

#### **Domestic Sentiment Tracker: February 2024**

Published: Fieldwork Period: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024

UK Results





- **1.** Current General Sentiment (slides 6-8)
- 2. Trip Intentions: UK and Overseas (slides 9-20)
- **3.** The Next Trip: Overnight and Day Trips (slides 21-30)
- 4. Past UK and Overseas Trips (slides 31-34)
- 5. Overnight Business Trip Intentions\* (slides 35-36)
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Note: \* Overnight Business Trip Intentions questions are asked every second month

#### Introduction

- VisitEngland, VisitScotland and Visit Wales have commissioned a Domestic Sentiment Tracker to understand the impact of major events, such as the cost of living crisis, on the UK public's intent to take overnight trips, both within the UK and abroad.
- The survey addresses areas, such as: current attitude to travel (incl. concerns around travel and reassurances needed from the tourism sector), intentions of UK residents to travel for day trips, short breaks and holidays, when they plan to book and when they plan to go on their trip, as well as the destination, type of location and accommodation for their intended trip.
- This tracker is based on a UK nationally representative sample of 1,500 adults aged 16+, with additional boosts for Scotland and Wales.
- Fieldwork tends to take place at the start of each month and this wave's fieldwork was conducted between 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024.
- The results (both, reports and data tables) are made publicly available and updated each wave at the following website:

https://www.visitbritain.org/domestic-sentiment-tracker



### **Definitions used within this report**

In this report, we look at the behaviour and attitudes of a number of separate audiences depending on when they intend to take an overnight domestic trip.

- February to March 2024 Intenders : Residents of the UK who claim their next domestic overnight trip will take place between <u>February to March 2024</u>
- April to June 2024 Intenders: Residents of the UK who claim their next domestic overnight trip will take place between <u>April to June 2024</u>

We also segment respondents by life stage and use the following definitions:

- Pre-Nesters: Aged 16-34 without children in household
- Families: Aged 16-64 with children in household
- Older Independents: Aged 35-64 without children in household
- Retirement age: Aged 65+



### February 2024: Scorecard of Key Metrics

Key Metrics	February 2024	Change since January 2023
% of UK adults stating 'WORST IS STILL TO COME' regarding the cost of living crisis	45%	+3%
Proportion intending a UK overnight trip at any point in the next 12 months	81%	+2%
Proportion intending an overseas overnight trip at any point in the next 12 months	65%	+1%
Preference for UK over overseas in the next 12 months (vs past 12 months)	32%	-1%
Took a domestic overnight trip in the past 12 months (February 2023 – January 2024)	65%	=
Net proportion of UK trips in the next 12 months vs the last 12 months [% 'more' minus % 'fewer' trips]	6%	=
Net proportion of overseas trips in the next 12 months vs the last 12 months [% 'more' minus % 'fewer' trips]	-13%	-3%*
Reduce the number of UK overnight trips due to cost of living crisis [NET 'fewer', 'not go', 'go day trips instead']	27%	+2%
Reduce the number of day trips due to cost of living crisis [NET 'fewer', 'not go on day trips']	32%	+1%
Top 3 barriers to taking a UK overnight trip in the next 6 months	1 <sup>st</sup> Rising cost of living; 2 <sup>nd</sup> UK weather 3 <sup>rd</sup> Personal Finances	None



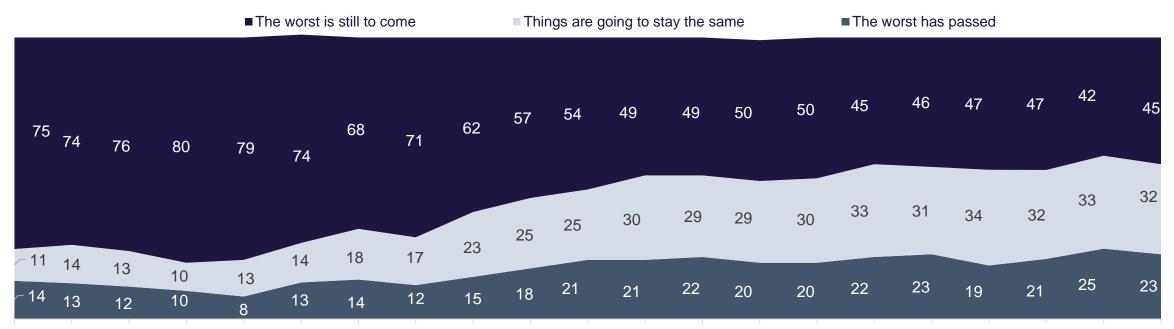


### **1. Current General Sentiment**



#### 45% think 'the worst is still to come' in relation to the cost-ofliving crisis, slightly more than last month but a lot lower than the same point a year ago

Figure 1. Perception of the situation with regards to cost of living crisis, Percentage wave-on-wave, UK

