Domestic Sentiment Tracker

June 2022

Published: 24th June 2022

Fieldwork Period: 8th – 14th June 2022

UK Results







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Introduction

- VisitEngland, VisitScotland and Visit Wales have commissioned a Domestic Sentiment Tracker to understand the impact of major events such as the rising cost of living crises 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 of 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 8th 14th June 2022.
- 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





Methodology note

- The June wave is the first wave of the new, fifth, phase. This phase will run until March 2022
- With this newly commissioned phase, the questionnaire was updated to address the cost of living crises impact on trips intentions. It now also covers the preference for domestic vs overseas overnight trips.
- Please note that as a result of the questionnaire updates, some questions are not comparable between June and the previous waves.
- This affects for example sl. 12 Trips Intentions by month to make space for new, more topical questions, this question was simplified and this small structural change means that we cannot compare June vs May.



Definitions used within this report

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

- July to September 2022 Intenders: Residents of the UK who claim their next domestic overnight trip will take place between <u>July and September 2022</u>
- October to December 2022 Intenders: Residents of the UK who claim their next domestic overnight trip will take place between October and December 2022





June 2022: Scorecard of Key Metrics

Key Metrics	June 2022	Change since May 2022
Perceptions of the situation regarding Covid-19 (% stating 'worst is still to come')	19%	+5%*
Perceptions of the situation regarding cost of living crisis (% stating 'worst is still to come')	75%	N/A
Comfort with everyday activities (average score out of 4)	3.2	+0.1
Confidence in ability to take UK overnight trip in July / August / September (% NET confident)	76% / 76% / 77%	0 / -1% / 0
Confidence in ability to take overseas overnight trip in July / August / September (% NET confident)	52% / 52% / 56%	-8%* / -11%* / -5%*
Number of UK trips in the next 12 months vs pre-pandemic [% 'more' minus % 'fewer' trips] A	+17	N/A
Number of overseas trips in the next 12 months vs pre-pandemic [% 'more' minus % 'fewer' trips] ^A	-14	N/A
Proportion intending a UK overnight trip in next 12 months [%] A	70%	N/A
Proportion intending an overseas overnight trip in next 12 months [%] ^A	49%	N/A
Top 3 barriers to taking a UK overnight trip from July to September ^A	1 st - Rising cost of living; 2 nd - Personal Finances; 3 rd - The cost of fuel	N/A

NOTE: A QUESTION WORDING HAS CHANGED, DATA COMPARISON VS PREVIOUS MONTHS IS NOT POSSIBLE

^{*} Represents a statistically significant change on previous wave







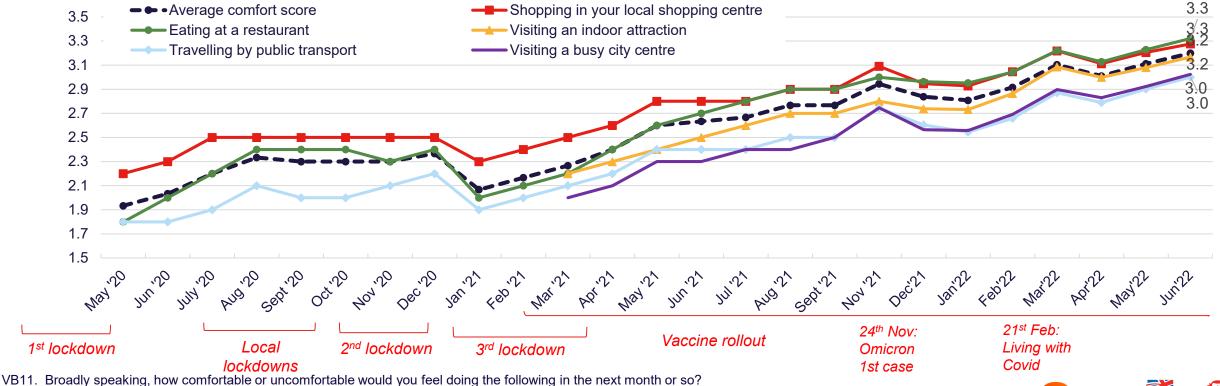
1. Current General Sentiment



Comfort levels with everyday activities

Comfort levels with all 'everyday activities' continue to improve after the drop in April and are now exceeding levels reported in May – each at their highest level since the start of the pandemic.

