

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

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FORM 8-K

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CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant To Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 30, 2017

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**TRAVELZOO<sup>®</sup>**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware**  
(State or Other  
Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation)

**000-50171**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**36-4415727**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**590 Madison Avenue, 37th Floor**  
**New York, New York**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**10022**  
(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code (212) 484-4900**  
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On October 30, 2017, based on the unanimous approval by the independent members of the Board of Directors, Travelzoo entered into an option agreement with Holger Bartel, Global Chief Executive Officer. Under the option agreement, Mr. Bartel receives equity compensation of 400,000 stock options that begin to vest on March 31, 2018, with quarterly vesting thereafter through December 31, 2019.

The information set forth above relating to the option agreement between Travelzoo and Mr. Bartel is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the agreement, which is filed as an exhibit to this report and is incorporated by reference herein.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

TRAVELZOO

Date: November 2, 2017

By: /s/ Glen Ceremony  
Glen Ceremony  
Chief Financial Officer

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## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit	Description
<a href="#">10.3</a>	Non-qualified Option Agreement between Travelzoo and Holger Bartel, dated October 30, 2017

## NON-QUALIFIED STOCK OPTION AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made on October 30, 2017, by and between Travelzoo ("Company"), and Holger Bartel ("Optionee"). Reference is made to the Employment Agreement (Employment Agreement) entered into by and between the Company and Optionee, dated September 28, 2015, and as subsequently amended.

WHEREAS, the Company desires to grant to Optionee the option to purchase certain shares of its stock, in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, which such option is intended to be a nonstatutory stock option that is not intended to be an incentive stock option within the meaning of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Optionee shall serve as Global Chief Executive Officer of the Company pursuant to the Employment Agreement between the parties;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the mutual agreements hereinafter set forth, it is covenanted and agreed as follows:

1. Grant and Terms of Option. Pursuant to action of the Board of Directors of the Company (Board of Directors), the Company grants, effective October 30, 2017 (Date of Grant), to Optionee the option to purchase all or any part of Four Hundred Thousand (400,000) shares of the common stock of the Company ("Common Stock"), to vest over a period of 24 months as set forth in the below table, at the purchase price of \$6.95 per share, which is the fair market value of the Common Stock determined as the latest available official NASDAQ closing price on the Date of Grant; provided, however, that the right to exercise such option shall be, and is hereby, restricted as follows:

(a) No shares may be purchased prior to March 31, 2018. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the 400,000 stock options shall vest in eight (8) equal quarterly installments as follows:

Vesting Date	<i>Percentage of Stock Options Vesting</i>
On March 31, 2018	12.5%
On June 30, 2018	12.5%
On September 30, 2018	12.5%
On December 31, 2018	12.5%
On March 31, 2019	12.5%
On June 30, 2019	12.5%
On September 30, 2019	12.5%
On December 31, 2019	12.5%

On or after December 31, 2019, during the term hereof, Optionee will have become entitled to purchase the entire number of shares (400,000 shares) to which this option relates.

(b) In no event may this option or any part thereof be exercised after the expiration of ten (10) years from the Date of Grant, which shall be the term of the option.

(c) The purchase price of the shares subject to the option may be paid for (i) in cash, (ii) in the discretion of the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee, by tender of shares of Common Stock already owned by Optionee, or (iii) in the discretion of the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee, by such other method as the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee may determine.

(d) The option may not be exercised for a fraction of a share.

(e) The option may not be exercised if shareholder approval is not received.

2. Anti-Dilution Provisions. In the event that, during the term of this Agreement, there is any change in the number of shares of outstanding Common Stock of the Company by reason of stock dividends, recapitalizations, mergers, consolidations, split-ups, combinations or exchanges of shares and the like, not including any issuances of shares for consideration or capital increases by the company, the number of shares covered by this option agreement and the price thereof shall be adjusted, to the same proportionate number of shares and price as in this original agreement.

3. Non-Transferability. Neither the option hereby granted nor any rights thereunder or under this Agreement may be assigned, transferred or in any manner encumbered except by will or the laws of descent and distribution, and any attempted assignment, transfer, mortgage, pledge or encumbrance except as herein authorized, shall be void and of no effect. The option may be exercised during Optionee's lifetime only by Optionee or his guardian or legal representative as set forth herein.