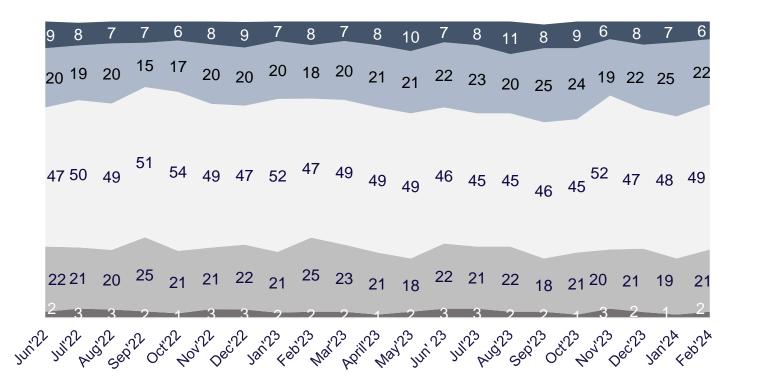


Jun'22 Jul'22 Aug'22 Sep'22 Oct'22 Nov'22 Dec'22 Jan'23 Feb'23 Mar'23 Apr'23 May '23 Jun' 23 Jul'23 Aug'23 Sep'23 Oct'23 Nov'23 Dec'23 Jan'24 Feb'24 20th Jul: 17th Aug: 14th Sep: 19th Oct: 16th Nov:14th Dec: 18th Jan: UK 15th Feb: 22nd 19th April: 24th May: 22nd June: 19th July: 20th 22<sup>nd</sup> Jun: 20<sup>th</sup> Sept – 14<sup>th</sup> Nov – 20<sup>th</sup> Dec – 19<sup>th</sup> Jan – UK inflation Fuel, milk UK inflation UK inflation UK UK Inflation Inflation August: inflation fellinflation fell inflation UK inflation eases UK March: UK UK inflation eases to hits 10.1%; inflation inflation to 10.5%: 2<sup>nd</sup> inflation inflation Inflation Inflation fell rate rate down Inflation to 6.7%. to 4.6%, has fallen has up to and eggs up to rose to 9.9% but 20th Oct: Liz up to eases to Feb: Bank of eases to jumps to fell to to 8.7% in remained to 7.9% in rate falls 10.1%, 40-vear steepest the lowest to 3.9% the 4.0%. This increases shoppersremains close Truss 11.1%, 10.7% but England 10.1% 10.4% duel 0.1% in April unchanged June sharply to mains the in two hiah of lowest in to 40-vear resigns; 25<sup>th</sup>41-year remains feel the to veg March at 8.7% in in 40 expects 9.1% 6.8% in same in vears. two years. Oct: Rishi high close to recession 'to hiah inflation hit shortages vears May July October. Sunak UK's 41-year be shorter and new prime high less severe' bvo minister

Question: Q7b: And now regarding the 'cost of living crisis' in the UK and the way it is going to change in the coming few months, which of the following best describes your opinion? Base: All respondents. February 2024 = 1,755

#### Due to the cost-of-living crisis, most of UK adults (70%) are either 'cautious and being very careful' (49%) or have been 'hit hard and are cutting back' (21%)





- I'm one of the lucky ones better off than before the crisis
- I'm alright the 'cost of living crisis' has not really affected me and confident it won't
- I'm cautious things are OK but I feel I have to be very careful
- I've been hit hard no option but to cut back on spending
- Although I've been hit hard and should cut back, I'll spend today and let tomorrow look after itself



Question: Q17: There has been a lot of talk about how the 'cost of living crisis has affected people's financial circumstances. If you had to choose, which ONE of the following statements would best describe your feelings about your own situation, right now? Base: All respondents. February 2024 = 1,755.



### **2. Trip Intentions: UK and Overseas**



#### **Overnight domestic trip** intentions are above the levels anticipated back in February 2023, 81% are planning a trip in the next 12 months compared to 72% a year earlier

Figure 5. Proportion anticipating going on any overnight UK trips, Percentage, February 2024, UK

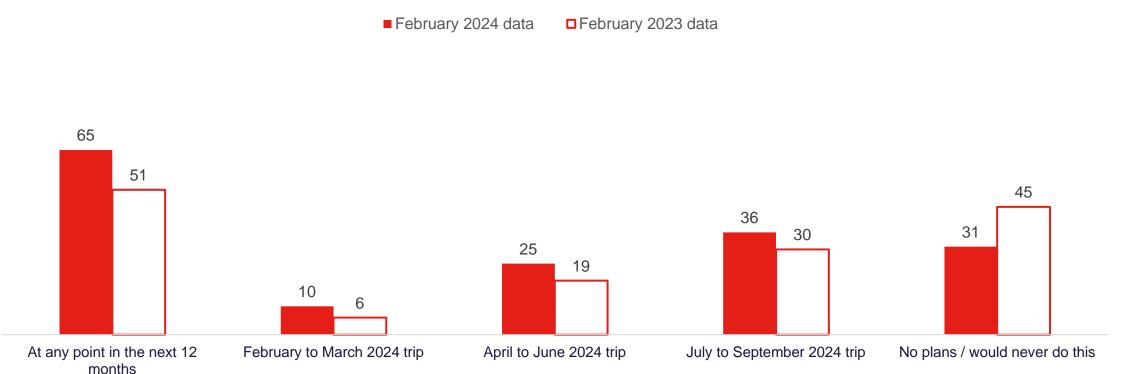


Question: QVB2a. Thinking of your next UK holiday or short break, when are you likely to go on this trip? QVB2b. And when else do you anticipate going on a UK holiday or short break? Base: All respondents. February 2023= 1,757, February 2024 = 1,755. Note: Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents anticipate taking multiple trips across several time periods.



#### For <u>overnight overseas trips</u>, intentions are also above 2023 levels, 65% are planning an overseas trip in the next 12 months compared to 51% the year before

Figure 5b. Proportion anticipating going on <u>any</u> overnight overseas trips, Percentage, February 2024, UK

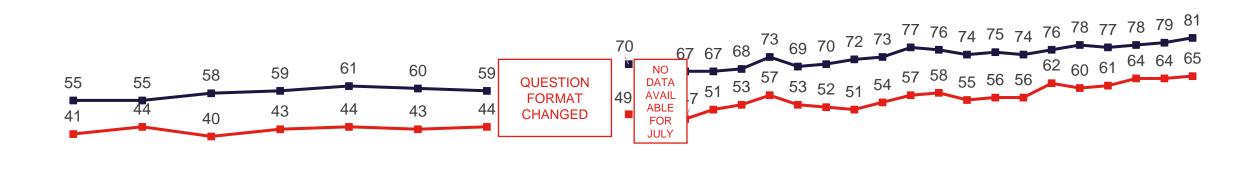


Question: QVB2c. Thinking of your next OVERSEAS holiday or short break, when are you likely to go on this trip? QVB2d. And when else do you anticipate going on an overseas holiday or short break? Base: All respondents. February 2023= 1,757, February 2024 = 1,755. Note: Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents anticipate taking multiple trips across several time periods.