Figure 1. Level of comfort conducting a range of activities separately and combined, average score where 1= not at all comfortable doing activity and 4= very comfortable doing activity, average wave-on-wave, UK



Base: All respondents excluding those stating 'don't know' or who wouldn't do activity under any circumstances. Mean average based on those that gave a score of 1-4. June 2022 = 1,756 All other months n=c,1750. Pre June 2020, research was conducted by BVA BDRC with base size of c.750

Note: These questions were not asked in October 2021



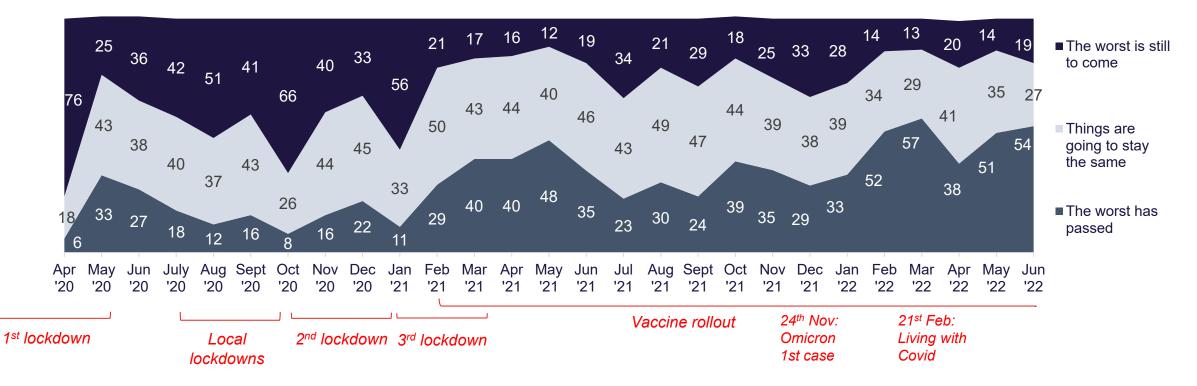




Perceptions of the situation relating to COVID-19

From May to June, the proportion of those who think 'the worst has passed' in relation to COVID-19 has increased from 51% to 54% - the second highest since the start of the pandemic.

Figure 2. Perception of the situation with regards to COVID-19, Percentage wave-on-wave, UK







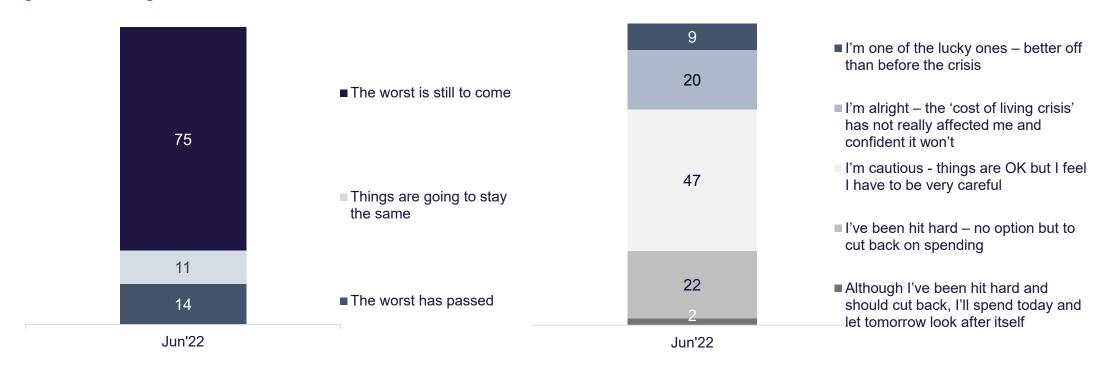


Perceptions of the situation relating to 'cost of living crisis'

Three quarters (75%) of UK adults think 'the worst is still to come' in relation to the 'cost of living crisis'. 47% feel things 'are OK' but 'they have to be careful', with further 22% saying they've already been 'hit hard'.

