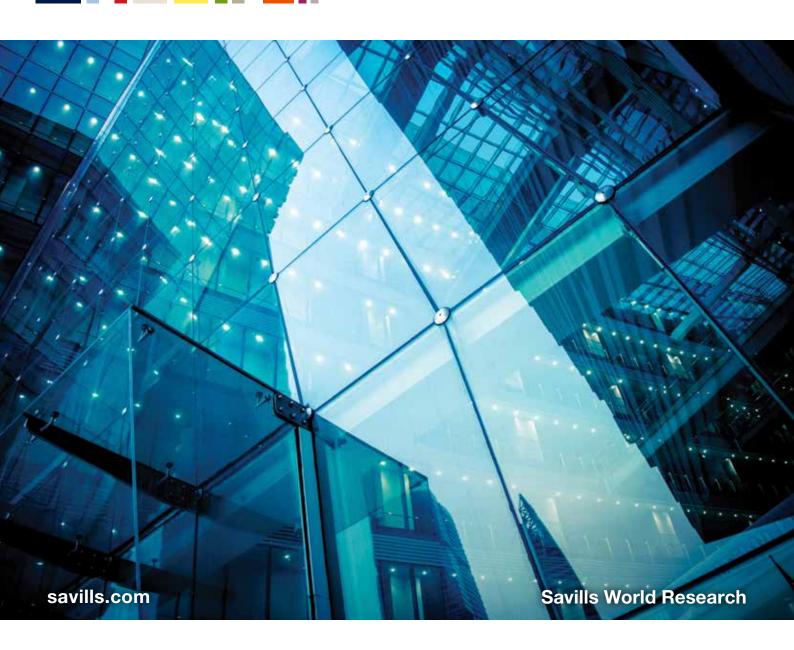




## World Office Yield Spectrum

1H/2016



## Savills global

## presence

Over 700 owned and associate offices worldwide



#### UK, Ireland & Channel Islands England

Guernsey Ireland Jersey Northern Ireland Scotland Wales

#### Australia Cambodia China Hong Kong India Indonesia Japan Macau Malaysia Myanmar New Zealand **Philippines** Singapore South Korea Taiwan Thailand Vietnam

#### **Asia Pacific** Continental **Europe** Austria Belgium Croatia Denmark Finland France Germany Gibraltar Greece Italy Luxembourg Monaco Montenegro Netherlands Norway Poland

#### Portugal Russia Serbia Spain Sweden Switzerland

#### & Africa Bahrain Botswana Kenya Mauritius Mozambique Namibia Oman Qatar Seychelles South Africa **United Arab Emirates** Zambia

Zimbabwe

**Middle East** 

#### Americas, Canada & Caribbean Bahamas Barbados Canada Cayman Islands Colombia Grenada Mexico Panama St Kitts & Nevis St Lucia US

## Introduction

With investment capital becoming more global in its search for returns and diversification, the need for a standardised set of indicators to make sense of opportunities, risk and return expectations has become critical.

The Savills/Deakin University World Office Yield Spectrum is designed to fill a void in market knowledge.

For too long the global property investment community has been denied a credible, factual yields series which can be reliably used to compare 'apples with apples.' This unique global publication is the culmination of substantial work by dozens of researchers in the international Savills team.

Savills Research trusts you find this body of work useful, illuminating and of value to you in your endeavours. As always your thoughts, feedback and ideas are most welcome. Please feel free to contact your Savills representative with regard to this publication.

## Methodology

#### Market Yields

This yield is derived by capitalising current market rents (Net Face) against current capital values for office buildings. The Net Face rent is the rent payable by the tenant excluding both statutory and operating outgoings (recoverables) and includes the value of any incentive paid to the tenant by way of fitout, cash, rental rebate or rent free. The capital value is calculated to be for the office component only and excludes retail, excess car parking, signage, storage and other "non-office" sources of income.

