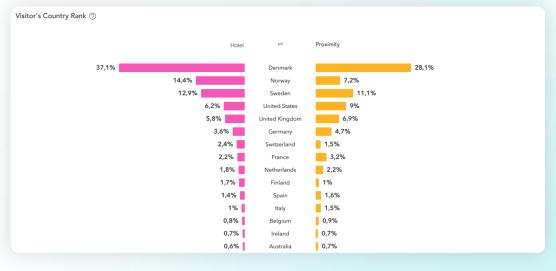


Understand Your Hotel's Current Performance



Use Google Analytics or <u>BenchDirect</u> to monitor your direct channel's performance.









2. Crafting Your Offers

Defining Your Black Friday Offers



Understand your hotel's current metrics



Be collaborative when setting your offers



Get creative with your Black Friday offers!



Be tactical with the offer details



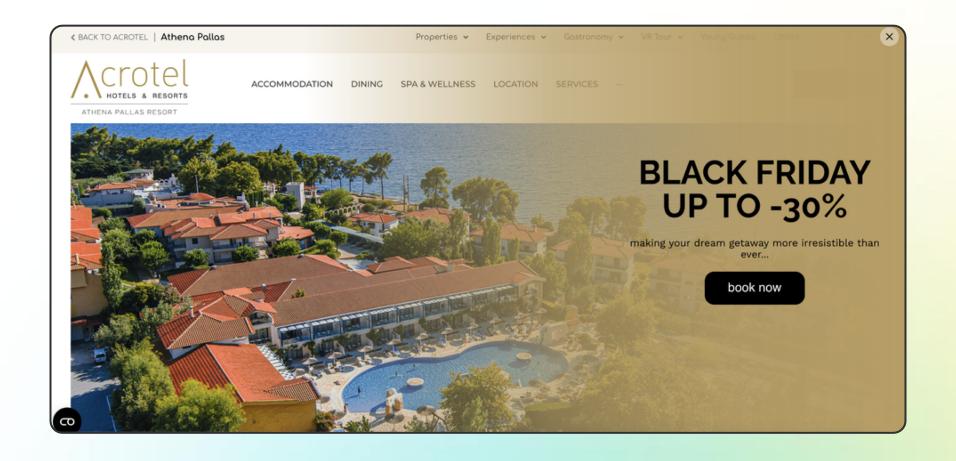
Set up promocodes within the BE



Put the main focus on your direct channel



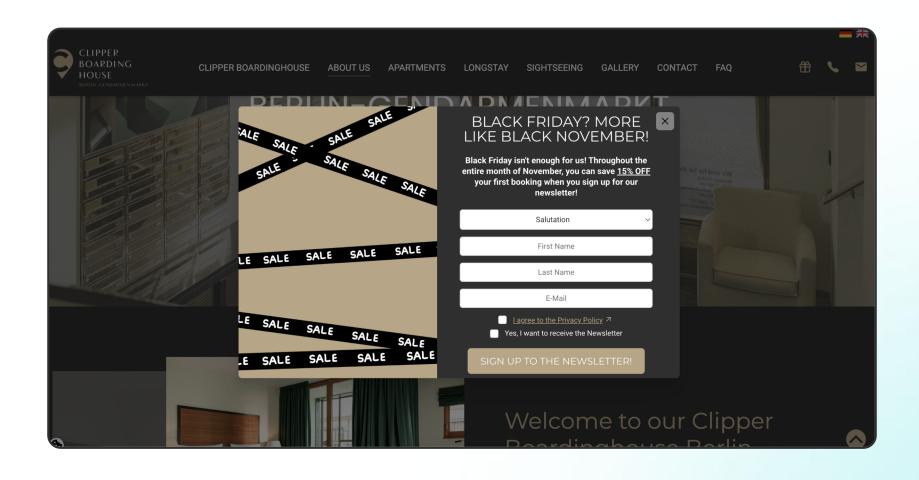
Attract Guests with Exclusive Deals







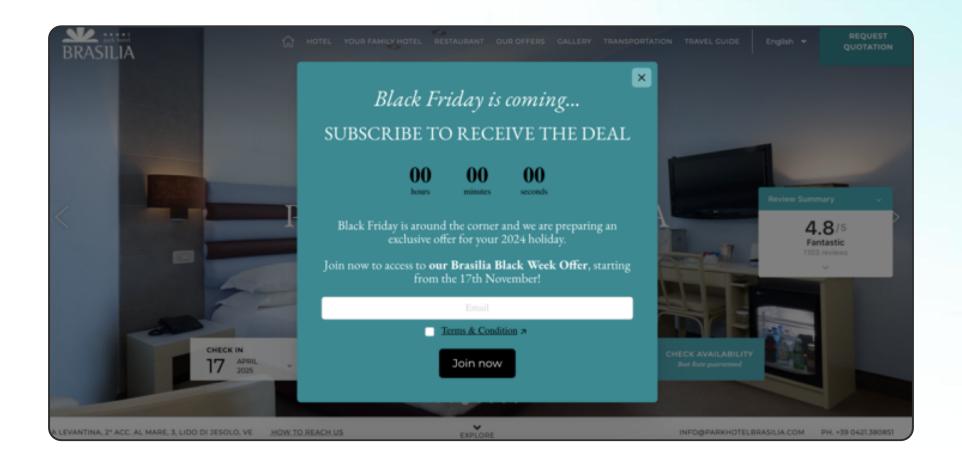
Extend Your Campaign Beyond Black Friday