Figure 3. Perception of the situation with regards to cost of living crisis, Percentage, UK

Figure 4. Feelings about situation during the 'cost of living crisis', Percentage, June 2022, UK













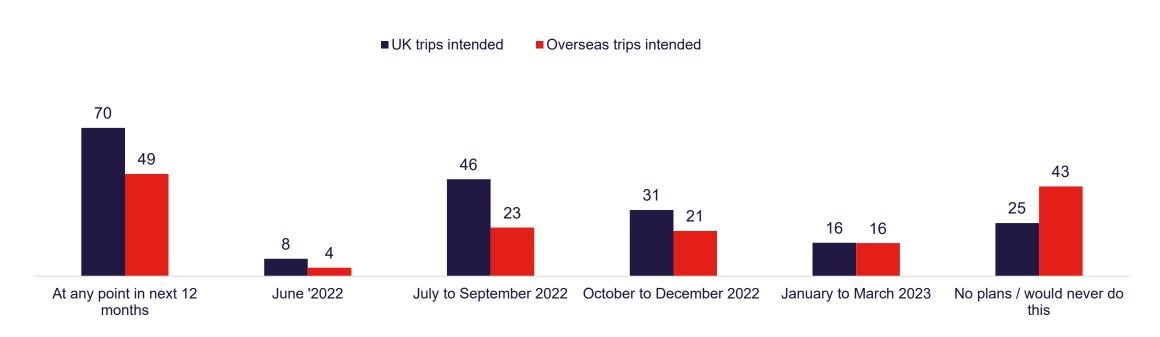
2. Trip Intentions: UK and overseas



Overnight trips intentions

7 in 10 (70%) of UK adults plan on taking an overnight domestic trip in the next 12 months, significantly more than the 49% planning to take an overnight overseas trip in this period. Most of the UK trips are expected to take place between July and September 2022.

Figure 5. Proportion anticipating going on any overnight UK and overseas trips, Percentage, June 2022, UK



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. June 2022 = 1,756 Note: Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents anticipate taking multiple trips across several time periods.





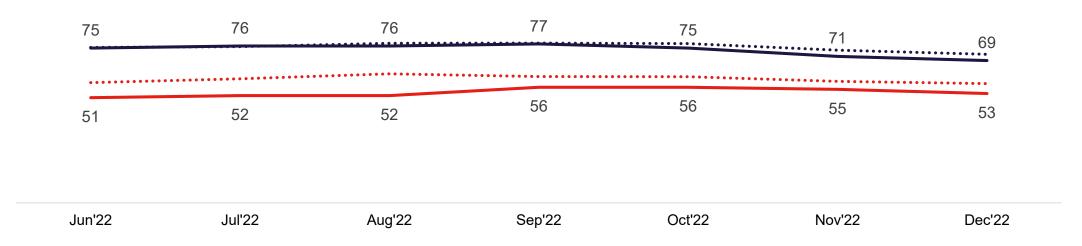


Confidence in the ability to take an overnight trip

Overnight trip confidence levels for domestic trips are broadly in line with those recorded in May, with c.75% confident that a domestic trip would go ahead between June and October. Confidence for overseas trip is lower than recorded in May.













Anticipated number of UK and overseas trips in next 12 months compared to pre-pandemic

31% of UK adults intend to take more domestic overnight trips in the next 12 months compared to before the pandemic, while 30% intend to take fewer overseas trips, suggesting a switch from overseas to domestic travel.

Figure 7. Number of <u>UK</u> overnight trips likely to take in next 12 months compared to pre-pandemic, Percentage, June 2022, UK