#### **Effective Yields**

This yield is derived by capitalising current market rents (Net Effective) against current capital values for office buildings. The Net Effective rent is the rent payable by the tenant excluding both statutory and operating outgoings (recoverables) and excludes the value of any incentive paid to the tenant by way of fitout, cash, rental rebate or rent free. The capital value is calculated to be for the office component only and excludes retail, excess car parking, signage, storage and other 'non-office' sources of income.

#### Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC)

The WACC is derived by having reference to the rents described above, the rental growth outlook and the management fee recoverable from owning the building (in sum a proxy for equity) and the current cost of debt. Using a 30 percent/70 percent equity/debt split, a WACC is calculated.

#### **Accretive Premiums**

By subtracting the effective and market yields derived above from the WACC we can calculate the 'accretion' inherent in each market using the metrics as described.

#### Market Risk Premiums

Having reference to the market yield calculated above we subtract the risk free rate (10 year bond) then add the expected annual income growth rate to establish the 'expected return for risk.'

#### **Effective Risk Premiums**

Having reference to the effective yield calculated above we take that yield, subtract the risk free rate (10 year bond) then add the expected annual income growth rate to establish the 'expected return for risk.'

## **World Cities**



The calendar year 2015
marks the official end of
the GFC as the US Federal
Reserve increases rates by
25 basis points to begin
the slow haul towards
'normalisation'.

The first time interest rates have risen in the United States in almost a decade. Over the past six months, 10 year bond yields have firmed by an average 20 basis points around the world. Over the past 12 months, 10 year bond yields have firmed an average 44 basis points.

Economic indicators in the United States point to the beginning of economic recovery however the quality of the recovery is not as strong as may be desired. Europe is also showing signs of recovery but it is not as widespread as may be desired – stimulatory policies remain in place. Asia remains tied to the fortunes of China and a great deal of volatility in the region is symptomatic of current affairs in China.

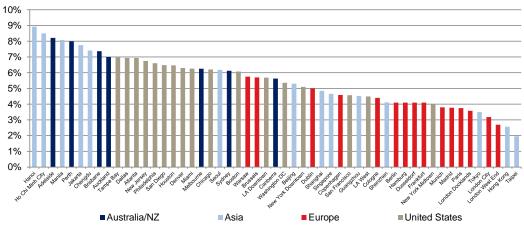
The capital markets had a volatile year in 2015 with the S&P500 finishing the year almost unchanged but down 7.7 percent for the final six months of 2015. European bourses fared little better with most indices down between 15 percent and 20 percent over the last six months of 2015. Leveraged sharemarket investments in China wreaked havoc with their bourse and sent shock waves around the world in late 2015. Indices in the region were down between 7 percent and 20 percent in the last six months of 2015.

Much of what happens in 2016 will be dependent on the course the US Federal Reserve takes with regards to interest rates. Chairman Yellen has made it perfectly clear that movements will be 'data dependant', so we wait. The movements in US interest rates will determine how currencies behave, how trade flows and how capital moves around the world.

Risk premiums of between 2 percent and 3 percent in most office investment markets around the world continue to look like fair value so we anticipate ongoing strong demand to invest in office property in 2016.

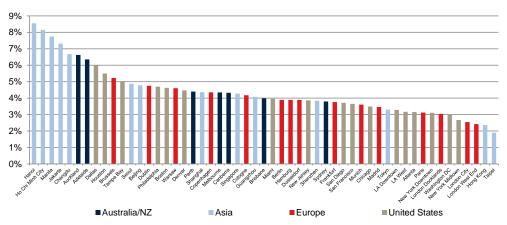
#### World Office CBD Grade A Market Yields (percent) by Region and City

