

Trends Update – Issue 26 (29 November 2005)

Weather

- Freezing fog causes disruption to flights to and from several UK airports, with Liverpool and Manchester being among the worst hit, heavy snow also disrupted travel in parts of Scotland and the West Country

Transport and tour operator news

- P&O agrees to be bought by Dubai Ports Group for £3.3bn
- BAA submit plans for a 300m extension to the runway at Aberdeen Airport to make the airport accessible from a wider range of destinations
- Wizz Air to launch a service from Gdansk to Liverpool
- From April Air Southwest to launch daily services from Newquay to Cardiff, Cardiff to Manchester and Bristol to Norwich
- From March bmibaby will offer seven flights a week from Manchester to Newquay
- BA to launch twice weekly flight from Dalaman in Turkey to Gatwick from May 2006
- Etihad Airways to launch a daily service from Abu Dhabi to Manchester from spring 2006
- Jet2 will be launching flights from Amsterdam and Pisa to Newcastle from spring 2006
- Aer Arran to launch daily flights from Lorient in Brittany to Luton from March
- Eastern Airways to launch a service from Newcastle to London City operating four times per day
- Sky Europe will operate direct flights from Krakow to Edinburgh and Birmingham from summer 2006
- OLT Airlines to operate twice-daily services from Bremen and Hamburg to Bristol

Domestic Economic News

- UK unemployment fell slightly in the July to September period
- The average weekly value of retail sales in the UK in October was just 0.3% up on a year ago, however retailers report a surge in spending following the onset of colder weather

European Economic News

- A general strike in Italy causes widespread disruption

US Economic News

- Consumer confidence rebounds strongly in November, but remains below pre-Katrina levels

Global Economic News

- IMF urges China to focus more on consumption activities and less on investment, and for a further revaluation of the yuan
- A ministerial reshuffle in Argentina unsettles the country's stock and currency markets

Domestic Tourism News

- British Hospitality Association calls for a total ban on smoking in public places
- PKF figures for October show London hotel occupancy at 77.3% compared with 78.0% last year, with occupancy in regional hotels at 76.1%, up from 74.6% last year

Global Tourism News

- China's first human avian flu fatalities confirmed, with a further two human deaths in Indonesia
- France to impose an air ticket surcharge to raise funds for third world development – if approved by parliament a €1 fee will apply to economy class tickets to European destinations with a business class fee of €10 from 1 July

Pictorial Summary of Prevailing Conditions for British Tourism

http://vbnet/Images/Communications/pie%20151105_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.

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