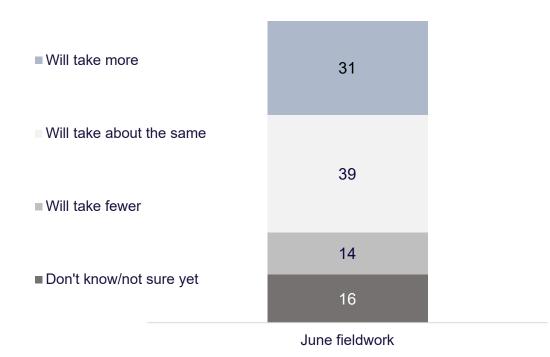
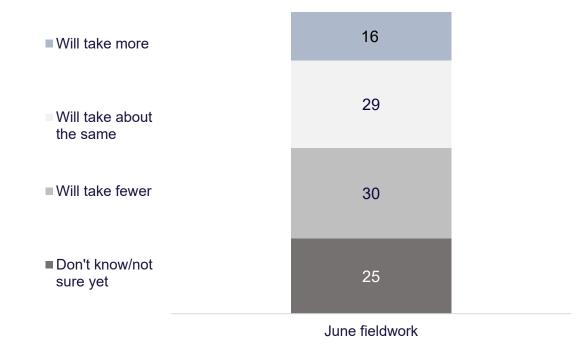


Figure 8. Number of <u>Overseas</u> overnight trips likely to take in next 12 months compared to pre-pandemic, Percentage, June 2022, UK









Anticipated change in UK and overseas trips in next 6 months compared to pre-pandemic

39% of respondents indicated they are more likely to choose a UK trip than an overseas trip, compared to pre-pandemic. The top reasons for UK preference is 'UK holidays are easier to plan' (65%), and 'avoiding long queues at airports/cancelled flights' (54%). For the 21% that would choose an overseas trip over a UK trip, the main reason is 'better weather' (41%).

Figure 9. Difference in short break/holiday choices in the next 6 months compared to pre-pandemic, Percentage, June 2022, UK

■ More likely to choose UK than overseas ■ More likely to choose overseas than UK ■ Broadly the same as pre-pandemic ■ Don't know/It depends on the situation

39
21
26
15

TOP 5 reasons for UK preference

- 1. UK holidays are easier to plan (65%)
- 2. Avoiding long queues at airports/cancelled flights (54%)
 - 3. UK holidays are cheaper (47%)
 - 4. Shorter / quicker travel (42%)
- 5. Uncertainty around restrictions at overseas destinations (37%)

TOP 5 reasons for Overseas preference

- 1. Better weather (41%)
- 2. I want to visit new places (35%)
- 3. Overseas holidays are cheaper (33%)
- 4. I want to explore other cultures (30%)
- 5. I'm prioritising overseas trips after missing out during the pandemic (25%)

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



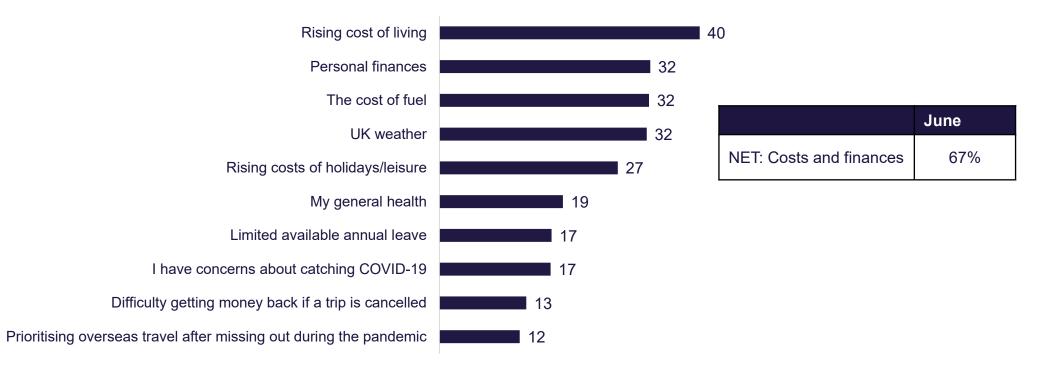




Perceived barriers to taking overnight UK trips in next 6 months

The 'rising cost of living' is the biggest perceived barrier to taking overnight UK trips in the next 6 months (40% stating this), followed by 'personal finances' (32%) and 'the cost of fuel' (32%). At a net level, 'costs and finances' were cited as a barrier by 67%.