December 2015



Source: Savills Research

#### World Office CBD Grade A Effective Yields (percent) by Region and City December 2015



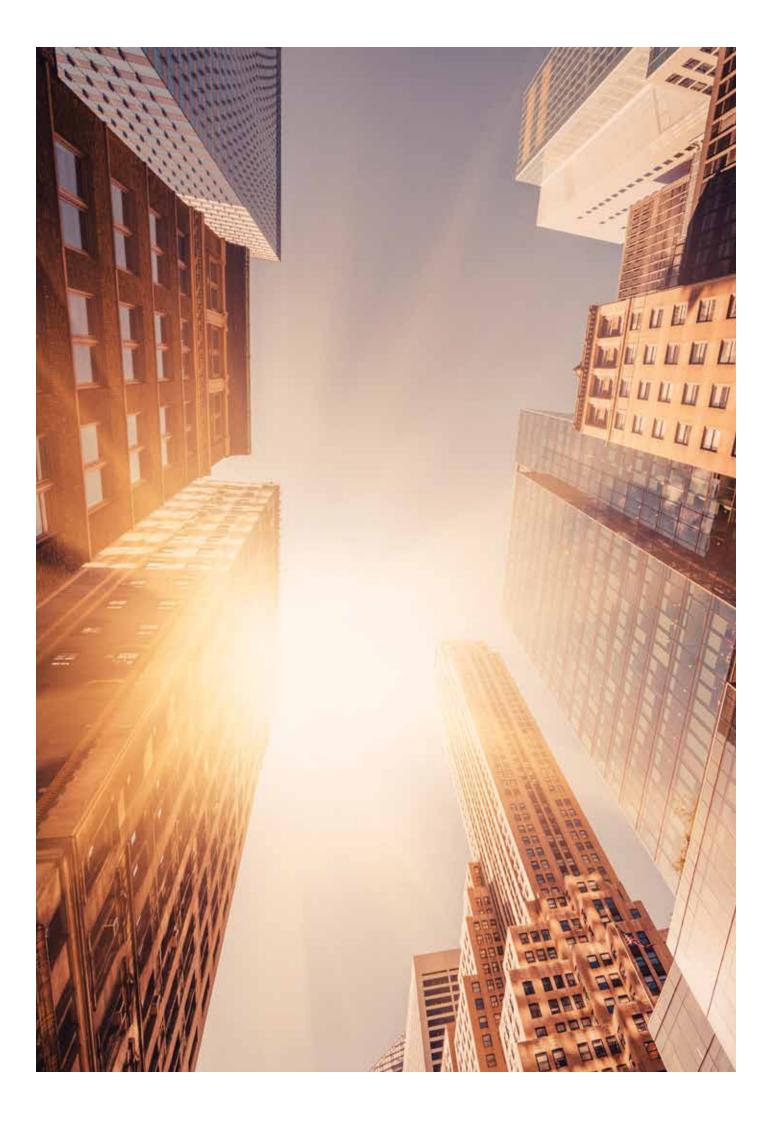
Source: Savills Research



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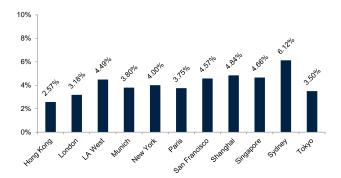
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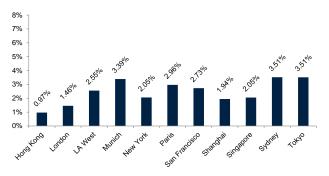
#### World Cities/CBD/Grade A Office

#### Market Yields December 2015



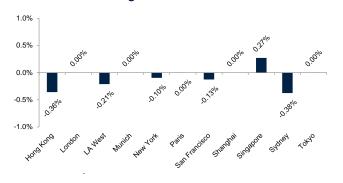
Source: Savills Research

#### Market Risk Premium December 2015



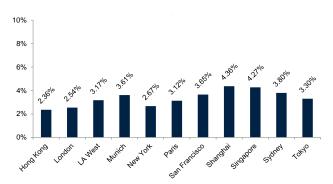
Source: Savills Research

#### Market Yield Change June 2015-December 2015



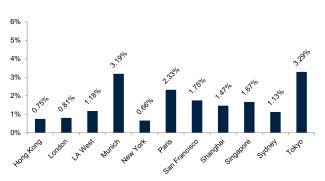
Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yields December 2015



