



### Weather

- June weather across England and Wales brought well above average temperatures and sunshine, with well below average rainfall. In Scotland temperatures were well above average, rainfall close to average and sunshine totals above average

### Transport and tour operator news

- The Office of Fair Trading confirms it is definitely to hold an investigation into whether BAA airports offer value for money to passengers
- The new owners of BAA say they are committed to the development of a second runway at Stansted but plan to review the costs to ensure that they meet the needs of all stakeholders
- BA June traffic statistics reveal a 4.4% annual jump in the number of passengers carried
- From December BA to fly five times a week from Calgary to Heathrow, and the number of flights to London from Sao Paulo will increase to from seven to ten per week
- TAM are to introduce daily flights from Sao Paulo to Heathrow from October
- Flybe announces a new route from Belfast to Doncaster/Sheffield along with new routes to Birmingham from Aberdeen, Galway and Hannover
- Wizz Air to launch a thrice-weekly service from Bucharest to Luton from next January and plans a service from Belgrade to London
- FlyGlobespan plan a daily service from Newark to Liverpool from May 2007
- Jet2 to operate four flights per week from Salzburg to Leeds Bradford from December
- The number of long-distance rail journeys in the first 3 months of 2006 rose 9% on the same period of 2005

### Domestic Economic News

- UK base rates kept at 4.5%

### European Economic News

- Business and consumer confidence across the Eurozone is now at its highest level since the start of 2001

### US Economic News

- US interest rates increased for the 17<sup>th</sup> successive month to stand at 5.25%
- US consumer confidence picks up slightly in June
- Unemployment in the US remains steady at 4.6%

### Global Economic News

- Unemployment in Japan is now at an eight year low
- North Korea test fires a number of missiles increasing tensions in East Asia

### Domestic Tourism News

- Consultancy firm PKF say that hotel occupancy in May was at its highest for six years

### Global Tourism News

- UNWTO figures show that the most visited destinations in 2005 were: France, Spain, USA, China, Italy and in sixth spot the UK. Measured in terms of international tourism receipts the top destinations were: USA, Spain, France, Italy and in fifth spot the UK, but with China and Germany close behind
- The European parliament has called for airlines to pay tax on aviation fuel, and to be brought into the EU's carbon emissions trading scheme

### Pictorial Summary of Prevailing Conditions for British Tourism

[http://vbnet/Images/Communications/pie%20100706\\_tcm17-8615.doc](http://vbnet/Images/Communications/pie%20100706_tcm17-8615.doc)

### About "Trends Update"

Issued bimonthly 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>  
International Marketing Research: [http://vbnet/BritainInternational/InternationalMarketing/international\\_research/default.asp](http://vbnet/BritainInternational/InternationalMarketing/international_research/default.asp)  
England Marketing Research: <http://vbnet/EnglandMarketing/EnglandResearch/default.asp>  
Market Intelligence Reports: <http://vbnet/BritainInternational/OverseasOperations/MarketIntelligenceReports/default.asp>