Figure 10. Top 10 Barriers to taking an overnight UK trip in next 6 months, Percentage, June 2022, UK



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



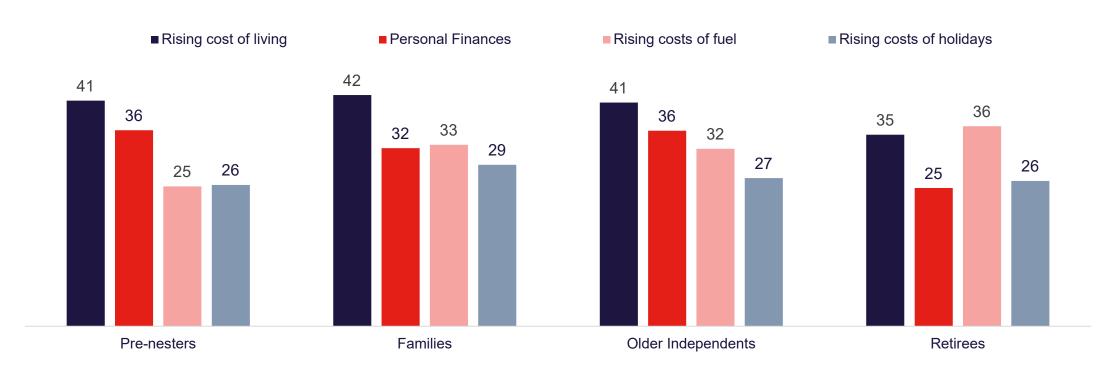




Finance related barriers to taking overnight UK trips in next 6 months

The 'rising cost of living' is the top financial barrier across all segments, except for the retirees whose top barrier is 'rising cost of fuel'.

Figure 11. <u>Perceived financial barriers</u> as a potential barrier to taking an overnight trip in the UK <u>in next 6 months</u>, Percentage, June, UK



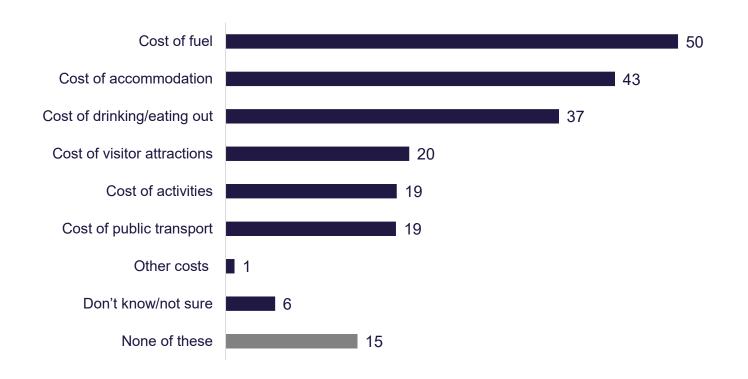




Individual costs barriers to taking overnight UK trips in next 6 months

Focusing only on costs related to overnight trips, 'cost of fuel' is the main barrier to taking overnight UK trips in the next 6 months (50%), followed by 'cost of accommodation' (43%) and 'cost of drinking/eating out' (37%).

Figure 12. Individual costs barrier to taking UK holidays and short breaks in next 6 months, Percentage, June 2022, UK, Full list





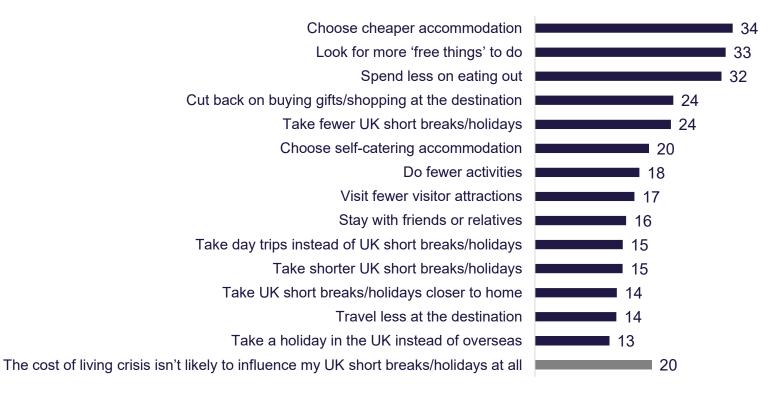




'Cost of living crises' impact on the choice of UK overnight trips in the next 6 months

As a result of the 'cost of living crisis', 34% of UK adults say they will 'choose cheaper accommodation' when planning a UK overnight trip in the next 6 months. 33% expect to 'look for more free things to do' and 32% plan to 'spend less on eating out'. 20% say it would have no influence on their choice of destination.

