

Trends Update – Issue 19 (22 August 2005)

Transport and tour operator news

- BA is forced to cancel all flights to/from Heathrow for more than 24 hours as unofficial sympathy strike action is taken by some of its ground staff
- Alitalia faces a further round of strike action at the end of August
- BAA July traffic figures show the following increases by route type: domestic +1.4%, European scheduled +3.8%, North Atlantic +1.0%, other long haul +7.5%
- Eastern Airways will fly between Durham Tees Valley and Bristol three times a day from October
- easyJet will offer daily service from Geneva to Edinburgh and a weekly service from Geneva to Glasgow from December courtesy of support from the Scottish Executives Route Development Fund – a further daily service will commence from Geneva to Robin Hood Airport
- Car traffic in Great Britain increased by 0.3% compared with a year ago in the period from April to June

Domestic Economic News

- British Retail Consortium report the weakest July in a decade for High Street sales, with “like for like” sales down 1.9%, but ONS figures suggest that consumer spending is stabilising

European Economic News

- French economic growth measured just 0.1% in the second quarter of 2005

US Economic News

- Interest rates again increased by ¼ %

Global Economic News

- Oil prices touch \$67 a barrel, with the rise accentuated by disruption to supplies from Ecuador
- Consumer expenditure continues to fuel production in India, with expectations that 2005 will see overall economic expansion of around 8% this year

Domestic Tourism News

- TRI Hospitality Consulting figures show London hotels enjoyed a far stronger profit performance in the first 6 months of 2005 than provincial hotels
- Butlins opens its first luxury hotel at Bognor – it plans to build several more similar hotels

Global Tourism News

- Avian flu now found in birds in the Ural Mountains of Russia and in Kazakhstan, effectively on the border of Asia and Europe, with further unconfirmed outbreaks in Mongolia and Tibet. Holland announces all poultry to be kept indoors as a precautionary measure, meanwhile UK GPs have been issued with leaflets to hand out to the public during a flu pandemic
- In the second quarter of 2005 Boeing and Airbus received orders for 529 large airliners, underscoring the boom in orders at present

Pictorial Summary of Prevailing Conditions for British Tourism

http://vbnet/Images/Communications/pie%20080805_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

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