#### Both long term domestic and overseas overnight trip intentions have improved significantly since last summer, and are now at their highest levels since we began tracking

Figure 6. Proportion anticipating going on any overnight UK and overseas trips in the NEXT 12 MONTHS, Percentage, February 2024, UK



Feb-22 Nov-21 Dec-21 Jan-22 Mar-22 Apr-22 May-22



Question: QVB2a. Thinking of your next UK holiday or short break, when are you likely to go on this trip? QVB2b. And when else do you anticipate going on a UK holiday or short break? QVB2c. Thinking of your next OVERSEAS holiday or short break, when are you likely to go on this trip? QVB2d. And when else do you anticipate going on an overseas holiday or short break? Base: All respondents February 2024 = 1,755. Note: Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents anticipate taking multiple trips across several time periods.



# At a 'net level', the number of intended domestic trips by UK adults is above those taken in the last 12 months – overseas intentions remain below

Figure 7. Number of <u>UK</u> overnight trips likely to take in next 12 months compared to last 12 months, Percentage, February 2024, UK

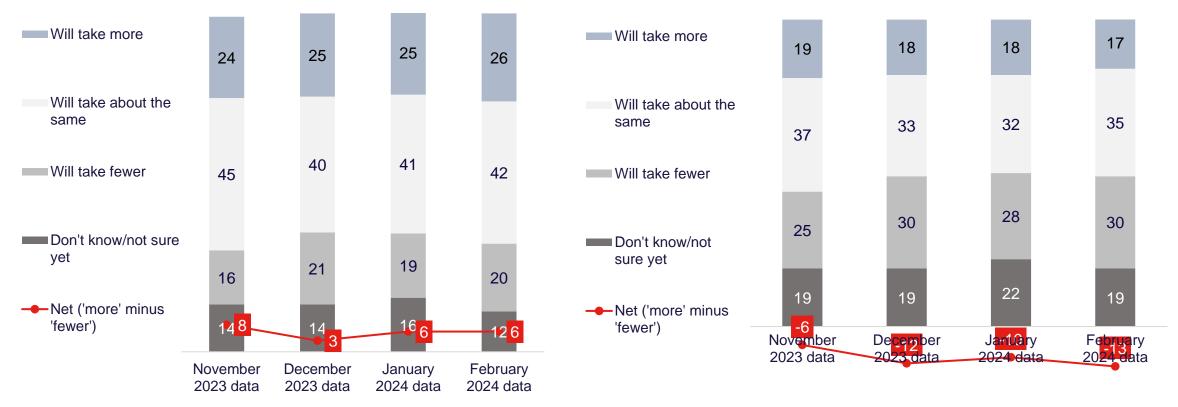


Figure 8. Number of <u>Overseas</u> overnight trips likely to take in next 12 months compared to last 12 months, Percentage, February 2024, UK



# 32% of respondents indicated they are more likely to choose a trip in the UK than overseas, compared to the last 12 months – the top reason being 'UK holidays are easier to plan' (55%)

Figure 9. Difference in short break/holiday choices in the next 6 months compared to last 12 months, Percentage, February 2024, UK

More likely to choose UK than overseas	s More likely to choose overseas than		Broadly the same as past 12 months		Don't know/It depends on the situation	
32		26		26		16

#### **TOP 5 reasons for UK preference**

- 1. UK holidays are easier to plan (55%)
  - 2. UK holidays are cheaper (51%)
  - 3. Shorter / quicker travel (45%)
- 4. To avoid long queues at airports/cancelled flights (36%)
- 5. I want to take holidays in places I am familiar with (24%)



- 1. Better weather (53%)
- 2. I want to visit new places/experience new cultures (40%)
  - 3. Overseas holidays are cheaper (29%)
- 4. I'm prioritising overseas trips after missing out in the last few years (20%)
  - 5. To visit friends or relatives (18%)

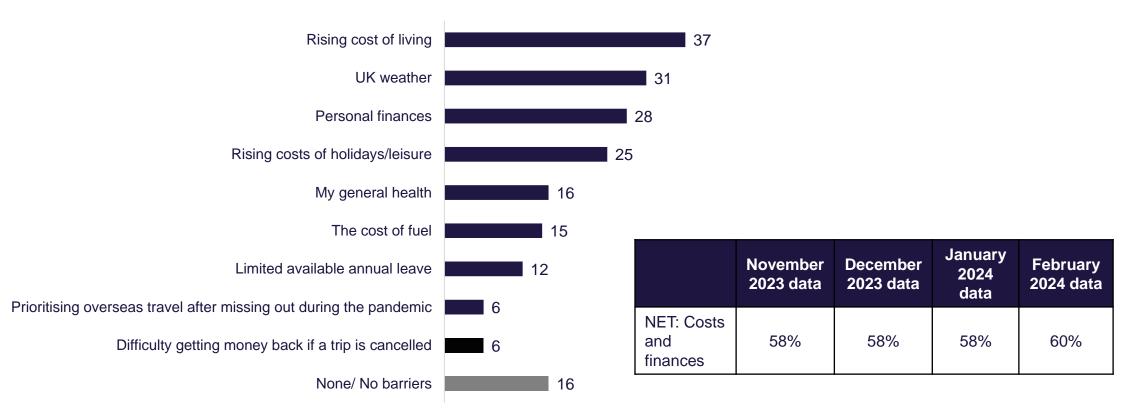
FOR THE FULL LIST OF REASONS, PLEASE SEE THE PUBLISHED TABLES.

Question: VB2j. Thinking of the next 12 months, how different do you think your short break/holiday choices will be compared to the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. February 2024 = 580. VB2k. Why are you more likely to choose a UK trip than an overseas trip? February 2024 = 454 VB2l. Why are you more likely to choose an overseas trip than a UK trip? February 2024 = 1,755.



# The top potential barrier to taking overnight UK trips in the next 6 months is the 'rising cost of living' (37%), followed by 'UK weather' (31%) and 'personal finances' (28%)

Figure 10. Top 10 Barriers to taking an overnight UK trip in next 6 months, Percentage, February 2024, UK



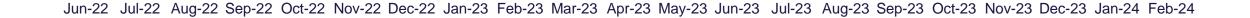
#### FOR THE FULL LIST OF BARRIERS, PLEASE SEE THE PUBLISHED TABLES.