Figure 13. 'Cost of living' impact on choice of destination/s for UK holidays and short breaks, Percentage, June 2022, UK, Full list





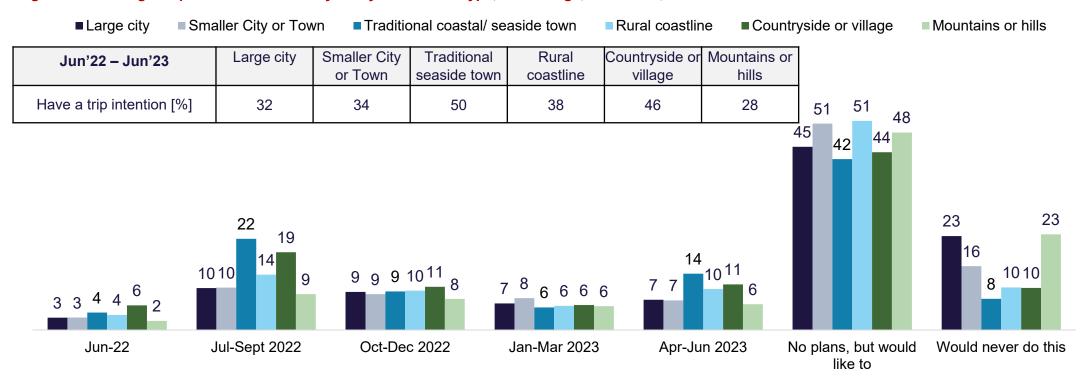




All potential UK overnight trips intentions by destination

Overnight domestic trip intention peaks between July and September 2022, most notably for a 'traditional coastal / seaside town' – 22% planning on taking an overnight trip to this destination type in this period.

Figure 14. Overnight trips intentions in next year by destination type, Percentage, June 2022, UK













3. The Next Trip - Overnight and Day Trips



Planning and booking for next intended overnight trips in the UK / overseas

The majority of intenders have already booked their UK (71%) and overseas (73%) trips in July. Trip bookings tend to drop further into the year, with the proportion 'decided where to go but not yet booked' increasing.

Figure 15. Planning and booking the next intended UK and overseas overnight trip, Percentage, June 2022, UK





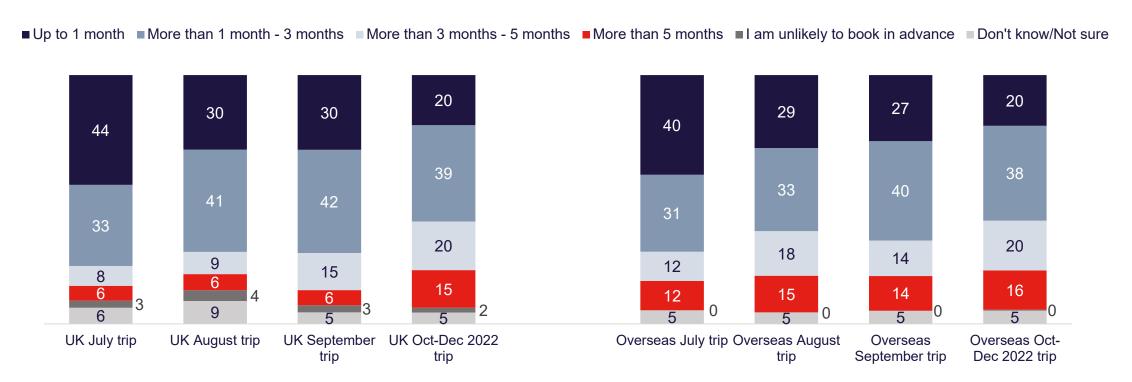


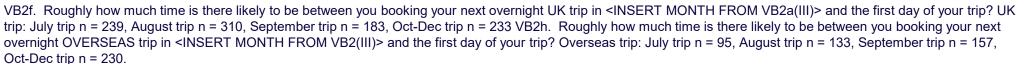


Lead time from booking till the next trip

There is a shorter lead time between booking and going on July overnight trips compared to trips further in the future. The closer to the intended trip's start, the stronger are the intentions and consequently soft plans turn to firm bookings.

