

Ben Weprin is the CEO and founder of Adventurous Journeys (AJ Capital) Capital Partners.

Mr. Weprin founded AJ Capital in 2008 and has since grown the organization into an accomplished real estate and hospitality investment manager of 150 employees, with over \$5.0 billion in current investments, and another \$2.5 billion in equity under development. Led by Mr. Weprin, AJ Capital anchors developments in the core principles of placemaking and residentially inspired design, while applying the firm's deeply rooted hospitality expertise to every project. AJ Capital's portfolio includes 100+ assets, across 50+ markets worldwide, which span mixed-use, hotel, multifamily, single-family rental, office, retail, and entertainment real estate.

In 2014, Mr. Weprin founded Graduate Hotels®, a thoughtfully crafted collection of hotels that reside in dynamic university-anchored cities across the U.S. and U.K., employing over 2,100 individuals. The platform has grown to 37 hotels in just nine years. In 2022, the brand earned award recognition in Fortune (Great Places to Work), Hospitality Design (Midscale Hotel), and is a nominee for the 2023 Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards.

In 2021, Mr. Weprin launched Marine & Lawn Hotels & Resorts®, his second hotel brand, a collection of bespoke properties in the world's most distinguished golfing destinations, including Rusacks St Andrews, which overlooks the legendary Old Course. During 2022, the brand earned award recognition in Travel + Leisure (It List), Conde Nast Traveller (Best Hotels in Scotland), InsideHook (Best New Hotels) and LINKS (Ireland's Best Hotels for Golfers). The brand is a nominee for the 2023 Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards. In addition to Rusacks St Andrews, the brand's hotel portfolio includes Marine North Berwick, Slieve Donard, Marine Troon, and Dornoch Station.

In 2023, Mr. Weprin partnered with Barry Sternlicht and Starwood Capital Group to launch Field & Stream Lodge, a branded hospitality platform aiming to create modern and affordable lifestyle lodging across the United States. Field & Stream is an iconic American brand established in 1871 which brings great authenticity and brand recognition to a category of generic hotel offerings.

Further expanding AJ Capital's capabilities, Mr. Weprin launched platforms focused on residential and mixed-use, including Outpost Residential®, a single-family rental platform with communities in the Southeastern region of the U.S. Additionally, AJ Capital launched a second platform in this space with Memoir Residential®, a branded multi-family platform positioned within high-culture urban neighborhoods.

Mr. Weprin also leads the firm's vision for creative mixed-use projects, which represent 2.5M square feet of real estate and include expansive neighborhood redevelopments in Nashville's Wedgewood Houston (2015) and Miami's Little River communities (2022). Following the core principles of neighborhood context, placemaking, community building, and residentially inspired design, Wedgewood Houston builds upon the fabric of the neighborhood as a crossroads for culture and commerce. Comprised of Wedgewood Village, Nashville Warehouse Co., and May Hosiery Mills, the neighborhood collectively creates a destination for

fashion, art, music, and entertainment just south of downtown Nashville in a long industrial part of town. Mr. Weprin has followed a similar approach for the transformation of Little River, leading with a community-focused mindset. Since acquisition in 2022, his team has transformed the neighborhood from an economically distressed neighborhood to one that champions local talent, culture, and small businesses.

Mr. Weprin is very active in the local community. In July of 2020 Graduate Hotels partnered with The LeBron James Family Foundation (LJFF) to open the “I PROMISE Village by Graduate Hotels,” offering educational support along with transitional housing for I PROMISE families. Additionally, Graduate Hotels donated and developed the Akron facility which opened in summer 2020, providing families and children experiencing housing vulnerability a safe place to call home. In his current hometown, Mr. Weprin has led local Nashville partnerships with Harvest Hands, an organization that works to further education and healthy living with Nashville’s youth, and Fall-Hamilton Elementary School. To date, AJ Capital has brought Harvest Hands products into Graduate Hotels and local businesses and helped with renovations at Fall-Hamilton Elementary school in the Wedgewood Houston neighborhood in Nashville.

Originally from Dayton, Ohio, Mr. Weprin is a University of Tennessee graduate and holds his Master of Business Administration from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.