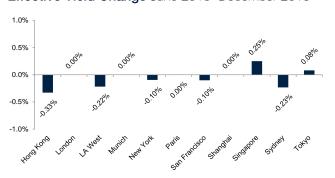
Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Risk Premium December 2015



Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yield Change June 2015-December 2015



## Asian real estate has enjoyed a strong run over recent years, fuelled by cheap debt and ample liquidity flooding out of local markets, including

While value from core assets in first tier cities appears to have been mined as cap rates have ground lower, opportunistic plays remain in some sectors and geographies for investors prepared to push further up the risk curve. In the last guarter of 2015, Asian markets were finally able to put US interest rate worries behind them as the US Federal Reserve increased the base rate by 25 basis points, with little immediate fall out.

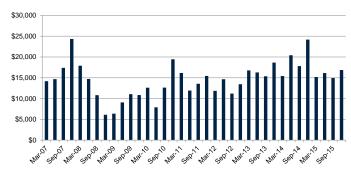
China in particular.

Uncertainties surrounding China's economy have come to dominate concerns, however, not just for the impact they may have on the domestic economy, but also on trading partners. The dangers of rising rates have not disappeared, and we expect to see further (though modest) rises later in 2016 with implications for debt of all kinds.

For now, with the exception of Japan and Australia where volumes remain robust, capital outflows from Asia are the new norm and China's outbound real estate capital (both to Asia and the West) hit new highs in 2015. In an uncertain world, the US has assumed a primacy in terms of global destination of choice for Asian investors, especially safe haven gateway cities such as New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Chicago.

#### Asian Office Property Sales (US\$ million)

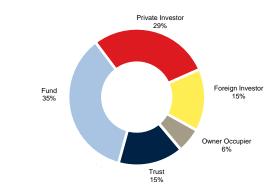
March 2007 - December 2015



Source: RCA/Savills Research

#### Asian Office Property Buyer Profile

12 months to December 2015



Source: BCA/Savills Research



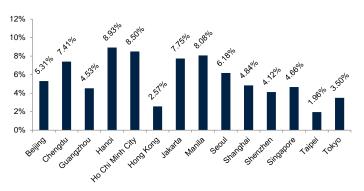
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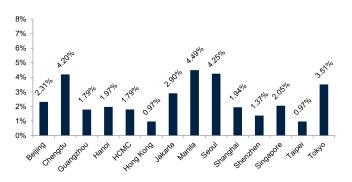
#### Asia/CBD/Grade A Office

#### Market Yields December 2015



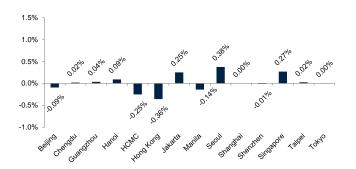
Source: Savills Research

#### Market Risk Premium December 2015



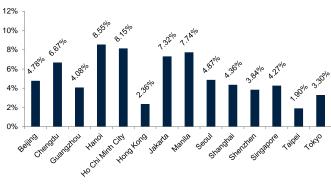
Source: Savills Research

#### Market Yield Change June 2015-December 2015



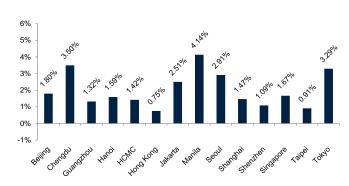
Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yields December 2015



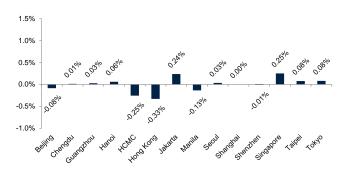
Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Risk Premium December 2015



Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yield Change June 2015-December 2015



## Europe

of the differential between the performance of the UK and the rest of the European markets, as the recent strong run of capital value growth in the UK starts to slow.