Question: VB7b. Which, if any, of the following factors do you see as potential barriers to you taking a UK short break or holiday in the next six months? . Base: All asked each question. February 2024 = 1,755. \*NET: Cost and finances includes 'rising cost of living', 'personal finances', 'the cost of fuel', 'rising costs of holidays/leisure' and 'difficulty getting money back if a trip is cancelled'



# The 'rising cost of living' is the biggest financial barrier to taking an overnight domestic trip, followed by 'personal finances'

Figure 10b. Perceived financial barriers to an overnight trip in the UK in next 6 months, Wave-on-wave, Percentage, UK



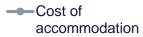




32

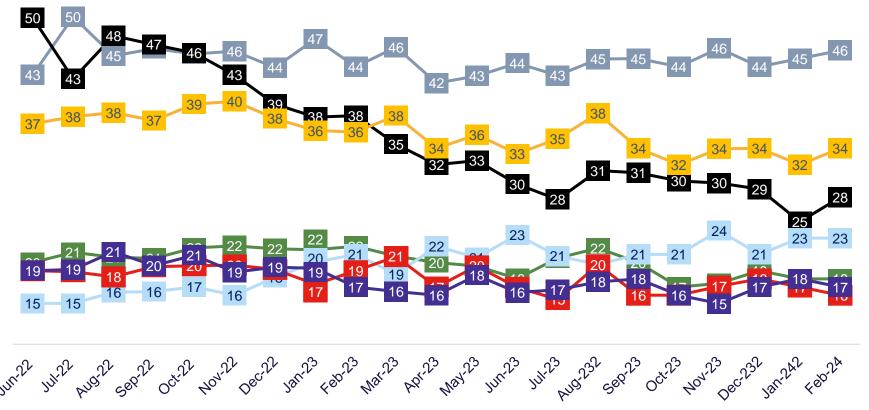
#### Focusing on barriers related directly to the cost of a domestic overnight trip, the 'cost of accommodation' remains at the top, followed by 'cost of drinking/eating out'

#### Figure 12. Individual costs barrier to taking UK holidays and short breaks in next 6 months, Wave-on-wave, Percentage, UK



- -Cost of fuel
- Cost of drinking/eating out
- Cost of visitor attractions
- None of these/No barriers
- Cost of activities

#### Cost of public transport





Question: VB7bii. Which, if any, of these costs are the main financial barriers to you taking a UK short break or holiday in the next six months? Base: February 2024 = 1,755.

# UK adults plan to cut their <u>overnight trip spending</u> mainly on accommodation, eating out and activities. 27% will cut the number of overnight trips they take

Figure 13a. 'Cost of living' impact on UK holidays and short breaks, Percentage, February 2024, UK, Full list





Question: VB7c. How, if at all, would you say the 'cost of living crisis' is likely to influence your UK short breaks or holidays in the next six months? Base: February 2024 = 1,755.

#### In terms of <u>UK day trips</u>, 26% of UK adults intend to look for more free things to do. 32% will reduce the number of day trips – in line with previous waves

#### Figure 13b. 'Cost of living' impact on day trips, Percentage, February 2024, UK, Full list



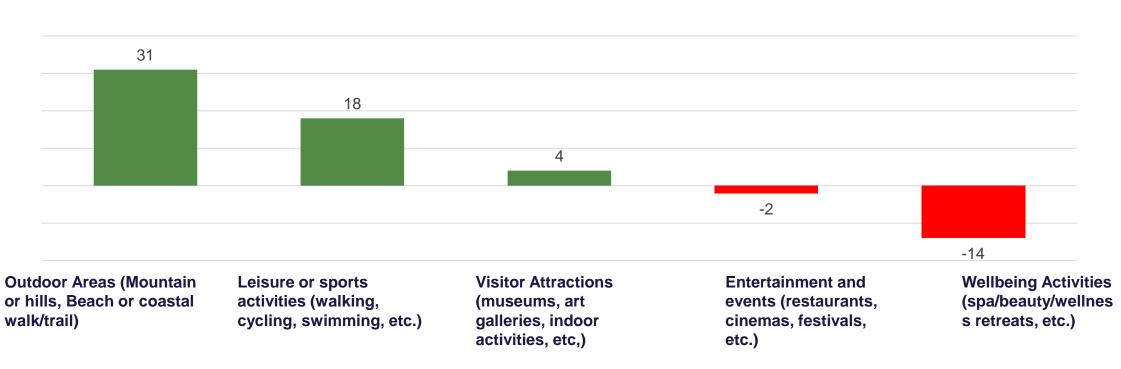
Reduce the	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
number of	2023	2023	2024	2024
day trips	data	data	data	data
NET 'fewer', 'not go on day trips'	33%	33%	31%	32%



Question: VB7Cii. How, if at all, would you say the 'cost of living crisis' is likely to influence your day trips in the next few months? Base: February 2024 = 1,755.

#### In the next 12 months, UK adults are more likely to visit outdoor areas, practice leisure/sports activities or visit attractions. They are less likely to take part in wellbeing activities

Figure 14. Leisure venues and activities more or less likely to visit/do compared to last 12 months, Net: 'more likely' minus 'Less likely', Percentage, UK, February 2024



Question: VB9ai. Thinking about your personal finances, which, if any, of these types of places in the UK are you more likely to visit in the next 12 months, compared to the last 12 months? VB9bi. Still thinking about your personal finances, which, if any, are you less likely to visit in the next 12 months compared to the last 12 months? VB10ai. Again thinking about your personal finances, which, if any, are you more likely to do in the next 12 months, compared to the last 12 months? VB10bi. And which, if any, are you less likely to do in the next 12 months, compared to the last 12 months? VB10bi. And which, if any, are you less likely to do in the next 12 months, compared to the last 12 months? VB10bi. And which, if any, are you less likely to do in the next 12 months compared to the last 12 months? VB10bi. And which, if any, are you less likely to do in the next 12 months. Compared to the last 12 months? VB10bi. And which, if any, are you less likely to do in the next 12 months. Compared to the last 12 months? VB10bi. And which, if any, are you less likely to do in the next 12 months. Compared to the last 12 months? VB10bi. And which, if any, are you less likely to do in the next 12 months. Compared to the last 12 months? VB10bi. And which, if any, are you less likely to do in the next 12 months.





