

## Trends Update – Issue 10 (20 April 2005)

### Transport and tour operator news

- New bilateral air talks result in an agreement between India and the UK for a further doubling in the number of weekly flights between the two nations to more than 80 by end 2006
- BA to open a new twice weekly service from Algeria to Gatwick
- SkyEurope launches a thrice-weekly service from Krakow to Manchester
- easyJet announce new flights to Bristol from Inverness, Murcia and Pisa
- Domestic air passenger volumes through BAA airports grew at an annual rate of 4% in March, European Scheduled traffic was up 9.7%, North Atlantic traffic up 3.3% with other long haul traffic up 14.1%
- Eurostar carried 5.5% more passengers in January to March 2005 compared with the same period last year
- UKInbound report visitor arrivals in February fell by 4.1% compared with a year ago, with forward bookings down by 4.4%

### Domestic Economic News

- A small rise in unemployment and a larger than expected rise in the rate of inflation provide conflicting evidence for the future direction of interest rate moves

### European Economic News

- Both France and Italy report weak economic growth figures for the early months of 2005

### US Economic News

- US trade deficit figures for February reveal another new record high, but the number of US citizens in employment continues to grow at an annual rate of 1.5%

### Global Economic News

- In its April World Economic Outlook the IMF note that global economic growth stood at 5.2% in 2004 but will slip back to growth of 4.3% this year
- The 2 major economies forecast to grow the fastest in 2005 and 2006 are China and India (at 8%pa and 6%pa respectively) – meanwhile Italy, Germany and Japan will struggle to see growth of more than 1%pa
- Tensions rise between China and Japan, threatening Japan's economic recovery as China is now its most important trading partner
- India's exports grew in value by 24% in the year to March

### Domestic Tourism News

- New figures based on Tourism Satellite Account Methodology reveal that the number of tourism related jobs in the UK in September 2004 was 1,415,500
- The House of Lords approves the Gambling Bill after the Government announces that there will be just one regional super-casino rather than the earlier plan for there to be eight such venues

### Global Tourism News

- The World Health Organisation report more human cases of bird flu in Vietnam and Cambodia, with 2 in every 3 humans catching the virus dying

### Summary of Prevailing Conditions for British Tourism

[http://vbnet/Images/Communications/pie%200312\\_tcm17-8615.doc](http://vbnet/Images/Communications/pie%200312_tcm17-8615.doc)

#### About "Trends Update"

Issued fortnightly TU highlights the latest facts, figures and trends that impact on tourism. TU doesn't cover the main tourism surveys or Market Intelligence Reports circulated separately by International/England Research and Overseas Operations.

Trends and Forecast (Tourism, Economic, Demographic)

<http://vbnet/Communications/PartnershipsPlanning/ForecastingTrends/ForecastingAndTrends.asp>

International Marketing Research

[http://vbnet/InternationalMarketing/international\\_research/default.asp](http://vbnet/InternationalMarketing/international_research/default.asp)

England Marketing Research

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Market Intelligence Reports

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