

POWERS
per

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

VPM: 4.9 million

<http://www.travelandleisure.com/trip-ideas/group-travel/skipper-hotel-bookings>

An Easier Way to Book a Group Getaway

The screenshot displays the Skipper website interface. The top navigation bar includes 'SKIPPER', 'HOTEL PARTNERS', 'ABOUT', 'FAQ', and 'LOGIN'. A main message states: 'Skipper found great hotels for your group in New York. Choose a hotel and book rooms for you and your group.' Below this, there are filters for 'SHOW FILTERS', 'SORT BY', and 'VIEW RESULTS'. Three hotel options are listed: 'Dream Downtown', 'Four Points by Sheraton Manhattan - Chelsea', and 'Fairfield Inn & Suites Marriott New York Manhattan Chel...'. Each listing shows a star rating, distance, and price. On the right, a detailed view for 'W New York - Union Square' is shown, including a 'ROOMS AVAILABLE' table with columns for room type, average price per night, and number of rooms. The table lists 'Standard Room Queen Bed' at \$120.00 and 'Double Room 2 Beds' at \$120.00. A footer navigation bar contains 'SKIPPER', 'ABOUT', 'CONTACT', 'STAY IN THE KNOW', 'PARTNERS', 'CAREERS', 'FAQ', 'TERMS & CONDITIONS', and 'STAY IN THE KNOW'.

With Skipper, you can skip the tough part about planning a group getaway.

Have you ever tried to book a block of hotel rooms for a business conference, [a bachelorette party](#), or even a bar mitzvah? It can get complicated — quickly.

That's where [Skipper](#), a booking service that caters to groups, would like to come in. The service, formerly known as Jetaport, announced its rebrand on Tuesday.

“The idea developed due to the frustration in planning and booking group travel for families and friends,” said CEO and co-founder Jason Shames.

“The process of ... booking multiple rooms at the right hotel was not easy.”

In its evolution from Jetaport to Skipper, the company added proprietary services including a “Skipper Score” (calculated by weighing users' preferences for location, price, and amenities) and a flexible payment option. The latter allows you to lock in a rate and create a unique booking page, allowing each member of your party to pay individually. And if you're not sure how many suites, doubles, and singles you need to accommodate everyone on the guest list, the new Skipper Room Calculator can help you determine the number of rooms needed.

Skipper's newest tools don't come at the expense of legacy Jetaport features. You can still expect discounted rates and a comprehensive hotel-selection process that gauges travelers' needs based on everything from the type of event to the facilities.

Your next [corporate outing](#), [family reunion](#), or [destination wedding](#) could be even easier to arrange if you take advantage of Skipper's team of booking advisors. Travelers who require a minimum of 10 rooms are even assigned a dedicated advisor to negotiate special requests and contracts, and to handle all the additional legwork. They can be especially helpful if, for example, you have guests leaving and arriving on different dates.

This isn't the first site dedicated to multi-room bookings (HotelPlanner is another), but Skipper is poised to offer the most curated list of properties for your specific group—and you won't find a flexible payment option quite like this with competitors.

Often the trickiest part of planning a large group getaway is making sure everyone has a comfortable room to sleep in. Skipper wants to make that part hassle-free, so you can focus instead on the fun stuff: gift bags, catching up, and happy hour.