### 3. The Next Trip: Overnight and Day Trips



# 54% of UK adults have already booked their <u>domestic</u> trips for March, while 74% have already booked their <u>overseas</u> trips for the same month

Figure 15. Planning and booking the next intended UK and overseas overnight trip, Percentage, February 2024, UK

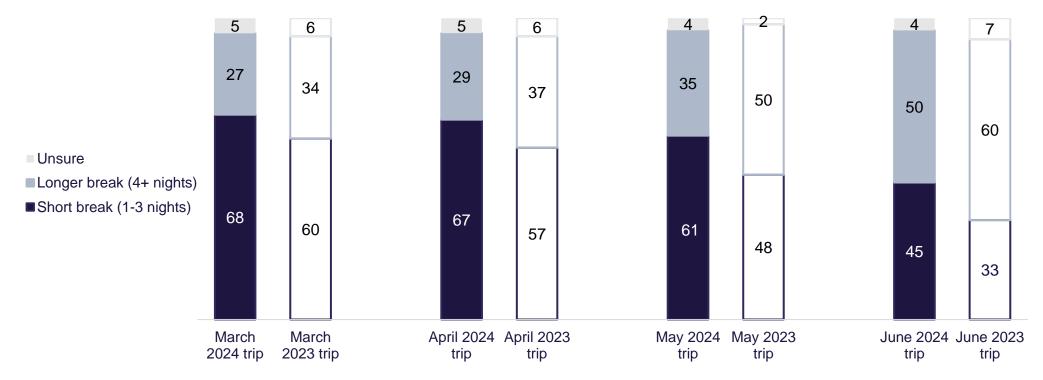


Question: VB2e. Which of the following best describes how close you are to booking your next overnight UK trip in <INSERT MONTH FROM VB2c(III)>? Base: UK trip:, March 2024 n = 197, April 2024 n = 205, May 2024 n = 186, June 2024 n = 181. VB2g. Which of the following best describes how close you are to booking your next overnight OVERSEAS trip in <INSERT MONTH FROM VB2c(III)? Base: Overseas trip: March 2024 n = 94, April 2024 n = 104, May 2024 n = 123, June 2024 n = 150.



#### Short breaks are more likely between March and May 2024, while longer breaks are preferred in June – this is relatively in line with a year ago except for May 2023

Figure 17. Length of next UK holiday or short break by time period, Percentage, February 2024, UK



Question: QVB3. Is this next trip to <INSERT DESTINATION FROM VB4A> in <INSERT MONTH FROM VB2A> likely to be a short break (1-3 nights) or a holiday (4+ nights)? Base: All February 2024 respondents intending to take next holiday or short break in each time period: UK trip 2023-2024: March 2024 n = 197, April 2024 n = 205, May 2024 n = 186, June 2024 n = 181; March 2023 n = 93, April 2023 n = 159, May 2023 n=166, June 2023 n=159.



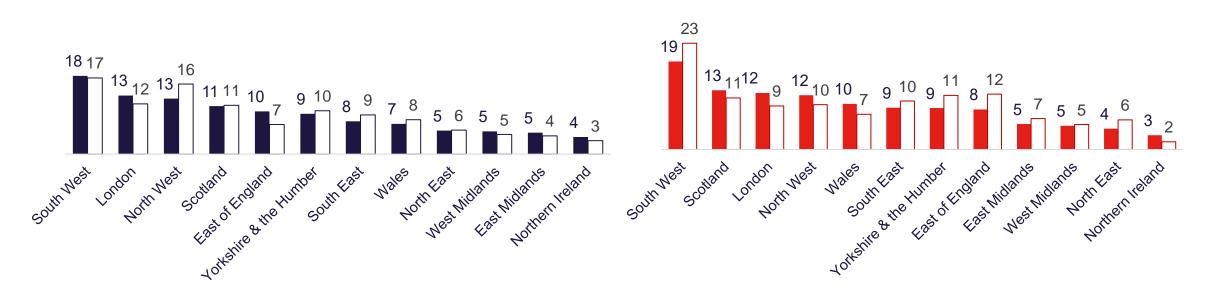
## The South West is the most preferred UK overnight destination for both February-March 2024 and April-June 2024 trips

Figure 18. Where planning on staying on next UK overnight <u>trip in</u> <u>February to March 2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024, UK

January / February 2024 data
 January / February 2023 data

Figure 19. Where planning on staying on next UK overnight <u>trip</u> <u>in April to June 2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024, UK

January / February 2024 data
 January / February 2023 data



Question: QVB4a. Where in the UK are you likely to stay on this next trip in <insert month>?

Base: All January 2024 and February 2024 respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK February to March 2023 n = 404, April to June 2023 n = 988; February to March 2024 n = 606, April to June 2024 n = 1,127. Note: Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents anticipate staying in more than one location.



# The top destination type for overnight trips for February-March 2024 is 'City or large town', while it is 'Countryside or village' for the April-June 2024 period

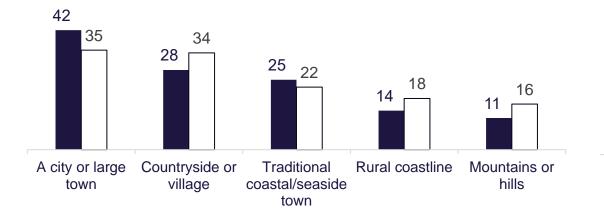
Figure 20. Types of destination for <u>trip in February to March</u> <u>2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024, UK

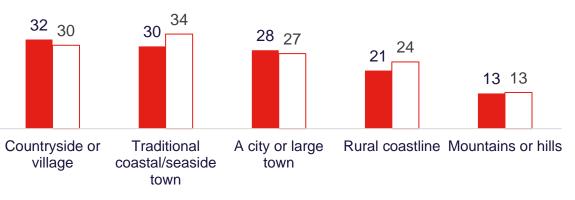
January / February 2024 data

□ January / February 2023 data

Figure 21. Types of destination for overnight <u>trip in April to June</u> <u>2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024, UK

January / February 2024 data
 January / February 2023 data





Question: VB5. Which of the following best describes the main types of destinations you are likely to stay in during your next UK holiday or short break in <INSERT DESTINATION FROM VB4A> in <INSERT MONTH FROM VB2A>? Base: All January 2024 and February 2024 respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK in the UK February to March 2023 n = 404, April to June 2023 n = 988; February to March 2024 n = 606, April to June 2024 n = 1,127.