The mainland European markets, most of which are a year or so behind the UK on the recovery curve are forecast to have another year of good capital and rental value growth, and this is expected to lead to a rise in investor interest in mainland Europe over the UK.

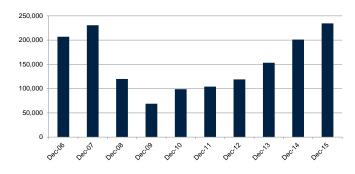
We believe opportunistic investors will remain active in Europe's peripheral markets, targeting either GDP growth stories or late cycle recovery plays. Also, riskaverse investors will continue to focus on the Tier 1 office markets, and the larger experience-led malls.

Generally we expect the gap between core and periphery yields to continue to close in 2016, with a similar story around the gap between prime and secondary. However, as the bounce in capital values begins to tail off, investors will be asking more searching questions about the rental growth prospects of individual assets and markets. We forecast this rental growth will come from a variety of sources including asset management, local supply/demand imbalances, and a rising interest in development and refurbishment opportunities outside the core locations.

Looking to the medium term we do see some risks to European property as an asset class if interest rates begin to rise. However, so long as rents are flat or rising there is relatively little linkage between the base rate and the property yield. This means that rental growth and income returns should be of steadily rising importance to investors in years to come.

#### Europe and UK Office Property Sales (£ million)

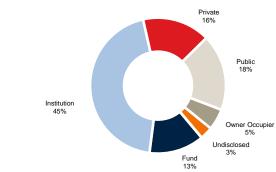
December 2005 – December 2015



Source: Savills Research

#### Europe and UK Office Property Buyer Profile

9 months to September 2014



Source: Savills Research



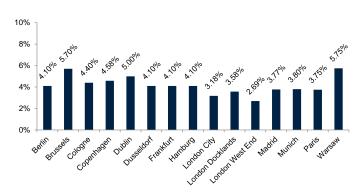
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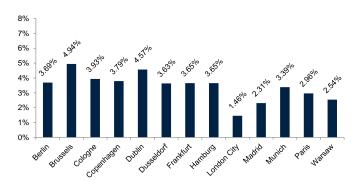
#### Europe/CBD/Grade A Office

#### Market Yields December 2015



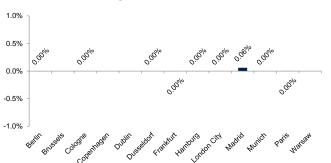
Source: Savills Research

#### Market Risk Premium December 2015



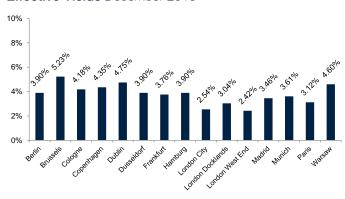
Source: Savills Research

#### Market Yield Change June 2015-December 2015



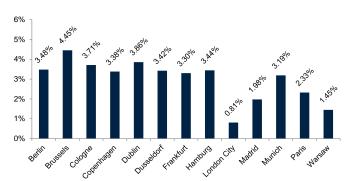
Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yields December 2015



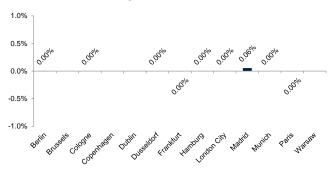
Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Risk Premium December 2015



Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yield Change June 2015-December 2015



## **United States**

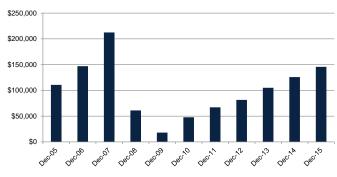
Call it what you will – a wall or tsunami of money, dry powder or patient capital – there is no shortage of investors seeking safety and a bit of yield.

