Monthly Inbound Update

August 2023 (Provisional)
International Passenger Survey by the ONS
(Published 23rd November 2023)
1. Summary

2. Latest monthly inbound UK – August 2023
   • Headlines
   • Journey Purpose
   • Global Regions

3. Detailed monthly trends

4. Survey background
   • About this data
   • Sample size
   • Impact of COVID-19 on IPS
   • Definitions

Explore the 2023 data in more detail on the VisitBritain website.

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1. Summary

August 2023 (Provisional)
Summary – August 2023 (provisional)

• Visits dipped slightly m-o-m in August 2023 (3.7m vs 3.9m in July 2023)
  → Inbound visits to the UK in August totalled at **3.7m visits**, down 17% vs August 2019 (the comparison period was the highest month on record for visits). Compared to August 2022, visits were up 4% showing a slowdown in the recovery rate vs 2019.
  → Visits across the last 3 months and year-to-date reached similar recovery levels to 2019; Jun-Aug saw visits reach 11.0m, down 10% vs 2019 (and up 11% vs 2022) and visits across 2023 so far totalled at 25.1m visits, down 8% vs 2019 (and up 34% vs 2022).

• Spend in August 2023 was the third highest August on record, in nominal terms
  → Spend reached **£3.4bn** in August 2023 down 3% vs August 2019, and up 7% vs 2022. In real terms, August 2023 saw visitor spending down 20% vs August 2019.
  → It was a record last 3 months (Jun-Aug) with visitors spending £9.7bn and record year-to-date (Jan-Aug) with visitors spending £20.3bn.
  → Inbound visitors **spent £921 per visit**, on average, in August 2023, up 16% vs 2019. In real terms, spend per visit was down 4% vs 2019.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 & 2023. All values and percentage changes in spend are in nominal terms unless otherwise specified. See notes on 2022 data on slide 26.
Summary – August 2023 (provisional)

- **Journey purpose: Holidays in August were similar to July, VFR continued to grow whilst Business lagged behind**
  - **Holiday** visits in August 2023 reached 1.9m (similar to July 2023) accounting for 50% of all inbound visits in August 2023. Holiday visits were down 17% vs August 2019 due to August 2019 being very high, and they were up 11% vs August 2022. Year-to-date (Jan to Aug) holiday visits reached 10.9m, down 6% vs 2019.
  - **Visits to friends and relatives (VFR)** reached 1.3m visits in August, up 3% vs August 2019, just shy of the 1.34m record in August 2017. VFR visits accounted for 34% of total inbound visits in the latest month and reached new records for the last 3 months and year-to-date.
  - **Business** visits dropped m-o-m in August 2023 to 350,000 visits, down 38% vs 2019 and down 3% vs 2022.
  - All other visits under ‘miscellaneous’, which includes study, contributed 240,000 visits in August 2023, down 25% vs 2019 and down 1% vs 2022.

- **Global region: North America continues to see visits surpass 2019, Rest of Europe slows Europe’s recovery**
  - The UK welcomed 2.3m visits from Europe in August 2023, down 16% vs August 2019 and up 4% vs 2022. Year-to-date visits have reached 16.3m, down 10% vs 2019. Visits from the EU continued to grow m-o-m but visits from the Rest of Europe halved in August vs July.
  - Visits from North America saw a m-o-m dip to 636,000 visits but continued to surpass pre-pandemic levels with visits up 8% vs 2019 (and down 11% vs 2022). YTD figures show North American visits up 16% vs 2019.
  - Those visiting from the Rest of World contributed 760,000 visits to UK inbound tourism down 32% vs 2019 but were up 21% vs 2022. YTD figures were at 4.5m visits, down 18% vs 2019.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 & 2023. All values and percentage changes in spend are in nominal terms unless otherwise specified. See notes on 2022 data on slide 26.
2. Latest monthly inbound UK

August 2023 (Provisional)
Monthly Headlines – August 2023 (provisional)

**Visits:** Inbound visits to the UK in August 2023 totalled at **3.7m visits**, down 17% vs August 2019 (which was the highest month on record for visits). Compared to August 2022, visits were up 4%, indicating a slowdown in the y-o-y growth trend (June was up 17% and July was up 13%, vs 2022). The last 3 months, Jun-Aug 2023 saw visits reach 11.0m, down 10% vs 2019 (and up 11% vs 2022). Visits across 2023 so far were at 25.1m, down 8% vs 2019 but up 34% vs 2022.