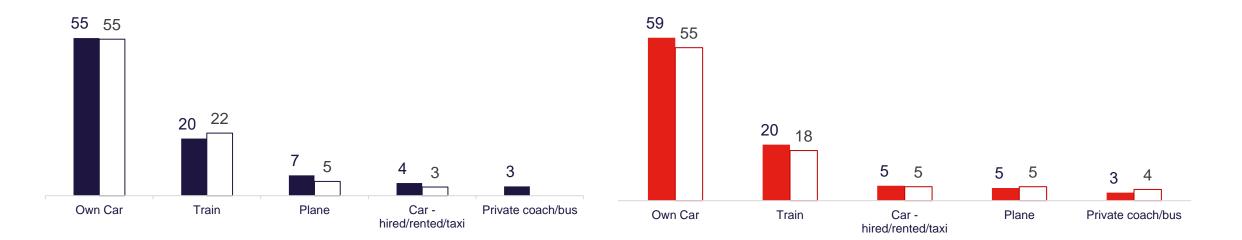


## For both time periods, own car is the most common mode of travel, followed by train

Figure 22. Top 5 main modes of travel to destination for <u>trip in</u> <u>February to March 2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024, UK

■ January / February 2024 data □ January / February 2023 data Figure 23. Top 5 main modes of travel to destination for overnight <u>trip in April to June 2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024, UK

January / February 2024 data
 January / February 2023 data



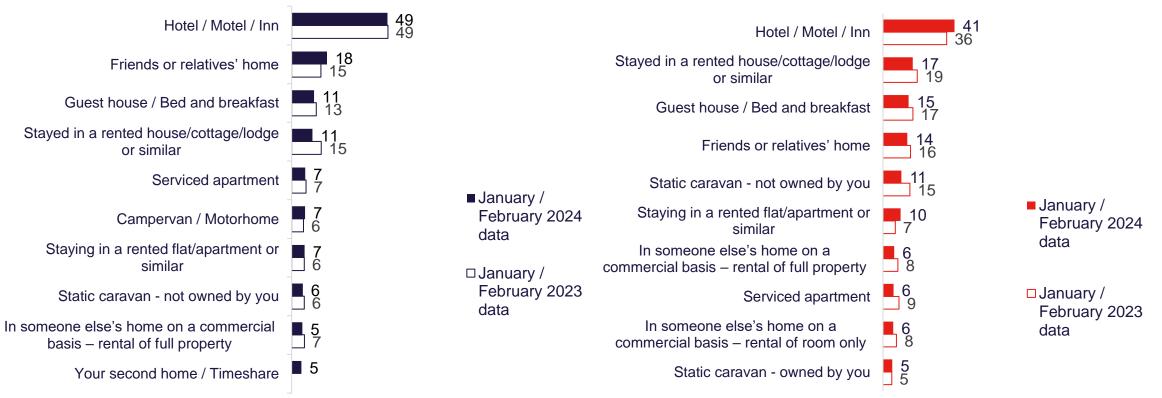
#### FOR THE FULL LIST OF MODES OF TRANSPORT, PLEASE SEE THE PUBLISHED TABLES.

Question: VB4c. What do you anticipate being the main mode of travel to your next UK holiday or short break in <INSERT DESTINATION FROM VB4A> in <INSERT MONTH FROM VB2a>? Base: All January 2024 and February 2024 respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK between February to March 2023 n = 404, April to June 2023 n = 988; February to March 2024 n = 606, April to June 2024 n = 1,127.



## For the next overnight trip in both time periods, 'hotel / motel / inn' is the leading accommodation type

Figure 24. Top 10 accommodation types planning on staying in on next UK overnight <u>trip in February to March 2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024, UK Figure 25. Top 10 accommodation types planning on staying in on next UK overnight <u>trip in April to June 2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024,, UK



FOR THE FULL LIST OF ACCOMMODATION TYPES, PLEASE SEE THE PUBLISHED TABLES.

Question: VB6a. What type/s of accommodation do you expect to be staying in during your next UK holiday or short break in <INSERT DESTINATION FROM VB4A> in <INSERT MONTH FROM VB2A>? Base: All January 2024 and February 2024 respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK between February to March 2023 n = 404, April to June 2023 n =988; February to March 2024 n = 606, April to June 2024 n = 1,127.

#### 'Partner' is the most common companion on a trip during both time periods, followed by 'child, grandchild or young adult'

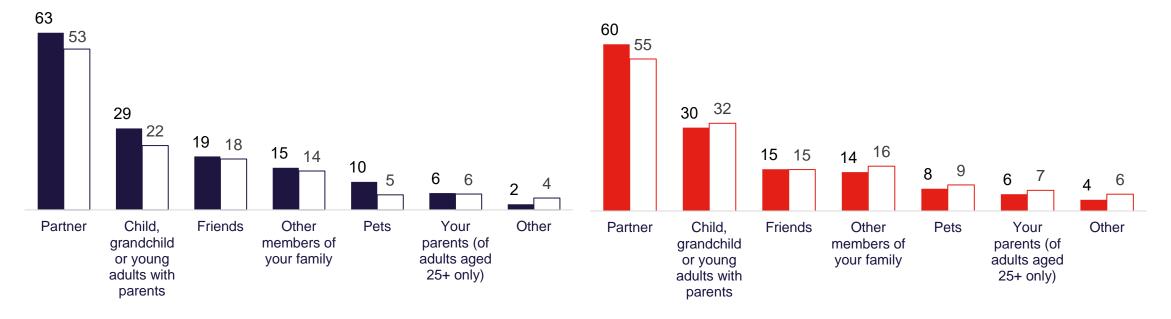
Figure 26. Visitor party make-up for <u>trip in February to March</u> <u>2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024, UK

January / February 2024 data

□ January / February 2023 data

Figure 27. Visitor party make-up for <u>trip in April to June 2024</u>, Percentage, January 2024 and February 2024, UK

January / February 2024 data
 January / February 2023 data



Question: QVB4d. With whom are you likely to spend your next UK holiday or short break in <INSERT DESTINATION FROM VB4A> in <INSERT MONTH FROM VB2a> ? Base: All January 2024 and February 2024 respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK between February to March 2023 n = 404, April to June 2023 n =988; February to March 2024 n = 606, April to June 2024 n = 1,127.