Finding quality properties that balances both mandates is the challenge. With turbulence and capital outflows in emerging markets on the increase, commercial real estate in the U.S. is looking ever more appealing. U.S. office property sales volume (US\$145.6 billion) registered its sixth consecutive year-on-year increase. Cap rates in the gateway markets, (Manhattan, Boston, Washington DC, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Chicago) have pushed below 5.0 percent. Pricing per square foot, per unit and per key is at near-record levels.

Although cross-border investors have focused primarily on properties in urban cores, the competition for assets in secondary markets and suburban markets among domestic investors has heated up. As sellers cash out in gateway markets, some are redeploying capital outside of the gateway markets. Investors seeking higher yields, either through income growth or capital appreciation, will have to follow suit and take a chance on more peripheral locations, buy and improve lower-grade assets or undertake lengthy development/conversion projects.

#### United States Office Property Sales (US\$ million)

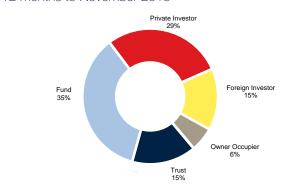
December 2005 – December 2015



Source: RCA/Savills Research

#### United States Office Property Buyer Profile

12 months to November 2015



Source: RCA/Savills Research



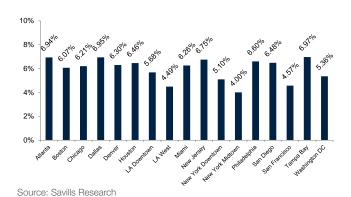
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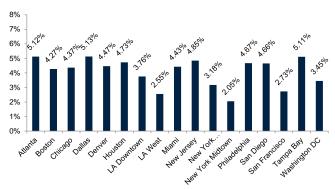
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#### United States/CBD/Grade A Office

#### Market Yields December 2015

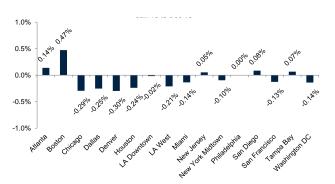


#### Market Risk Premium December 2015



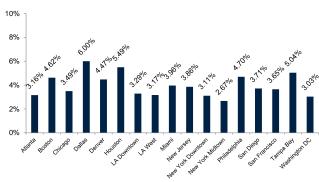
Source: Savills Research

#### Market Yield Change June 2015-December 2015



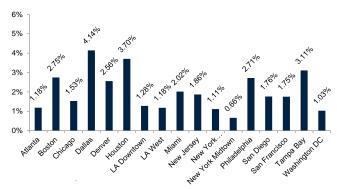
Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yields December 2015



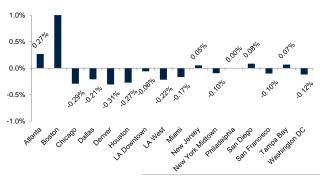
Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Risk Premium December 2015



Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yield Change June 2015-December 2015



## Australia

# The calendar year 2015 marked another year of strong performance in property investment markets.

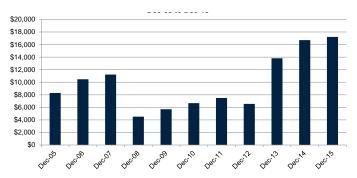
Weakness in the currency, high relative yields and economic growth (however below trend) attracted record amounts of foreign capital to commercial property markets. Domestic institutions, recovering from the GFC and replacing private investors as competitive buyers once again suddenly found themselves outbid. The large amount of capital from overseas has encouraged many investors to dispose of property, reweight portfolios and change exposures. This led to a record year of approximately AU\$30 billion of turnover in commercial property. Conversely, many market fundamentals demonstrated the two-tone nature of the Australian economy – some indicators deteriorated in Perth and Brisbane, many showed substantial improvement in Melbourne and Sydney. Brisbane appears to have reached a base whilst Melbourne and Sydney continue to improve.