**Spend:** Visitor spend reached **£3.4bn** in August 2023, down 3% vs August 2019, and up 7% vs 2022 (in nominal terms). This was the third highest August on record, shy of the £3.7bn record in August 2017. In real terms, August 2023 saw visitor spending down 20% vs August 2019. It was a record last 3 months (Jun-Aug 2023) with visitors spending £9.7bn and record year-to-date (Jan-Aug 2023) with visitors spending £20.3bn.

**Spend per visit:** Inbound visitors spent **£921 per visit** on average, in August 2023, up 16% vs 2019. In real terms, visitors spent £761 in August 2019 prices, down 4% vs 2019.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Visits (000)</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>Change vs. 2019</th>
<th>Change vs. 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 2023</td>
<td>3,680</td>
<td>-17%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last 3 months (Jun-Aug 2023)</td>
<td>11,032</td>
<td>-10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year to date (Jan-Aug 2023)</td>
<td>25,133</td>
<td>-8%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Spend (£m)</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>Change vs. 2019</th>
<th>Change vs. 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 2023</td>
<td>£3,390</td>
<td>-3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last 3 months (Jun-Aug 2023)</td>
<td>£9,735</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year to date (Jan-Aug 2023)</td>
<td>£20,334</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 and 2023P (P indicates provisional data). All values and percentage changes in spend are in nominal terms unless otherwise specified. Sample sizes at the monthly level for some analysis and comparisons can be low and results should be treated with caution, especially for spending.
Monthly Journey Purpose – August 2023 (provisional)

- **Holiday** visits in August 2023 reached 1.9m (similar to July 2023) accounting for 50% of all inbound visits in August 2023. Year-to-date (Jan to Aug) holiday visits reached 10.9m, down 6% vs 2019.

- **Visits to friends and relatives (VFR)** continued to grow m-o-m from July to reach in 1.3m visits in August, down 4% vs August 2019, just shy of the 1.34m record in August 2017. VFR visits accounted for 34% of total inbound visits in the latest month and reached new records for the last 3 months (Jun-Aug) at 3.6m visits and year-to-date at 8.4m visits.

- **Business** visits dropped m-o-m in August 2023 to 350,000 visits, down 38% vs 2019 and down 3% vs 2022. Across the last 3 months and year-to-date, business visits were down -31% and -29% vs 2019, respectively.

- All other visits under ‘miscellaneous’, which includes study, contributed 240,000 visits in August 2023, down 25% vs 2019 and down 1% vs 2022. Year-to-date figures show misc visits just below 2019 at -4%.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 and 2023P (P indicates provisional data). Sample sizes at the monthly level for some analysis and comparisons can be low and results should be treated with caution, especially for spending.
The UK welcomed 2.3m visits from Europe in August 2023, down 16% vs August 2019 and up 4% vs 2022. Year-to-date visits have reached 16.3m, down 10% vs 2019. Visits from the EU continued to grow m-o-m from July but visits from the Rest of Europe halved in August vs July.

Visits from North America dipped again slightly in August (from July) to 636,000 but surpassed pre-pandemic levels with visits up 8% vs 2019 (and down 11% vs 2022). YTD figures show North American visits up 16% vs 2019.