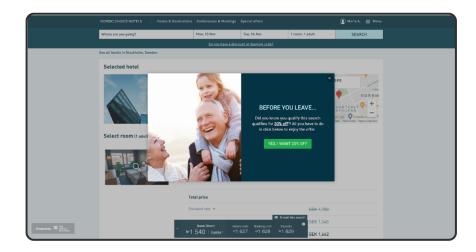
Engage Users with Unique Offers for Subscribers



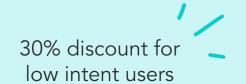


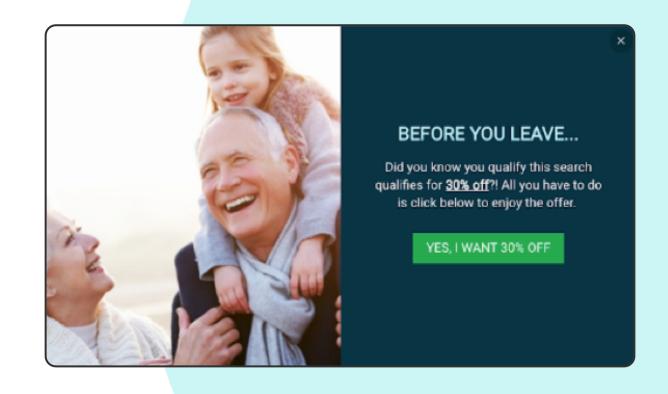


Align Offers with Guest Booking Potential



Harness machine learning techniques with <u>Predictive Personalization</u> to effortlessly optimize campaigns based on user intent.

