

#### Weather

- Met Office figures show that across the UK November weather was characterised by well above average temperatures, close to average amounts of sunshine but exceptionally above average rainfall

#### Transport news

- Global demand for air travel increased at an annual rate of 0.5% in October according to IATA
- MPs on the Transport Select Committee back government proposals for a third runway at Heathrow, and indicate their belief that expanding capacity at Gatwick is more of a priority than an additional runway at Stansted
- The Committee on Climate Change (the government's official climate watchdog) says that a third runway at Heathrow would not jeopardise UK pledges to cut CO2 emissions
- British Airways carried 3.4% fewer passengers in November than a year earlier; volumes on routes to/from Asia Pacific saw by far the steepest decline, down 23.2%, while the best performing routes were to/from Middle East and Africa
- Sun-Air will reduce flight frequencies from Billund to London City from early January
- From the end of March flybe will operate three flights per week from Hanover to both Exeter and Newcastle
- Aer Lingus expected to announce additional capacity cuts to its network
- The Port of Dover handled 20.8% fewer passengers in November than a year ago, in part the negative trend reflects the fact that ferries were handling some displaced Channel Tunnel traffic at this time last year

#### Domestic Economic News

- Bank of England figures show that consumer credit in the year to October declined by 0.1% as consumers continue to repay debt
- Investment Bank Morgan Stanley warns of a major debt crisis in the UK over the coming months; analysis that if proven to be correct would put downward pressure on the value of sterling
- UK consumer confidence remains stable in November

#### European Economic News

- Eurozone broad money supply increased at an annual rate of just 0.4% in October
- Eurozone consumer confidence remains stable in November
- Concerns grow over the size of Greece's national debt and economic policy stance, with credit rating agency Fitch cuts its rating for Greece to a 10 year low

#### US Economic News

- The rate of unemployment in the US fell to 10.0% in November from 10.2% in October

#### Global Economic News

- The Bank of Japan announces new measures to try and boost the economy, with a further \$81bn being pumped into the economy
- The Australian central bank increases base rates for the third time in quick succession as the economy continues to revive

#### Tourism News

- Latest TRI Hospitality Consulting figures show that London hotel performance continues to outperform most other leading European destinations
- According to STR Global hotel revenue per available room in London increased by 10% in November compared with October, the first rise for 14 months
- Silverstone secures the rights to host the British Grand Prix for the next 17 years

# Factors contributing to tourism trends in Britain, December 2009