Those visiting from the Rest of World contributed 760,000 visits to UK inbound tourism, down 32% vs 2019 but up 21% vs 2022. YTD figures were at 4.5m visits, down 18% vs 2019.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 and 2023P (P indicates provisional data). Sample sizes at the monthly level for some analysis and comparisons can be low and results should be treated with caution, especially for spending.
3. Detailed monthly trends

August 2023 (Provisional)
Detailed monthly trends - visits

Please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data.

Overseas Visits to the UK - Total Visits (000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
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<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3,036</td>
<td>2,512</td>
<td>1,446</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>633</td>
<td>993</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>358</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>949</td>
<td>1,103</td>
<td>1,610</td>
<td>1,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>1,045</td>
<td>1,860</td>
<td>2,252</td>
<td>2,728</td>
<td>2,977</td>
<td>3,445</td>
<td>3,545</td>
<td>2,956</td>
<td>3,322</td>
<td>3,238</td>
<td>3,038</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>2,900</td>
<td>2,193</td>
<td>2,598</td>
<td>3,118</td>
<td>3,292</td>
<td>3,472</td>
<td>3,880</td>
<td>3,680</td>
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</table>

Note: Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data. Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional.
### Overseas Visits to the UK - Total Spend (£m)

**Source:** Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
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<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,646</td>
<td>1,318</td>
<td>1,840</td>
<td>1,824</td>
<td>2,347</td>
<td>2,725</td>
<td>3,090</td>
<td>3,510</td>
<td>2,593</td>
<td>2,645</td>
<td>2,201</td>
<td>2,708</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2,026</td>
<td>1,538</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>716</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>1,186</td>
<td>985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>787</td>
<td>1,363</td>
<td>1,863</td>
<td>2,229</td>
<td>2,755</td>
<td>3,257</td>
<td>3,174</td>
<td>2,635</td>
<td>2,905</td>
<td>2,258</td>
<td>2,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>2,107</td>
<td>1,388</td>
<td>2,130</td>
<td>2,325</td>
<td>2,649</td>
<td>2,925</td>
<td>3,420</td>
<td>3,390</td>
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**Note:** Spending in million pounds. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data. Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional. Spend is in nominal terms.
Detailed monthly trends – journey purpose - holiday

please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data

Overseas Visits to the UK - Holiday Visits (000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
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<th>Jul</th>
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<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>844</td>
<td>1,147</td>
<td>1,403</td>
<td>1,388</td>
<td>1,718</td>
<td>1,866</td>
<td>2,217</td>
<td>1,282</td>
<td>1,480</td>
<td>1,187</td>
<td>1,401</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1,125</td>
<td>891</td>
<td>584</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>495</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>853</td>
<td>1,138</td>
<td>1,307</td>
<td>1,488</td>
<td>1,669</td>
<td>1,149</td>
<td>1,262</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>1,070</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>961</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>1,037</td>
<td>1,349</td>
<td>1,456</td>
<td>1,583</td>
<td>1,860</td>
<td>1,850</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.
Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional.
Detailed monthly trends – journey purpose - VFR

please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data

Overseas Visits to the UK - VFR Visits (000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
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<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>724</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>1,101</td>
<td>932</td>
<td>1,192</td>
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<td>925</td>
<td>1,149</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
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<td>382</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>199</td>
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<td>165</td>
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<td>515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>748</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>984</td>
<td>1,015</td>
<td>1,161</td>
<td>1,274</td>
<td>1,033</td>
<td>1,158</td>
<td>1,259</td>
<td>1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>1,254</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>843</td>
<td>1,002</td>
<td>1,027</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>1,210</td>
<td>1,260</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data. Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional.
Detailed monthly trends – journey purpose - business

Please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data.

Overseas Visits to the UK - Business Visits (000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.

Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional.
Detailed monthly trends – journey purpose - misc

Please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data

Overseas Visits to the UK - Miscellaneous (includes short-term study, 000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>219</td>
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<td>2020</td>
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<td>243</td>
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<td>352</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>182</td>
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<td>290</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.

Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional.
Detailed monthly trends – global regions - Europe

please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data

Overseas Visits to the UK - to the UK from Europe (000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

Note: Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.

Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional.
### Overseas Visits to the UK - to the UK from EU (000)

**Source:** Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
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<th>Jul</th>
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<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,803</td>
<td>1,607</td>
<td>2,133</td>
<td>2,192</td>
<td>2,039</td>
<td>2,041</td>
<td>2,188</td>
<td>2,499</td>
<td>1,825</td>
<td>2,289</td>
<td>1,978</td>
<td>2,235</td>
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<td>2020</td>
<td>1,827</td>
<td>1,697</td>
<td>948</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>1,147</td>
<td>703</td>
</tr>
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<td>2022</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>761</td>
<td>1,289</td>
<td>1,459</td>
<td>1,668</td>
<td>1,572</td>
<td>1,804</td>
<td>2,026</td>
<td>1,642</td>
<td>1,993</td>
<td>2,270</td>
<td>1,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>1,807</td>
<td>1,512</td>
<td>1,649</td>
<td>1,990</td>
<td>1,859</td>
<td>1,805</td>
<td>2,120</td>
<td>2,160</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:**
- Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.
- Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional. No data monthly data is available April – December 2020, due to the impact of COVID. See slide 28.
Detailed monthly trends – global regions – EU15

Please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data.

Overseas Visits to the UK - to the UK from EU15 (000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,483</td>
<td>1,272</td>
<td>1,701</td>
<td>1,854</td>
<td>1,630</td>
<td>1,703</td>
<td>1,802</td>
<td>2,083</td>
<td>1,505</td>
<td>1,910</td>
<td>1,572</td>
<td>1,814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1,461</td>
<td>1,316</td>
<td>826</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>527</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>1,062</td>
<td>1,253</td>
<td>1,370</td>
<td>1,330</td>
<td>1,484</td>
<td>1,725</td>
<td>1,334</td>
<td>1,671</td>
<td>1,805</td>
<td>1,586</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>1,446</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>1,296</td>
<td>1,710</td>
<td>1,480</td>
<td>1,490</td>
<td>1,720</td>
<td>1,760</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.
Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional. No data monthly data is available April – December 2020, due to the impact of COVID. See slide 28.
Detailed monthly trends – global regions – EU Other

please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data

Overseas Visits to the UK - to the UK from EU Other (000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

Note: Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.
Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional. No data monthly data is available April – December 2020, due to the impact of COVID. See slide 28.
Detailed monthly trends – global regions – Rest of Europe

please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data

Overseas Visits to the UK - to the UK from Rest of Europe (000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

Note: Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.
Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.
International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional. No data monthly data is available April – December 2020, due to the impact of COVID. See slide 28.
Detailed monthly trends – global regions – North America

please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data

Overseas Visits to the UK - to the UK from North America (000)
Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

Years Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
2019 330 213 356 319 570 648 696 593 456 457 360 374
2020 337 249 208 7 11 22 67 77 63 49 39 42
2021 13 7 8 9 14 23 73 101 115 116 185 120
2022 87 99 229 338 509 741 793 716 648 560 370 394
2023 373 217 406 497 683 771 730 640

Note: Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.
Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional.
**Detailed monthly trends – global regions – Rest of World**

*please see notes on slide 26 when interpreting 2020, 2021 and 2022 data*

**Overseas Visits to the UK - to the UK from Rest of World (000)**

*Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>836</td>
<td>1,006</td>
<td>1,118</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>737</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>724</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>760</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* Visits in thousands. Monthly data is replaced by the more accurate Quarterly data.

*Long term trends showing percentage change year-on-year by quarter and more is available here.*

International Passenger Survey by the ONS - 2023 data is provisional.
4. Survey background
About this data

This report is based on the latest International Passenger Survey (IPS) data released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on the morning of 23rd November 2023. The report covers provisional August 2023 data. Comparisons have been made to 2019 to show the rate of recovery, and also 2022 to show growth coming out of the pandemic.

