

Ruths Hospitality Group, Inc.
Form S-8
July 25, 2012

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 25, 2012

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549

FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

RUTH S HOSPITALITY GROUP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

72-1060618
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

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1030 W. Canton Avenue, Suite 100,

Winter Park, FL
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

32789
(Zip Code)

Ruth s Chris Steak House, Inc. 2005 Long-Term Equity Incentive Plan

(Full title of the plan)

Michael P. O Donnell

President and Chief Executive Officer

Ruth s Hospitality Group, Inc.

1030 W. Canton Avenue, Suite 100

Winter Park, Florida 32789

(407) 333-7440

(Name and address of agent for service and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

James S. Rowe

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

300 N. LaSalle

Chicago, Illinois 60654

(312) 862-2000

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (Check one):

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Large accelerated filer | <input type="checkbox"/> | Accelerated filer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Non-accelerated filer | <input type="checkbox"/> | Smaller reporting company | <input type="checkbox"/> |

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of securities to be registered | Amount to be registered(1) | Proposed maximum offering price per share(2) | Proposed maximum aggregate offering price(2) | Amount of registration fee |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share | 1,500,000 (3) | \$5.955 | \$8,932,500 | \$1,023.67 (4) |

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), this Registration Statement shall also cover any additional shares of common stock which become issuable because of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or any other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of the outstanding shares of common stock.
- (2) The proposed maximum offering price is calculated pursuant to paragraphs (c) and (h) of Rule 457 under the Securities Act on the basis of the average of the high and low sale prices for the shares of common stock as reported on The NASDAQ Global Select Market on July 24, 2012 solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee.
- (3) Represents shares reserved for issuance under the Ruth's Chris Steak House, Inc. 2005 Long-Term Equity Incentive Plan, as amended.
- (4) Pursuant to Rule 457(p) under the Securities Act, the filing fee is offset by the filing fee previously paid by the Company in connection with its registration statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-160231) initially filed June 25, 2009.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

Item 1. Plan Information.

The documents containing the information specified in Part I will be delivered in accordance with Form S-8 and Rule 428(b) under the Securities Act. Such documents are not required to be, and are not, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission), either as part of this Registration Statement or as prospectuses or prospectus supplements pursuant to Rule 424 under the Securities Act. These documents, and the documents incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement pursuant to Item 3 of Part II of this Form S-8, taken together, constitute a prospectus that meets the requirements of Section 10(a) of the Securities Act.

Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.

The written statement required by Item 2 of Part I is included in documents delivered to participants in the plans covered by this Registration Statement pursuant to Rule 428(b) of the Securities Act.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents, which have been filed by Ruth's Hospitality Group, Inc. (the Company) with the Commission, are incorporated in this Registration Statement by reference:

- (a) The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 25, 2011, filed with the Commission on March 2, 2012;
- (b) The Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 25, 2012, filed with the Commission on April 27, 2012;
- (c) The Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Commission on May 18, 2012;
- (d) The Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Commission on March 9, 2012;
- (e) The Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Commission on February 21, 2012;
- (f) The Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Commission on February 9, 2012;
- (g) The Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Commission on January 31, 2012; and
- (h) The description of the Company's common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A dated August 9, 2005 filed with the Commission to register such securities under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All reports and other documents subsequently filed by the Company pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act (other than Current Reports on Form 8-K furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K, including any exhibits included with such information, unless otherwise indicated therein) after the date of this Registration Statement, but prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

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Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

The Company is incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware. Section 102(b)(7) of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "DGCL") allows a corporation to provide in its certificate of incorporation that a director of the corporation will not be personally liable to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except where the director breached the duty of loyalty, failed to act in good faith, engaged in intentional misconduct or knowingly violated a law, authorized the payment of a dividend or approved a stock repurchase in violation of Delaware corporate law or obtained an improper personal benefit. The Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides for this limitation of liability.