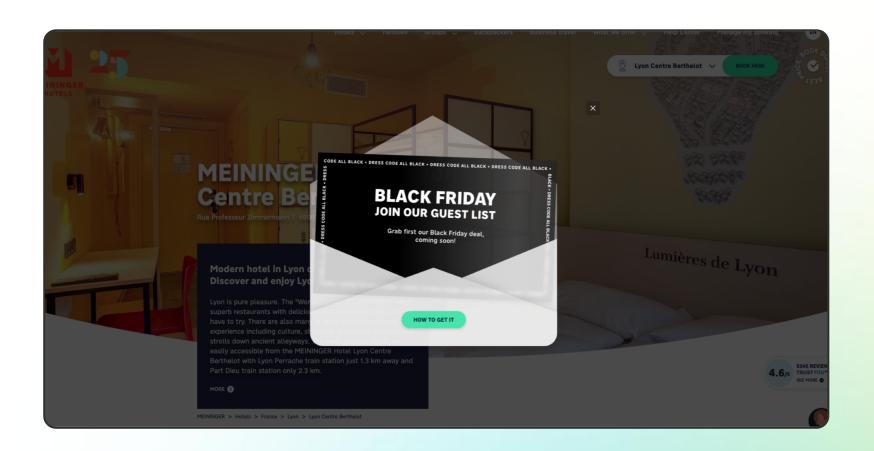






3. Timeline for Campaign Success

Build Buzz with a Teaser Campaign for Your Database

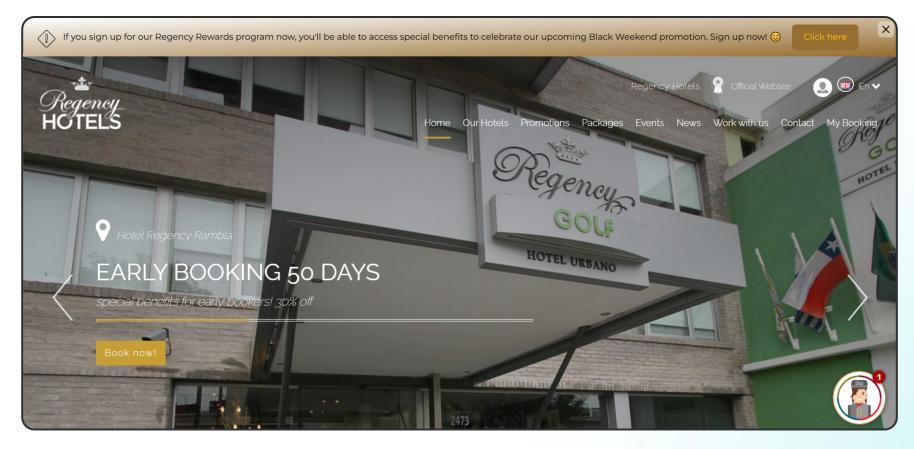


Show off your creativity using a new custom image design for your message





Boost Interest by Promoting Offers in Advance

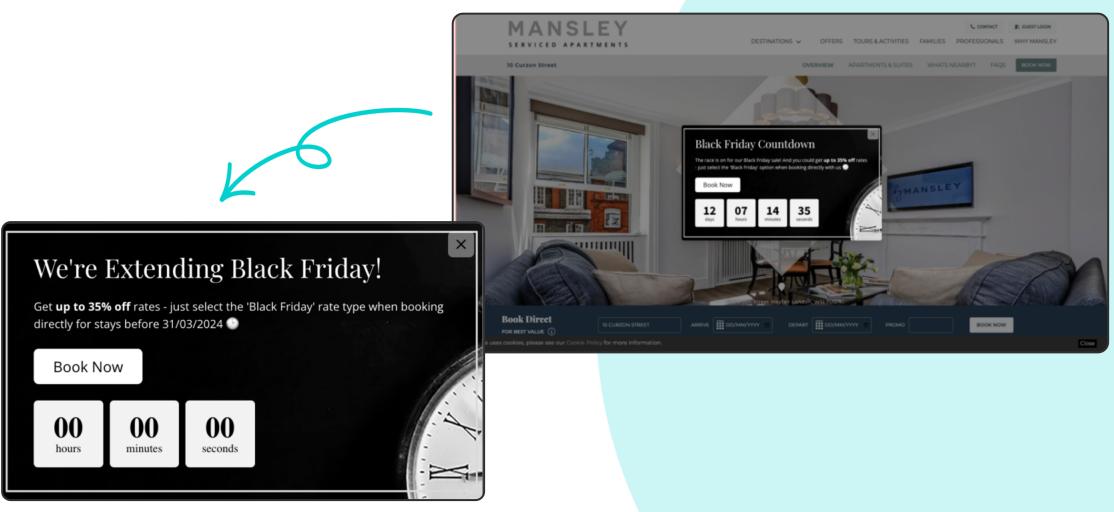






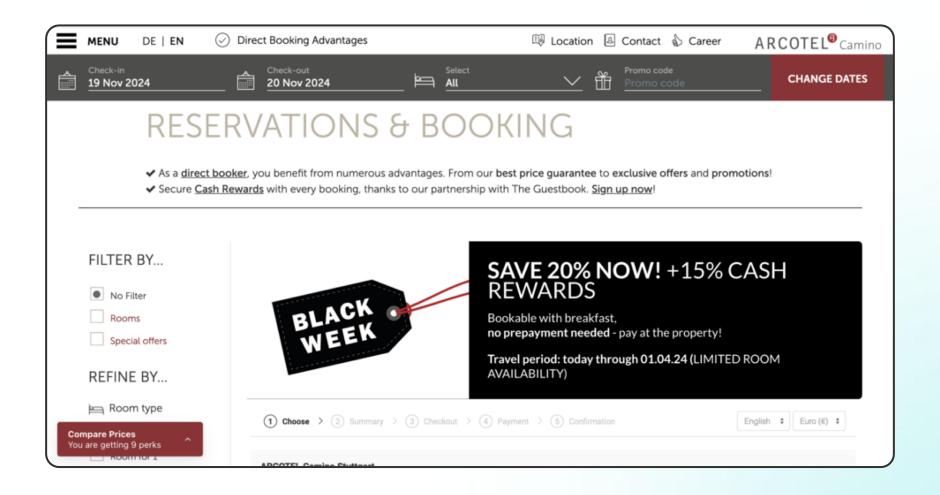


Offer an Extra 24 Hours to Book





Drive Action with Time-Sensitive Offers