The IPS data is based on interviews with a sample of departing visitors. The number interviewed varies but is typically around 3,000 per month. Sample sizes at the monthly level and quarterly level (for some analysis and comparisons) can be low and results should be treated with caution, especially for spending. Please refer to the ONS website for information on confidence levels.

Please also note:

- All data is sourced from the International Passenger Survey by the Office for National Statistics.
- All figures quoted are not “seasonally adjusted”.
- Numbers in some tables / charts may not sum due to rounding.
- All values and percentage changes in spend are in nominal terms (i.e. not taking inflation into account).
- From 2021, data excludes the Irish land border data
- Figures in this report are rounded to align with the published ONS results

Refer to the ONS website for more on IPS methodology and UK outbound travel.
Please visit the VisitBritain research webpage for more detail on inbound tourism to the UK.
Important notice for interpreting data

The International Passenger Survey (IPS) was suspended on 16 March 2020 due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Interviewing initially began at UK airports at the start of 2021, though the IPS remained suspended at some sea ports and train stations during the year. To produce statistics for the periods impacted the Office for National Statistics (ONS) have applied the following processes to the data since March 2020:

• **March 2020** - With the data collected for most of March when the IPS was running the ONS had part of the data needed for the month. To produce estimates for the full month of March the ONS worked on the assumption that passenger characteristics in the second, unsampled, half of the month were represented by those sampled in the first half.

• **April – December 2020 (Q2, Q3, Q4 2020)** - The travel and tourism figures for this period are based entirely on administrative sources and modelling as no data was collected during this period. In producing these results the ONS have made assumptions that some previous trends have continued, for example, the proportions of passengers travelling for business or holidays.

• **2021** – The ONS were unable to restart interviewing at Eurotunnel (but continued at Eurostar) in Q4 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions. The ONS has used passenger numbers to model the Eurotunnel data for this quarter. Data for those travelling via Dover was only collected from Q3 2021. In addition, no estimates are included for any travel across the Irish border. Please see our [2021 inbound data page](#) for more information.

• **January to June 2022** – The ONS were unable to restart interviewing at Eurotunnel (but continued at Eurostar) during this period due to COVID-19 restrictions. The ONS has used passenger numbers to model the Eurotunnel data for Q1-Q2 2022. The ONS restarted IPS interviews at all ports from July 2022. Please see our [2022 inbound page](#) for more information.

Please refer to the ONS website for the official release and more information on IPS methodology and UK outbound travel.
Definitions

Regions:
- **Total Europe** includes EU15 (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Irish Republic, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden); **Other EU** (Bulgaria, Cyprus (South), Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia (note that Croatia has been included in the 'Other EU' category since it joined in July 2013; before July 2013 this group was labelled as A12) and **Rest of Europe** (European countries outside the EU (including Russia, Norway and Switzerland). Before July 2013 Croatia was also included here, but from July 2013 appears in Other EU)
- **North America** - Canada (including Greenland and St Pierre et Miquelon), USA (including Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands)
- **Rest of World** – Countries outside Europe and North America (Africa, Asia, Central America, Middle East, Oceania, South America)

Journey purpose:
- **VFR** - Visiting Friends and Relatives
- **Miscellaneous visits** - includes those for short term study, to attend sports events, for personal shopping, health or religious purposes, accompanying others and many more

Other:
- **Visit** - all departing visits from overseas residents (including those who may be UK nationals but live elsewhere, excluding other nationals who have been in the UK for 12 months or longer)
- **Spend** - the amount visitors report spending in the UK during their stay
- **YoY** - year on year
- **MoM** – month on month
- **YTD** – year to date
Monthly Inbound Update

August 2023 (Provisional)
International Passenger Survey by the ONS
(Published 23rd November 2023)