#### 4. Termination of Employment.

(a) In the event of the termination of employment of Optionee without cause prior to December 31, 2019, (other than by reason of his death or disability) pursuant to the Employment Agreement, and subject to Optionee signing and not revoking a general release of claims as set forth in Appendix A, Optionee will be entitled to the full amount of stock options remaining under this Agreement, which stock options shall immediately vest in full on the date of termination. The stock options shall remain exercisable for three (3) months following the date of termination and any unexercised options shall be null and void if not exercised by that date.

(b) Should Optionee be terminated for cause (as defined in the Employment Agreement), should Optionee voluntarily resign from the Company, or in the event of the termination of employment of Optionee upon death or disability, Optionee's (or, in the event of death, the legatee or legatees of Optionee under his last will, or his personal representatives or distributees) right to exercise the option, to the extent it was vested and he was entitled to exercise it on the date of termination of employment, shall continue for three (3) months after such termination but not after ten (10) years from the Date of Grant. If the Optionee (or, in the event of death, the legatee or legatees of Optionee under his last will, or his personal representatives or distributees) does not exercise the option within the three (3) months following such termination of employment, any unexercised options shall be null and void.

5. Method of Exercise/Shares Issued on Exercise of Option. The option may be exercised (in whole or in part) at any time during the period specified in this Agreement, by delivering to the Secretary of the Company not less than 30 days prior to the date of exercise (or such shorter period as the Company shall approve) (a) a written notice of exercise designating the number of shares to be purchased, signed by Optionee, and (b) payment of the full amount of the purchase price of the shares with respect to which the option is exercised. If the written notice of exercise is delivered by mail, or by any other means of delivery, the date of delivery and the date of exercise shall be the date the written notice is actually received by the Secretary. It is the intention of the Company that on any exercise of this option it will transfer to Optionee shares of its authorized but unissued stock or transfer Treasury shares, or utilize any combination of Treasury shares and authorized but unissued shares, to satisfy its obligations to deliver shares on any exercise hereof. No rights of a shareholder shall exist with respect to the Common Stock under this option as a result of the mere grant of this option.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee shall determine the methods by which payments are made with respect to the options granted under this Agreement, the form of payment including, without limitation: (i) cash, (ii) shares of stock (including, in the case of payment of the exercise price of an award, shares of stock issuable pursuant to the exercise of the award) held for such period of time as may be required by the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee in order to avoid adverse accounting consequences and having a fair market value on the date of delivery equal to the aggregate payments required, or (iii) other property acceptable to the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee (including through the delivery of a notice that Optionee has placed a market sell order with a broker with respect to shares of

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stock then issuable upon exercise or vesting of an award, and that the broker has been directed to pay a sufficient portion of the net proceeds of the sale to the Company in satisfaction of the aggregate payments required; provided that payment of such proceeds is then made to the Company upon settlement of such sale).

6. Board Administration. The Board of Directors, the Compensation Committee, or any successor or committee authorized by the Board of Directors, subject to the express terms of this option, shall have plenary authority to interpret any provision of this option and to make any determinations necessary or advisable for the administration of this option and the exercise of the rights herein granted, and may waive or amend any provisions hereof in any manner not adversely affecting the rights granted to Optionee by the express terms hereof.

7. Option not an Incentive Stock Option. It is intended that this option shall not be treated as an incentive stock option under Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or otherwise qualify for any special tax benefits to Optionee.

8. No Contract of Employment. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be considered or construed as creating a contract of employment for any specified period of time.

9. Restrictions on Exercise. This option may not be exercised if the issuance of Common Stock upon Optionee's exercise or the method of payment of consideration for such Common Stock would constitute a violation of any applicable U.S. Federal or state securities law or other applicable law or regulation. As a condition to the exercise of this option, the Company may require Optionee to make any representations and warranty to the Company as may be required by any applicable law or regulation.

10. Termination of Option. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, this option shall not be exercisable after the expiration of the term of ten (10) years from the Date of Grant, as set forth in Section 1(b) hereof.