4. Crafting Compelling Visuals and Copy for Your Campaign

Get creative!



Offers that stand out from the crowd



Theme and wording that differentiates



Visuals that grab attention



Color scheme that matches brand identity



Coherent message across all channels



Use scarcity & urgency messaging



Selecting the Perfect Theme for Your Campaign



























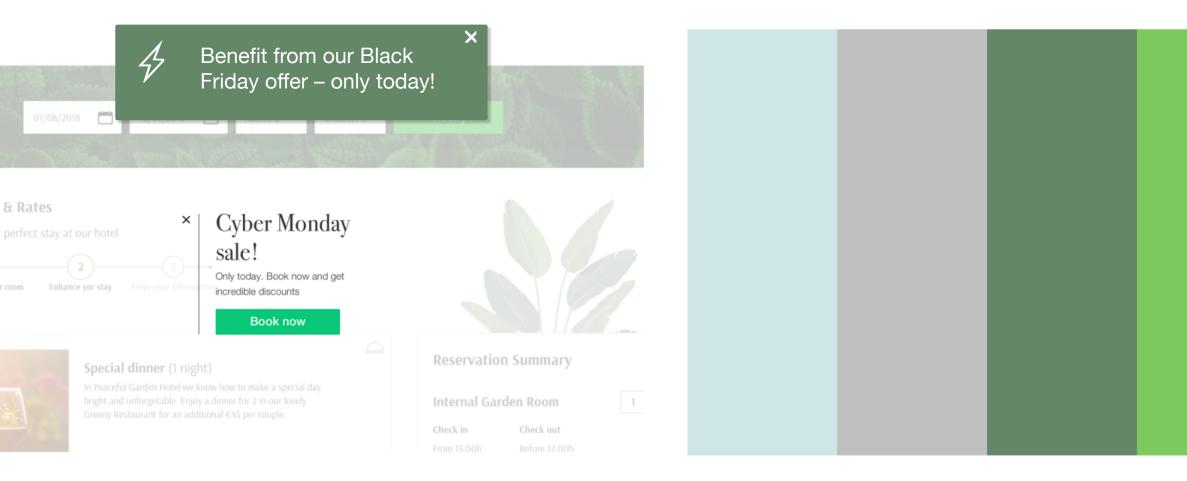








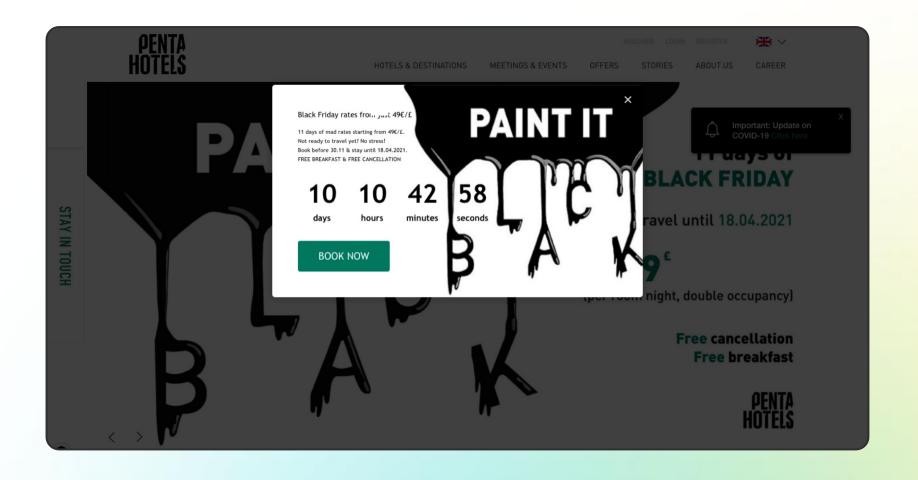
Keep Brand Consistency with a Cohesive Color Palette







