

#### Weather

- The Met Office predicts that temperatures across the UK are likely to be average or above average for the remainder of autumn, and that the coming winter will bring average or above average precipitation with temperatures near or above average (although with a 1-in-7 chance of a cold winter)

#### Transport news

- IATA report that global aviation demand in August was 1.1% down on a year ago, with premium class fares 22% down and economy class fares 18% down on August 2008
- The volume of scheduled air passenger movements to/from the UK was 2.6% lower in July than a year before according to the Civil Aviation Authority
- Japan Airlines asks for a government bail out to help it survive
- From February easyJet will fly daily to Gatwick from Dusseldorf
- According to the Association of Train Operating Companies passenger demand for key tourist destinations increased markedly in the period 31 May to 22 August compared with a year ago; destinations with the highest growth included Weymouth (+16%), St Ives (+12%), Windermere (+12%), Edinburgh (+19%) and Oxford (+12%)
- From March 2010 FastnetLine will operate sailings from Cork to Swansea
- Celtic Link Ferries will operate a Cherbourg to Portsmouth service from late October

#### Domestic Economic News

- Concerns over the magnitude of the UK's public sector debt put pressure on the value of the pound which falls in value to around €1.10
- The CBI warns that the UK's economic recovery will be fragile throughout 2010
- UK consumer confidence picks up sharply in September to a level last seen at the start of 2008

#### European Economic News

- Eurozone unemployment in August climbed to 9.6% of the workforce, equivalent to 15.2 million
- Eurozone consumer confidence picks up slightly in September, returning to levels seen just before the financial crisis began in summer 2008

#### US Economic News

- US consumer confidence falls slightly in September

#### Global Economic News

- The IMF says that the global economy is now expanding, led by Asia which has withstood the financial crisis better than expected
- New Zealand pulled out of recession in the second quarter of 2009

#### Tourism News

- The Scottish Government announces that it is to shelve plans for a rail link between Glasgow Airport and Glasgow Central railway station due to pressures on public finances
- Global Refund report that in August sales to inbound visitors who reclaimed tax on departure from the UK were up by 77% compared with a year ago
- According to PKF hotel occupancy in regional hotels in August stood at 72.4%, down from 74.8% a year earlier, with occupancy in London hotels at 81.8%, down from 83.7% in August 2008; room rates fell 8% in the regions and by 7% in London in the year to August
- According to American Express business class air fares are set to rise by 15% in 2010 due to reduced capacity and higher ancillary costs for airlines

# Factors contributing to tourism trends in Britain, October 2009