Capital markets exhibited greater degrees of volatility throughout the year and have finished the year largely unchanged with the ASX200 returning around 1 percent, the Australian dollar down over 10 percent against the US dollar and 10 year bonds yielding approximately 2.8 percent.

Investment yields firmed across the board – a theme we have been writing about for several years now. We do not believe it has fully run its course. In some markets, fundamentals are improving rapidly. We believe this will lead to further tightening in yields as investment capital starts to price in expectations of future NOI growth. This part of the yield cycle is just beginning.

#### Office Property Sales (AU\$ million)

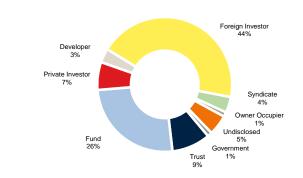
December 2005 – December 2015



Source: Savills Research

#### Office Property Buyer Profile

12 months to December 2015



Source: Savills Research



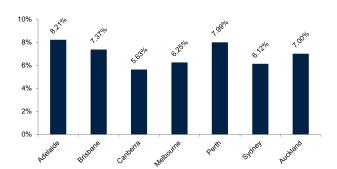
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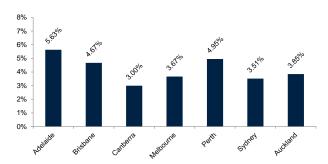
#### Australia & New Zealand/CBD/Grade A Office

#### Market Yields December 2015



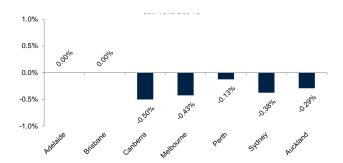
Source: Savills Research

#### Market Risk Premium December 2015



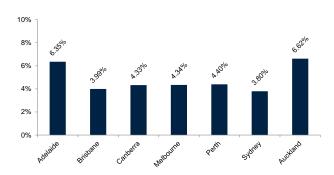
Source: Savills Research

#### Market Yield Change June 2015-December 2015



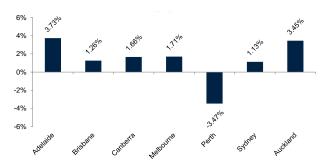
Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yields December 2015



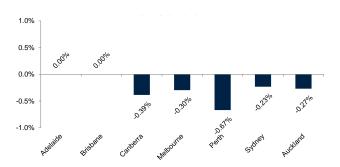
Source: Savills Research

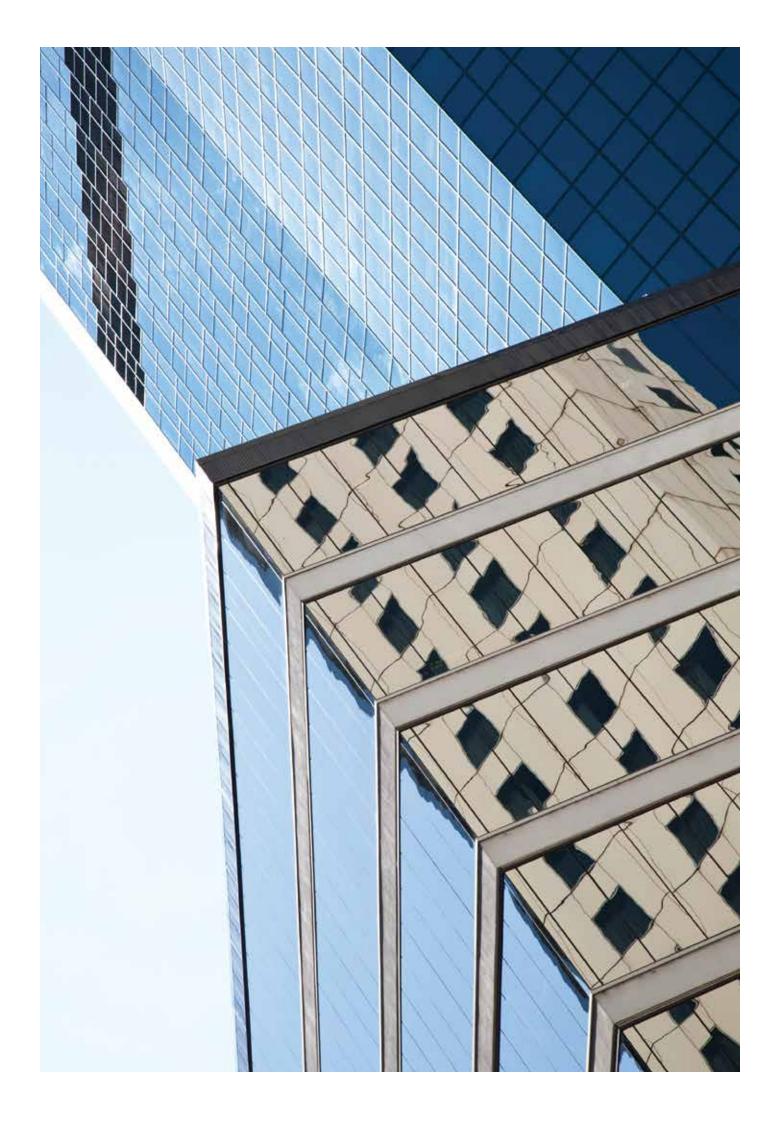
#### Effective Risk Premium December 2015