Stand Out with Striking Imagery

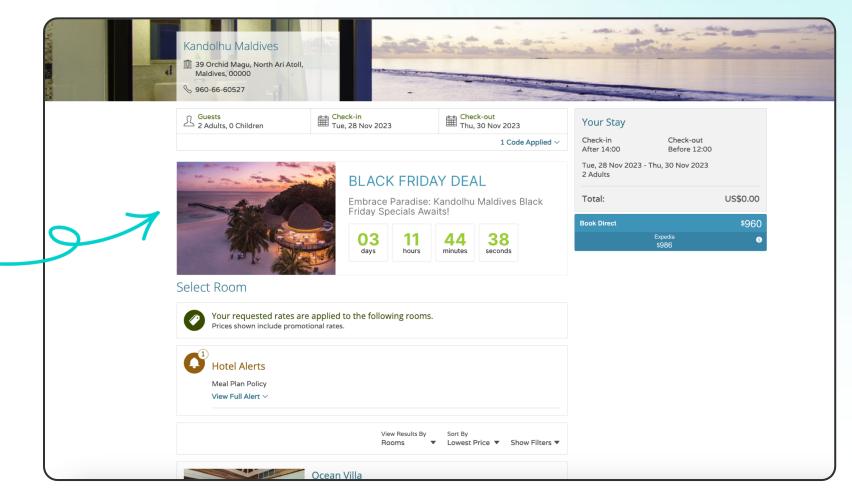






Make User Experience Seamless and Simple

Integrate your messages seamlessly within your hotel website with <u>Inliners</u>.

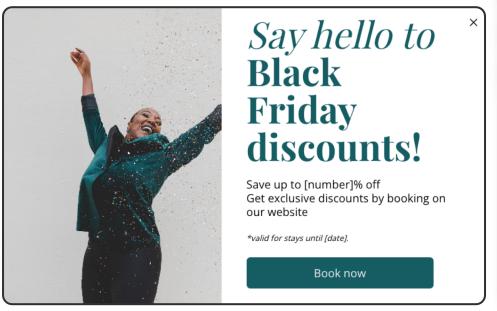


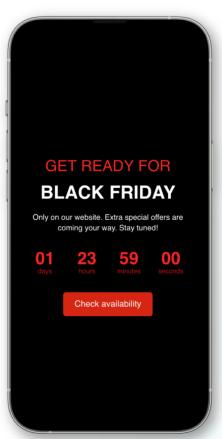


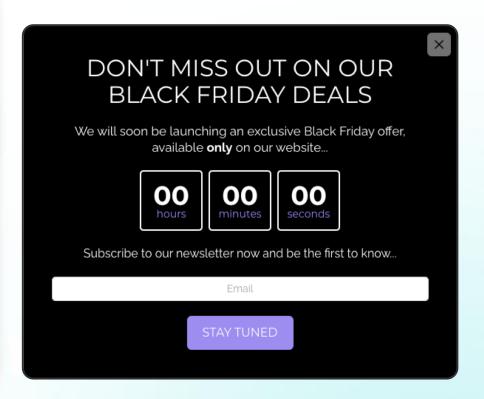


Save Time with Customizable Website Messaging Templates

Unlock creativity and craft compelling messages with THN's <u>Templates</u>





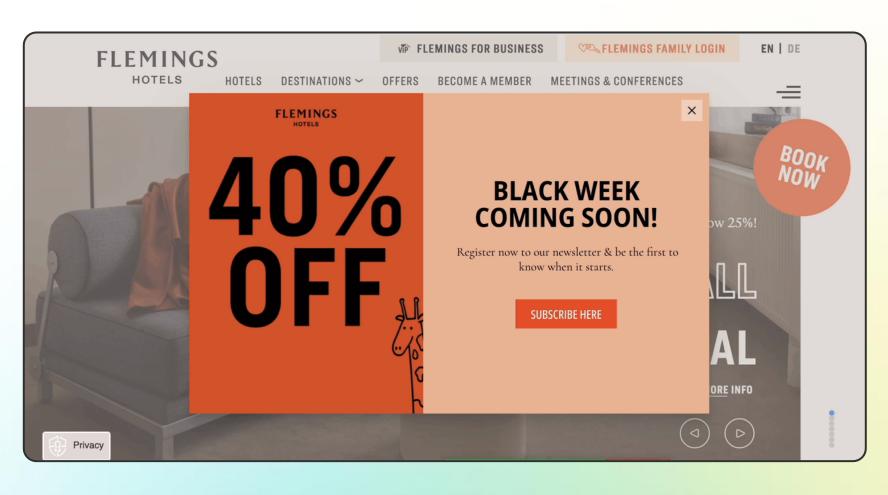




Bring Your Campaign to Life with GIFs



Use an animated approach to capture your website visitors' attention with GIFs







5. Your Direct Channel

On the Hotel Website



Optimize your hotel website to convert traffic



Define your website communications strategy



Define the flow of your website messages



Personalize your website messages



Create a sense of urgency



Grow your marketing database

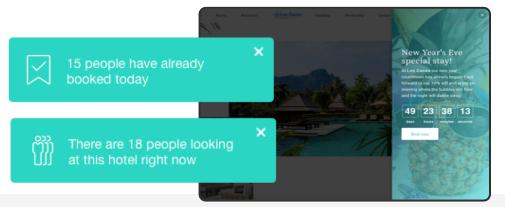


Don't forget about mobile!

