

Trends Update – Issue 23 (14 October 2005)

Weather

- Well above average temperatures and close to average rainfall in England, Wales and Scotland during September, but in England and Wales sunshine totals were above average whereas in Scotland they were close to average

Transport and tour operator news

- UKInbound report visitor arrivals down 8.4% in August compared with 2004, and forward bookings down 13.5%
- BAA traffic figures for September reveal continued growth: domestic +2.3%, European scheduled +4.2%, North Atlantic +3.1%, other long-haul routes +8.6%
- easyJet to launch services from Hamburg and Grenoble to Bristol and from Milan Malpensa to Gatwick
- Icelandair to introduce twice weekly service from Reykjavik to Manchester from April
- bmi plans a three times a week service from Jeddah to Heathrow
- flybe to launch services from Belfast and Exeter to Manchester early in 2005
- The Cuxhaven to Harwich ferry service is to cease operation on 6 November

Domestic Economic News

- OECD cuts its UK economic growth forecast from 2.4% to 1.7%, but the forecast for 2006 remains 2.4%

European Economic News

- Transport strikes in France, Belgium and once again at Alitalia
- Eurozone growth is expected to pick up in the 3rd and 4th quarters according to Eurostat

US Economic News

- US unemployment increased to 5.1% in September from 4.9% in August mainly due to the impact of Hurricane Katrina, with September crude oil production at its lowest monthly level since July 1943

Global Economic News

- Economic growth in Singapore stood at 3.2% in the three months to September, broadly in line with expectations

Domestic Tourism News0

- South West Tourism moots the idea of asking beach-goers to pay for accessing beaches in order to improve standards and facilities
- PKF report that hotel occupancy in August was sharply down in London (66.9%) compared with a year ago (77.1%), whereas provincial hotels saw similar occupancies to the same time last year
- A fire causes considerable damage to parts of Southend Pier, more than 350,000 people visited the attraction in 2004

Global Tourism News

- Avian flu confirmed in bird populations in Turkey and Romania

Pictorial Summary of Prevailing Conditions for British Tourism

http://vbnet/Images/Communications/pic%20171005_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

England Marketing Research:<http://vbnet/EnglandMarketing/EnglandResearch/default.asp>

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