Source: Savills Research

#### Effective Yield Change June 2015-December 2015





## **About**

#### Savills

With a rich heritage and a reputation for excellence that dates back to 1855, Savills is a leading global real estate provider listed on the London Stock Exchange.

Savills advises corporate, institutional and private clients, seeking to acquire, lease, develop or realise the value of prime residential and commercial property across the world's key markets.

Savills is a company that leads rather than follows with more than 700 owned and associate offices throughout the UK, Europe, Americas, Asia Pacific, Africa and the Middle East. With more than 30,000 staff, we seek out people who possess that rare mix of entrepreneurial flair and rock solid integrity, and are focused on delivering clients with advice and expertise of the highest calibre.

A powerful combination of global connections and deep local knowledge provides Savills with an almost unparalleled ability to connect people and property.

Savills extensive Asia Pacific network spans 50 offices throughout Australia, New Zealand, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Macao, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

Savills offers the full spectrum of services from providing strategic advice to managing assets and projects and transacting deals. With a firmly embedded corporate culture that values initiative, innovation and integrity, clients receive outstanding service and can be assured of the utmost professionalism.

For advice that gives advantage, contact Savills.

#### **Deakin University**

Through its agenda LIVE the future, Deakin aims to build the jobs of the future, using the opportunities of the digital age to widen access to education and make a difference to the communities it serves.

Deakin enjoys a reputation for being accessible, helpful and friendly. It has a longstanding record for its use of cutting-edge information technology while providing highly personalised experiences, whether in the cloud on Deakin's media-rich campuses or through a combination of cloud and campus learning. Deakin has over 50,000 students, with a third choosing to study wholly in the cloud (online).

Deakin was awarded a 5-star rating by the prestigious university ranking organisation Quacquarelli Symonds (QS); the rating indicates Deakin is world-class in a broad range of areas, has cutting-edge facilities and is internationally renowned for its research and teaching. Deakin is in the top 50 of the QS ranking of the world's universities under 50 years.

Deakin is now in the top 3 percent of the world's universities in each of the three major international rankings including the prestigious Shanghai Jiao Tong Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), Times Higher Education and QS World University Rankings. Established in 1974, Deakin was Victoria's fourth university and the first in regional Victoria. In 2014 Deakin celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Deakin has been strengthened by a series of successful mergers with strong partners, each of whom has contributed significantly to our character and approach. Today, Deakin operates in a global, connected world with the digital economy influencing every aspect of our activities.



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Revisions: For technical reasons revisions were undertaken to the previous edition in the following market: Vietnam.

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