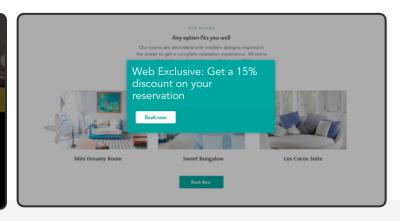


Choose a Message Format That Fits Your Goals

Create powerful and personalized campaigns using a wide variety of display types and formats.







Smart Notes

Nudge users towards a booking

Layers

Create a personal and engaging UX

Inliners

Personalize your website with native content

Exits

Persuade abandoning users to stay on your site





Boost Engagement Using Behavioral Targeting



- Date range
- Weekday
- Time of day
- Timezone



Demand

- Stay dates
- Stay dates of the week
- Early bird, last minute
- Length of stay
- Booking value & availability



Travel Party

- Number of adults
- Number of children
- Number of rooms



Visitor Profile

- Geo-location
- Traffic source



Visitor Behavior

- Membership status
- Previous interactions on website



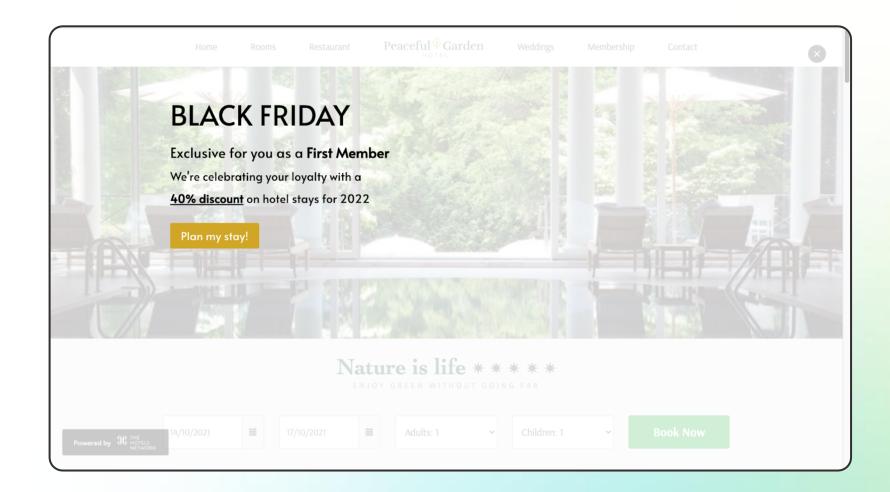
Custom Targeting

- Device
- URL variables
- CRM targeting





Exclusive Perks Just for Your Members

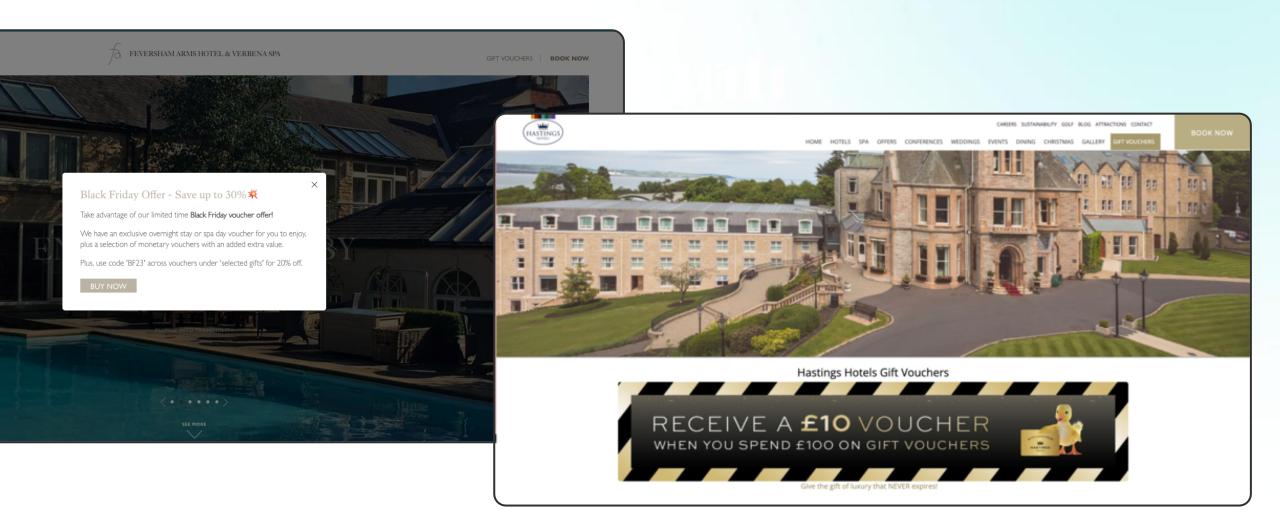








Boost Sales with the Power of Vouchers



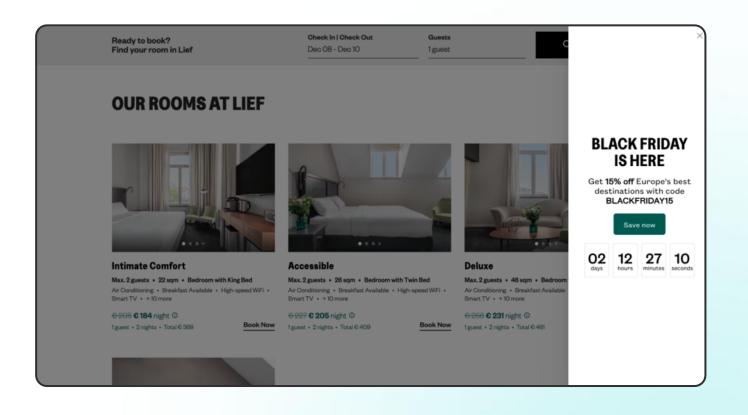




Drive Action with a Countdown Clock

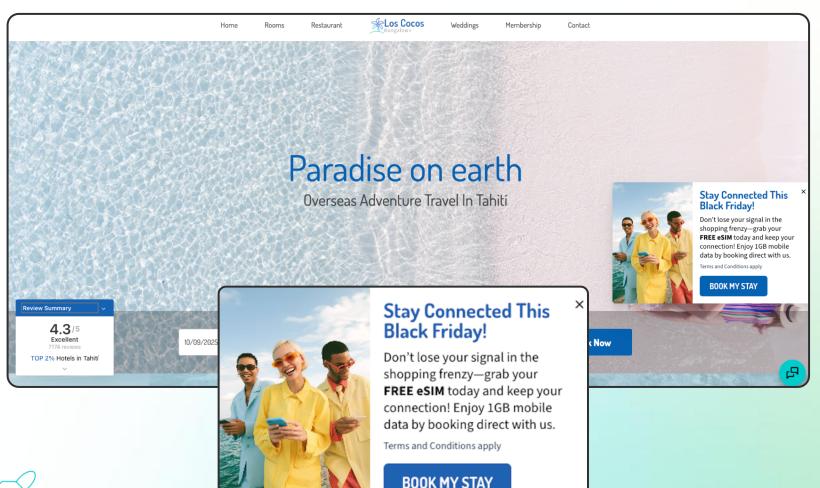
Spice up your marketing messages with our new strikethrough formatting!







Keep your guests connected



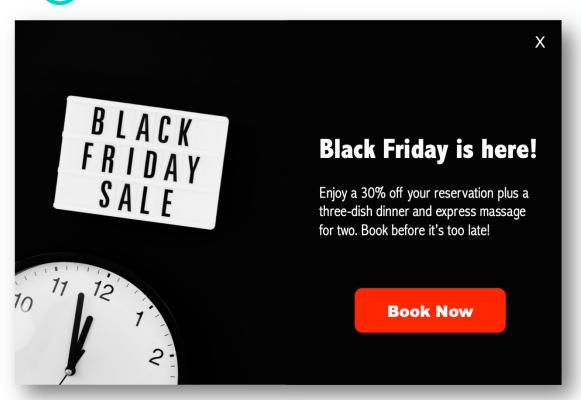
Provide guests with the tangible, easy-to-understand benefit of free eSIM data