Section 145 of the DGCL (Section 145), provides that a Delaware corporation may indemnify any person who was, is or is threatened to be made, party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of such corporation), by reason of the fact that such person is or was an officer, director, employee or agent of such corporation or is or was serving at the request of such corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or enterprise. The indemnity may include expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, provided such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the corporation's best interests and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was illegal. A Delaware corporation may indemnify any persons who are, were or are threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or enterprise. The indemnity may include expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit, provided such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the corporation's best interests, provided that no indemnification is permitted without judicial approval if the officer, director, employee or agent is adjudged to be liable to the corporation. Where an officer or director is successful on the merits or otherwise in the defense of any action referred to above, the corporation must indemnify him against the expenses which such officer or director has actually and reasonably incurred.

Section 145 further authorizes a corporation to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or enterprise, against any liability asserted against him and incurred by him in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would otherwise have the power to indemnify him under Section 145.

The Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that the Company must indemnify its directors and officers to the fullest extent authorized by the DGCL and must also pay expenses incurred in defending any such proceeding in advance of its final disposition upon delivery of an undertaking, by or on behalf of an indemnified person, to repay all amounts so advanced if it should be determined ultimately that such person is not entitled to be indemnified under this section or otherwise.

The Company maintains insurance to protect it and its directors and officers against any expense, liability or loss, whether or not the Company would have the power to indemnify such persons against such expense, liability or loss under applicable law.

The indemnification rights set forth above shall not be exclusive of any other right which an indemnified person may have or hereafter acquire under any statute, provision of the Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation, the Company's amended and restated bylaws, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

Reference is made to the attached Exhibit Index, which is incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to the Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective Registration Statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof; and

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Company's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the

payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Winter Park, State of Florida, on July 25, 2012.

RUTH S HOSPITALITY GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ Michael P. O Donnell
 Name: Michael P. O Donnell
 Title: Chairman of the Board, President and
 Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby severally constitutes and appoints Michael P. O Donnell, Arne G. Haak and John F. McDonald, III, and each of them individually, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, his or her true and lawful attorney-in fact and agent, with full powers to each of them to sign for us, in our names and in the capacities indicated below, the Registration Statement on Form S-8 and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and any and all amendments to said Registration Statement (including post-effective amendments), granting unto said attorneys, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith, as fully to all intents and purposes as each of them might or could do in person, and hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys, and each of them, or their substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this Power of Attorney. This Power of Attorney may be executed in counterparts and all capacities to sign any and all amendments.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| Signatures | Title | Date |
|--|--|---------------|
| /s/ Michael P. O Donnell Michael P. O Donnell | Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer <i>(principal executive officer)</i> | July 25, 2012 |
| /s/ Arne G. Haak Arne G. Haak | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer <i>(principal financial officer)</i> | July 25, 2012 |
| /s/ Mark W. Osterberg Mark W. Osterberg | Vice President of Accounting and Chief Accounting Officer <i>(principal accounting officer)</i> | July 25, 2012 |
| /s/ Robin P. Selati Robin P. Selati | Lead Director | July 25, 2012 |
| /s/ Carla R. Cooper Carla R. Cooper | Director | July 25, 2012 |
| /s/ Bannus B. Hudson Bannus B. Hudson | Director | July 25, 2012 |

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/s/ Robert S. Merritt
Robert S. Merritt

Director

July 25, 2012

/s/ Alan Vituli
Alan Vituli

Director

July 25, 2012

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EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-----------------------|--|
| 4.1 | Specimen of certificate representing common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as filed with the Commission on August 3, 2005, as amended). |
| 4.2 | Certificate of Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form 10-K, as filed with the Commission on March 5, 2010). |
| 4.3 | Restated By-Laws (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as filed with the Commission on July 12, 2005, as amended). |
| 4.4 | 2005 Long-Term Equity Incentive Plan, as amended (incorporated herein by reference to Appendix A of the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement, as filed with the Commission on April 7, 2008). |
| 5.1 | Opinion of Kirkland & Ellis LLP with respect to the legality of the shares of common stock being registered hereby. |
| 23.1 | Consent of KPMG LLP. |
| 23.2 | Consent of Kirkland & Ellis LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1). |
| 24.1 | Power of Attorney (set forth on the signature page of this Registration Statement). |