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# Family connection time continues to be the most important trip motivator, as well as escapism and rest. For spring trips, connecting with nature / the outdoors is key for a quarter.

#### Figure 28. Motivations for UK holidays and short breaks <u>in February to</u> <u>March 2024</u>, Percentage, February 2024, UK, Full list

Figure 29. Motivations for UK holidays and short breaks <u>in April to June</u> <u>2024</u>, Percentage, February 2024, UK, Full list



Question: VB6fii. Which of the following best describe your motivation/s for this trip?

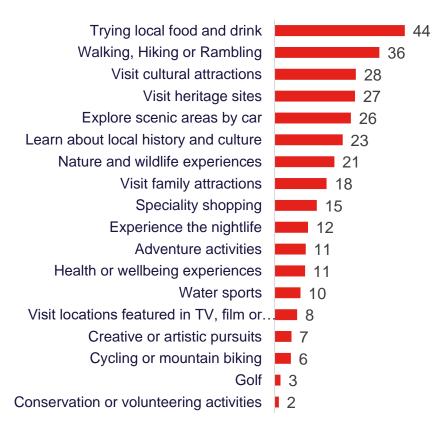
Base: All February 2024 respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK between February to March 2024 n = 307, April to June 2024 n = 572. Note: Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100%.

#### 'Trying local food and drink', followed by 'Walking, hiking or rambling' are the top activities planned for trips this winter and spring.

#### Figure 30. Activities for UK holidays and short breaks, <u>in</u> <u>February-March 2024</u>, Percentage, February 2024, UK, Full list

Trying local food and drink	
Walking, Hiking or Rambling	35
Visit heritage sites	31
Visit cultural attractions	28
Explore scenic areas by car	23
Visit family attractions	21
Experience the nightlife	18
Nature and wildlife experiences	16
Learn about local history and culture	16
Speciality shopping	16
Adventure activities	10
Health or wellbeing experiences	9
Visit locations featured in TV, film or.	. 8
Creative or artistic pursuits	<b>7</b>
Cycling or mountain biking	<b>6</b>
Water sports	<b>5</b>
Golf	12
Conservation or volunteering activities	12

#### Figure 31. Activities for UK holidays and short breaks <u>in April-June 2024</u>, Percentage, February 2024, UK, Full list



Question: VB6fiii. Which, if any, of these activities are you likely to do on your next UK short break or holiday in <INSERT MONTH FROM VB2A>? Base: All February 2024 respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK between February to March 2024 n = 307, April to June 2024 n = 572. Note: Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100%.

43



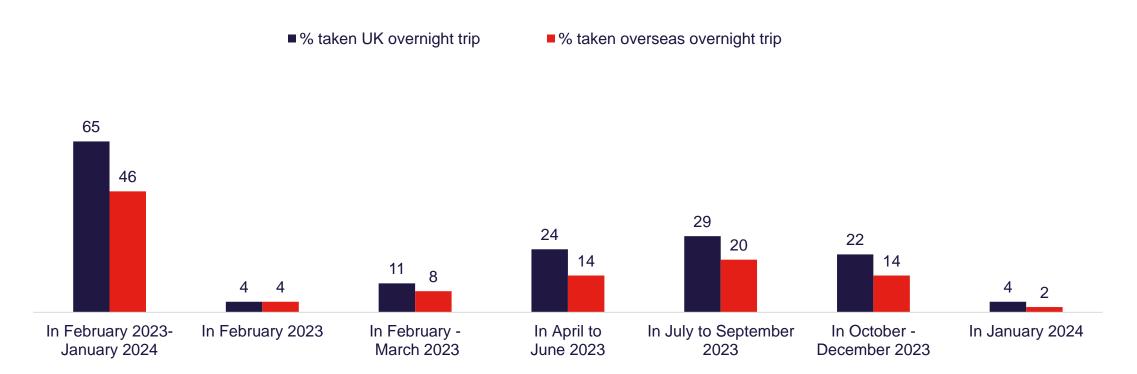


### 4. Past UK and Overseas Trips



#### Almost two thirds (65%) have taken a UK overnight trip between February 2023 and January 2024, while 46% have taken an overseas overnight trip during the same time period

Figure 32. Proportion UK adult population who have taken an overnight UK or overseas trip in below time period, Percentage, February 2024, UK



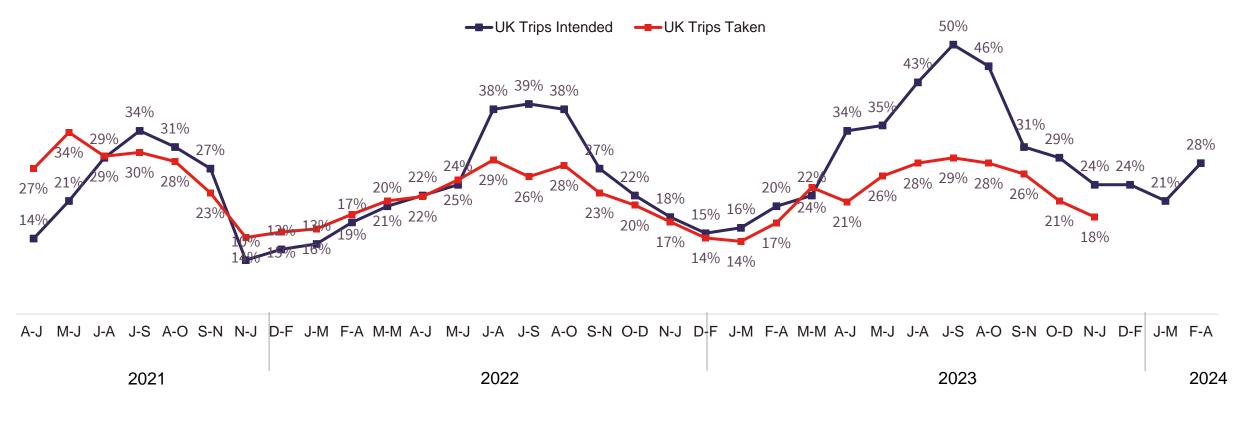
Question: VB13a/f. Now reflecting on your recent behaviour, have you taken an overnight short break or holiday in the UK/overseas in the last 12 months? VB13a2/g. In which of these months have you taken an overnight short break or holiday in the UK in the last 12 months? Base: All respondents February 2024 = 1,755.

Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents anticipate taking more than one trip



#### 18% of respondents went on a domestic overnight trip between November 2023 and January 2024, compared to 24% who had previously intended to do so

Figure 32b. Incidence of UK short breaks or holidays intended within next 3 month and taken in last 3 months of UK adult population, Percentage, February 2024, UK



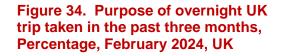
VB2a. Thinking of the next UK/overseas holiday or short break you are likely to take, when are you likely to plan, book and go on this trip?

VB13a: Now reflecting on your recent behaviour, have you taken an overnight short break or holiday in the UK in the last 12 months? Base: All UK respondents = 1755. Data shows the proportion intending to take a trip within the next 3 months – this will not account for intentions established less than 3 months ahead of trip date – and trips taken. Actual trips taken is only available from April 2021 up to December 2023.



#### London, the South West and the North West were the most popular destination for domestic trips in the past three months, and the main purpose was for holiday/leisure

Figure 33. Destination of overnight trips taken in UK in the past three months, Percentage, February 2024, UK





Question: VB13c. Where in the UK did you stay on your most recent trip in <INSERT MOST RECENT MONTH>? VB13e. And which of the following best describe the purpose/s of your most recent trip in <INSERT MOST RECENT MONTH >?

Base: All February 2024 respondents that took an overnight trips in the last three months n= 302

Note: Multiple choice questions. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents stayed in more than one location or travelled for more than one purpose





# **5. Overnight Business Trip Intentions** (January 2024 data)



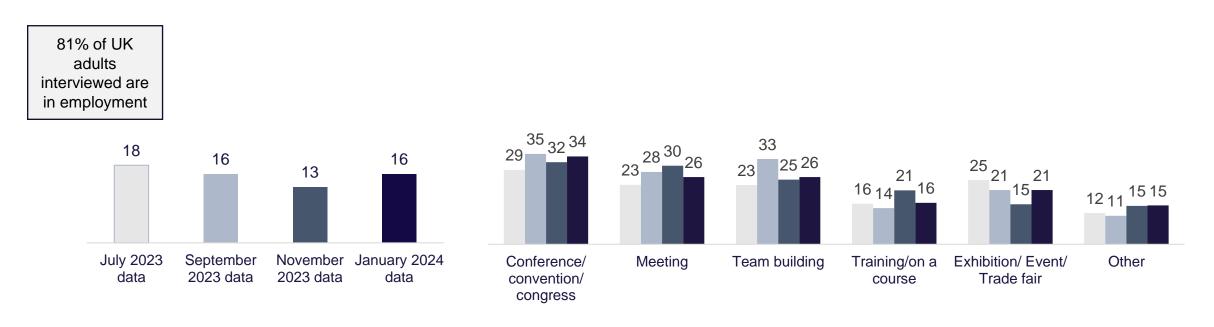
Note: \* Overnight Business Trip Intentions questions are asked every second month

#### 16% of UK adults in employment plan on taking an overnight business trip in the next 3 months. 'Conference' is the leading reason (34%), followed by 'Meeting' and 'Team Building' (26%)

Figure 35. Proportion anticipating an overnight business trip in next 3 months, Percentage, January 2024, <u>UK adults in employment</u>

Figure 36. Reasons for taking an overnight business trip in next 3 months, Percentage, January 2024, UK adults in employment planning a trip

July 2023 data September 2023 data November 2023 data January 2024 data



Question: VB14a. Now looking ahead again, are you intending to take any overnight business trips in the UK in the next three months? Please only answer yes if the overnight business trips are not a feature of your job. For example, if you are a long-distance lorry driver, airline crew or delivery service, an overnight stay would be a feature of the job so you would answer 'no'. Please also answer 'no' if your only overnight business trip is a regular trip to your main place of work (e.g. a weekly or monthly trip to your office).Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents anticipate more than one business reason.





### **Methodology & Further Data**



### Methodology

- This report presents findings from the February 2024 wave of the Domestic Sentiment Tracker, with comparisons to previous months where appropriate.
- The survey is conducted online, among a sample of the UK adult population.
- In the first stage, a nationally representative core sample of 1,500 is recruited and interviewed. This sample is then 'boosted' for Wales and Scotland to ensure sufficient base sizes for separate nation analysis. The data are then weighted to make the sample representative of the UK overall and within each nation.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- The current 6th phase of this project started in April 2023 and will run until March 2024.
- With this newly commissioned phase, the questionnaire was updated to address the cost of living crisis' impact on trips intentions. It also covers the preference for domestic vs overseas overnight trips.
- Please note that because of the questionnaire updates, some questions are not comparable between this 6<sup>th</sup> phase and the previous phases / waves.



#### **Master Data Table**

- The full data tables are published on the VisitBritain website alongside this report and questions' data not shown in this report are available to view there: <a href="https://www.visitbritain.org/domestic-sentiment-tracker">https://www.visitbritain.org/domestic-sentiment-tracker</a>
  - Extra questions available in the tables are:
  - VB1b. Likely to spend more, less or about the same on holidays in the next 12 months, vs last 12 months
  - VB9a/b. More/Less likely to visit leisure places in the UK in the next 12 months, vs last 12 months
  - VB10a/b. More/Less likely to conduct leisure activities in the UK in the next 12 months, vs last 12 months
- To access a .csv file of the data contained within the charts, please open this report with Adobe Reader.
  When you have done so, navigate to the left-hand side of the page to the attachments area, symbolised by a paperclip icon, and click on the file to open the attachment.

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