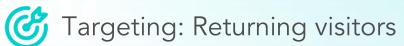


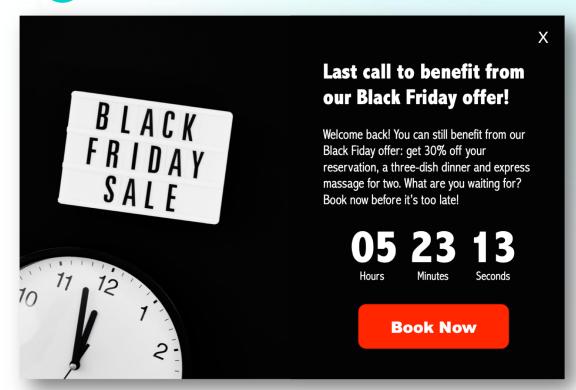


Personalize Engagement According to Visitor History

Targeting: First visit



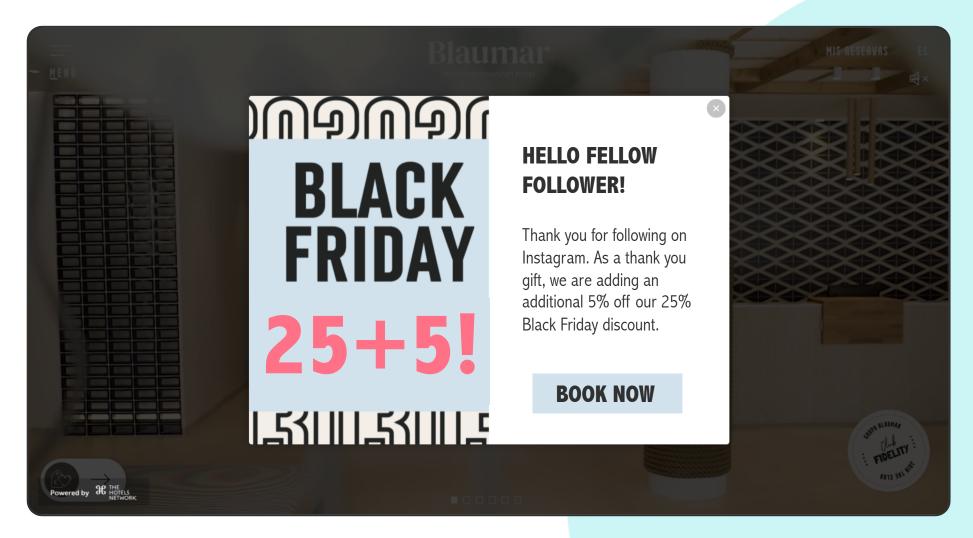






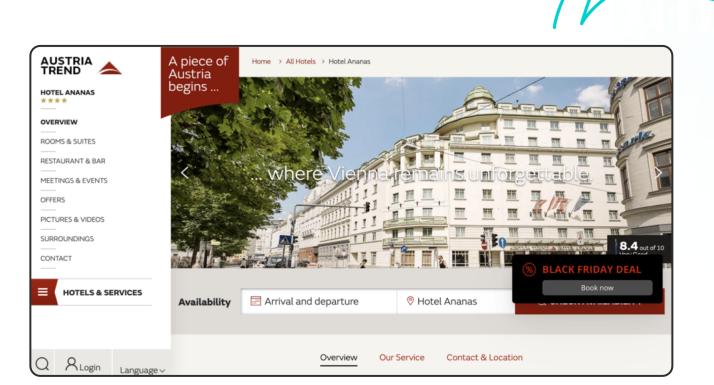


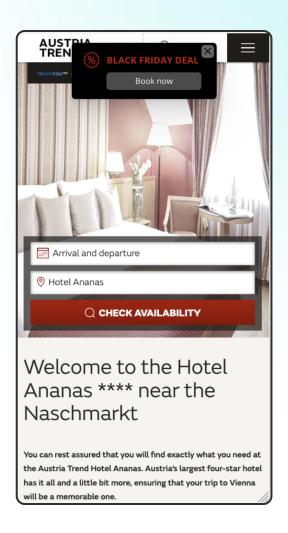
Optimize Campaigns with Source-Specific Targeting





Enhance User Experience with Mobile-Optimized Design









5. Strategies for Effective Traffic Acquisition

Channels

Organic Direct Channel Social Media Email Marketing

Paid Social Media Google Ads



Email Marketing

- Set your email marketing strategy: message, target audience, timing
- Prepare the content and visuals
- Resend emails to non-openers

Email #1 Early access to Black Friday offers

Email #2 Black Friday offers launch

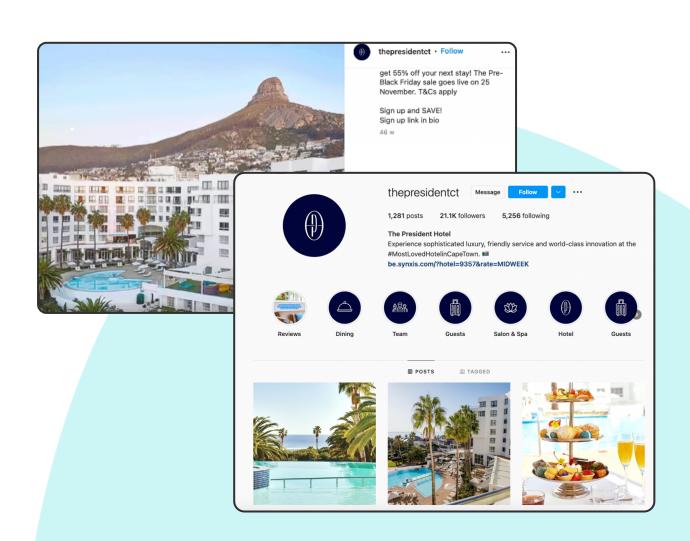
Email #3 24 hours left

Email #4 24 hours bonus



Boost Visibility Through Organic Social Media

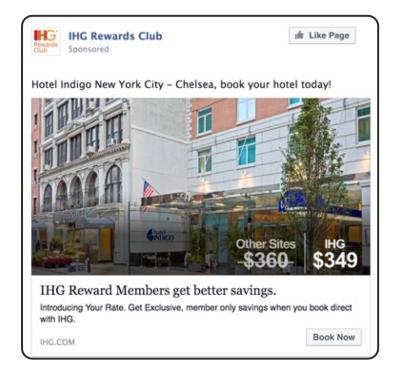
- Prioritize channels that best support your brand's goals.
- Define your organic social media strategy, including platform, format, messaging, and timing.
- Plan and schedule your posts in advance.
- Greet website visitors with tailored messages based on their originating social channel.
- Ensure your website offers are consistent and aligned with your social messaging.

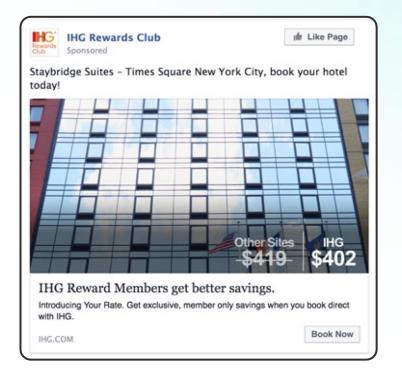




Maximize Reach with Paid Social Media Strategies

- Concentrate on the channels that deliver the best results for your brand.
- Define your paid social media strategy, including budget, platform, format, messaging & timing.
- Plan and schedule your campaigns ahead of time.