11. Withholding upon Exercise. The Company reserves the right to withhold, in accordance with any applicable laws, from any consideration payable to Optionee any taxes required to be withheld by U.S. Federal, state or local law as a result of the grant or exercise of this option. If the amount of any consideration payable to Optionee is insufficient to pay such taxes or if no consideration is payable to Optionee, upon request of the Company, Optionee shall pay to the Company in cash an amount sufficient for the Company to satisfy any U.S. Federal, state or local tax withholding requirements it may incur as a result of the grant or exercise of this option.

12. Severability. Any word, phrase, clause, sentence or other provision herein which violates or is prohibited by any applicable law, court decree or public policy shall be modified as necessary to avoid the violation or prohibition and so as to make this Agreement enforceable as fully as possible under applicable law, and if such cannot be so modified, the same shall be ineffective to the extent of such violation or prohibition without invalidating or affecting the remaining provisions herein.

13. Non-Waiver of Rights. The Company's failure to enforce at any time any of the provisions of this agreement or to require at any time performance by Optionee of any of the provisions hereof shall in no way be construed to be a waiver of such provisions or to affect either the validity of this agreement, or any part hereof, or the right of the Company thereafter to enforce each and every provision in accordance with the terms of this agreement.

14. Entire Agreement; Amendments. No modification, amendment or waiver of any of the provisions of this agreement shall be effective unless in writing specifically referring hereto, and signed by the parties hereto. This agreement supersedes all prior agreements and understandings between Optionee and the Company to the extent that any such agreements or understandings conflict with the terms of this agreement.

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15. Assignment. This agreement shall be freely assignable by the Company to and shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the Company, its successors and assigns and/or any other entity which shall succeed to the business presently being conducted by the Company.

16. Governing Law. To the extent that Federal laws do not otherwise control, all determinations made or actions taken pursuant hereto shall be governed by the laws of the state of California, without regard to the conflict of laws rules thereof.

IN WITNESSWHEREOF, the Company has caused this Agreement to be executed on its behalf by the undersigned officer pursuant to due authorization, and Optionee has signed this Agreement to evidence his acceptance of the option herein granted and of the terms hereof, all as of the date hereof.

TRAVELZOO

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Name:

Title:

Date:

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## APPENDIX A

### General Release

In consideration for any benefits or equity awards the Employee receives under this Agreement, Employee, on behalf of himself, his heirs, spouse, dependents, estate, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, unconditionally, irrevocably and absolutely releases and forever discharges the Company, its parent, subsidiaries and affiliates, and each of its respective past, present and future shareholders, officers, directors, employees, agents, insurers, attorneys and parent, affiliated or related entities, and their respective successors and assigns (Released Parties), from all claims, demands, disputes, charges, actions, rights, damages, costs, losses, liabilities, expenses, suits of any type (whether in law or equity), compensation and other legal responsibilities, known or unknown, of any kind, which Employee may own or hold against any of the Released Parties at any time. The release of claims under this Section is intended to be as broad as the law allows. The rights and claims released by this Agreement include, but are not limited to, all claims of whatever kind or nature that may exist relating to, arising out of or in connection with Employee's employment or the termination of such employment (including, but not limited to any of Employer's actions which lead to his termination), whether such claims are presently known or are hereafter discovered or whether they are foreseen or unforeseen as of the date hereof. This release applies, without limitation, to all such claims arising under any federal, state, common law or local law, including but not limited to any and all claims for employment discrimination, harassment or retaliation under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, the Workers Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act; the Older Worker's Benefit Protection Act, the Equal Pay Act, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the California Fair Employment & Housing Act, the California Family Leave Act, the California Labor Code or any other state, federal or local statute or regulation applicable to Employer, including any claim for intentional or negligent infliction of emotional distress, physical injury, violation of any public policy, breach of any implied or express contract, breach of the implied covenant of good faith or fair dealing, privacy violations, defamation, any claim for stock options, any claim for wrongful termination, fraud, intentional or negligent misrepresentation, and all other legal and equitable causes of action whatsoever and all remedies for such claims. Employee certifies that as of the date of this Release, he has reported all accidents, injuries or illnesses relating to or arising from his employment with the Company.