

Trends Update – Issue 27 (14 December 2005)

Weather

- November brought sunshine totals across England, Wales and Scotland exceptionally above average. In England and Wales more hours of sunshine were recorded than in any year since records began in 1929. Rainfall totals and temperatures were close to average

Transport and tour operator news

- UKInbound report visitor arrivals down 9.2% in October compared with 2004, forward bookings down 7.9%
- DLR extension to London City Airport is officially opened
- BA traffic statistics in November reveal that the airline carried 1.7% more passengers than in November 2004
- BAA November traffic figures: domestic +0.6%, European scheduled +2.3%, North Atlantic +1.0%, other long-haul routes +8.4%
- The Malaysian Government says it is prepared to support the increasingly indebted national carrier Malaysia Airlines through financial loans
- Flybe to open new routes from summer 2006 to Southampton from Avignon, Angers and Faro
- Loganair is to suspend its Londonderry to Manchester service from 9 January
- Ryanair is to abandon its route from Rome to Durham Tees Valley from February but will be launching new routes from Seville and Porto to Liverpool, from Barcelona and Marseilles to Prestwick, from Balaton (Hungary), Lamezia and Parma (Italy) and Vitoria (Spain) to Stansted and from Shannon to Manchester
- Bmibaby to operate flights from Amsterdam to Cardiff and from both Newquay and Perpignan to Manchester
- From April Jet2 will operate flights from Milan Bergamo to Leeds Bradford
- Centralwings to launch a new service from Warsaw to Leeds Bradford
- bmi to launch daily service from Doha to Heathrow in spring 2006
- A dispute at Irish Ferries that has disrupted services since late November appears to have been settled

Domestic Economic News

- Gordon Brown announces in his pre-Budget Report that economic growth will be half that he forecast back in the spring, with the 2006 growth forecast also lowered
- CBI cuts its economic growth forecast for the UK in 2005 to 1.7%

European Economic News

- The European Central Bank increases base rates for Eurozone countries by ¼% - the first time rates have been changed for two and a half years
- General strike in Greece results in disruption in flights to the UK

US Economic News

- Latest figures show that US growth in the three months to September stood at an annual rate of 4.3%, higher than expected

Global Economic News

- Business confidence in Japan now at its highest level for more than a year

Domestic Tourism News

- The UK has officially joined the World Tourism Organisation. The Organisation's 'WTO' acronym is to change to UNWTO to end confusion with the World Trade Organisation

Global Tourism News

- New human cases of avian flu in both Thailand and China, taking the total number of laboratory confirmed human cases to 137, of which 70 have been fatal

Pictorial Summary of Prevailing Conditions for British Tourism

http://vbnet/Images/Communications/pie%20141205_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 Forecasts: <http://vbnet/Communications/PartnershipsPlanning/ForecastingTrends/ForecastingAndTrends.asp>
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