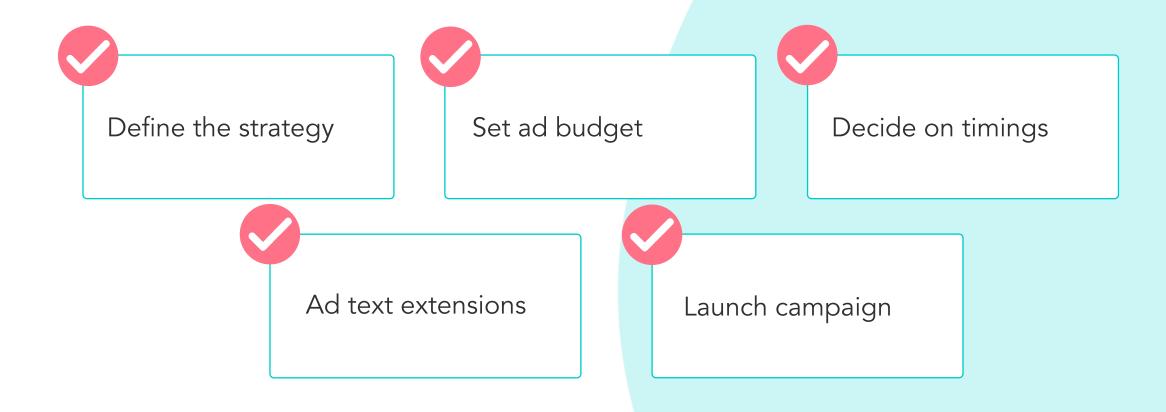








Drive Traffic Effectively with Google Ads

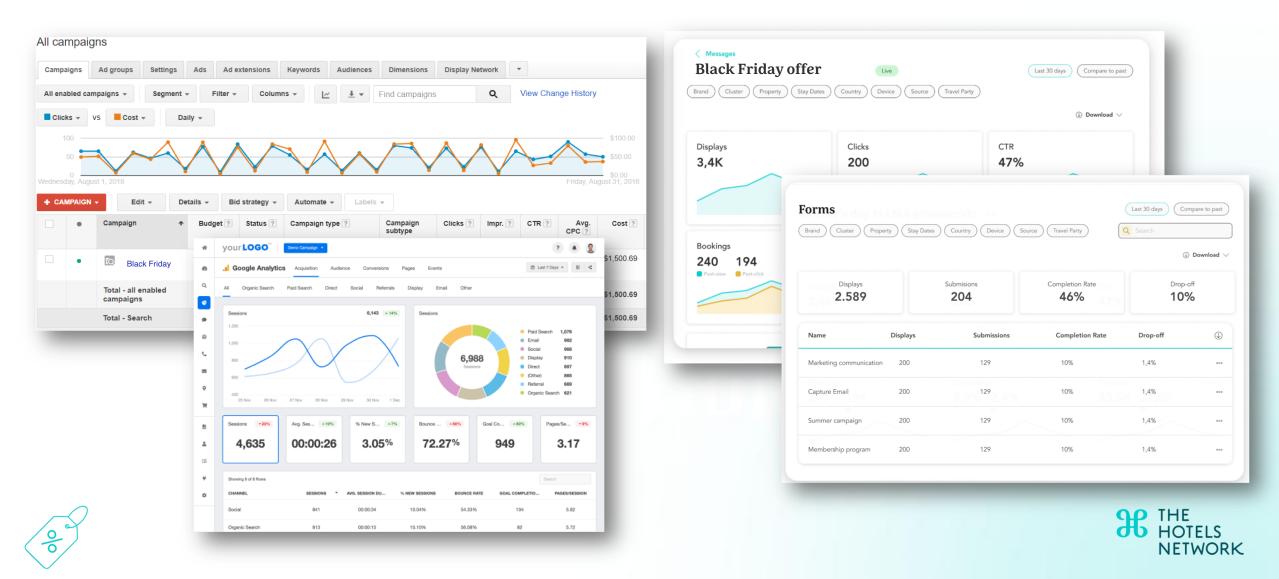




6. Insights and Learnings from Your Campaign Results

Measuring the Success of Your Campaign Efforts

Use Google Analytics or **BenchDirect** to assess the effectiveness of your messaging.





Key Takeaways

1

Plan your Black Friday strategy well in advance

2

Give priority to your direct channel

3

Get creative with offers and urgency messaging

4

Boost traffic and engagement on key dates

5

Optimize web conversion (personalization, mobile...)

6

Do a post-campaign analysis





Ready to boost your hotel's bookings this Black Friday?

Book a meeting with one of our experts today to see how we can help.

Contact us



About The Hotels Network

The The Hotels Network is an inventive technology company working with over 20,000 hotels around the globe. Boasting an international team of specialists with deep expertise in hospitality, product design and consumer marketing, the company offers clients a full-stack growth platform to power their direct channel. By leveraging a series of integrated tools and analytics, hotel brands can attract, engage and convert guests throughout the user journey.

In addition to price comparison, reviews summary, and a suite of personalization options, THN's Direct AI Suite is deeply integrated in their platform, from predictive analytics to generative AI. Predictive Personalization uses machine learning to predict user behavior and automatically tailor messaging and offers for each user. BenchDirect's benchmarking tool provides unmatched competitive data for the direct channel. Recent innovations include KITT, an AI-powered receptionist, and Loyalty Lite, a seamless guest login tool for personalized booking experiences.

Contact us today to find out more.

THN is proud to have been recognized for the company's product innovations, rapid growth, and unique workplace culture for the third year in a row, most recently named the Best Direct Booking Tool for 2025 in the prestigious HotelTechAwards.







www.thehotelsnetwork.com

Growth for your direct channel

Headquarters in Barcelona with a team around the world

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