Figure 16. Time between booking the next UK and overseas overnight trip and first day of that trip, Percentage, June 2022, UK







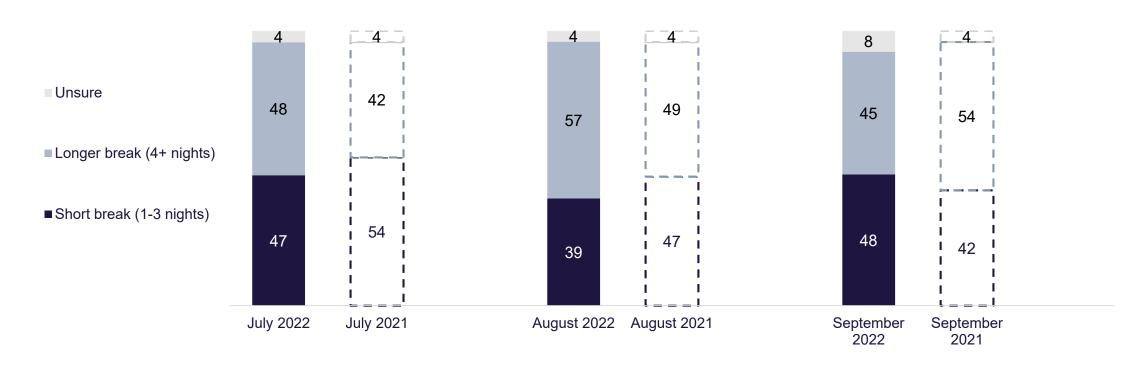




Duration of the next overnight trip in UK

UK overnight trips planned for July 2022 are as likely to be longer breaks as they are short breaks. In August, longer breaks make up a majority, with September relatively equally split.

Figure 17. Length of next UK holiday or short break by time period, Percentage, June 2022, UK









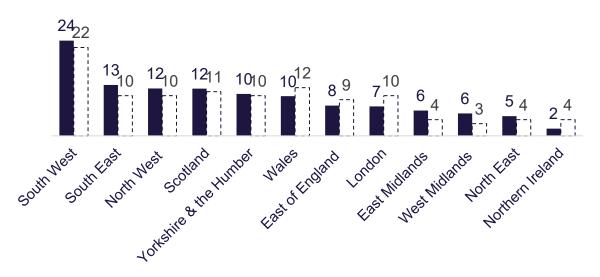
Where planning on staying on the next overnight trip in the UK

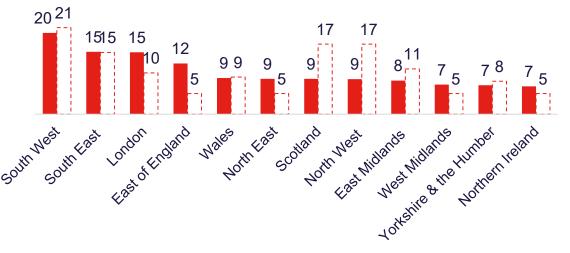
The South West is the most preferred UK overnight destination for trips between July and September 2022 (24% of intenders planning a trip there), and it remains the top destination between October to December 2022 (20% intending to take a trip there).

Figure 18. Where planning on staying on next UK overnight <u>trip in</u> <u>July to September 2022</u>, Percentage, June 2022, UK

Figure 19. Where planning on staying on next UK overnight <u>trip</u> in October to December 2022, Percentage, June 2022, UK

■ June 2022 □ June 2021











Main mode of transport for the next overnight trip in the UK

Across both time periods, 'own car' is by far the leading main mode of transport for travelling to an overnight destination, followed by 'train' for both periods.

Figure 20. Top 5 main modes of travel to destination for <u>trip in</u> July to September 2022, Percentage, June 2022, UK

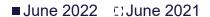
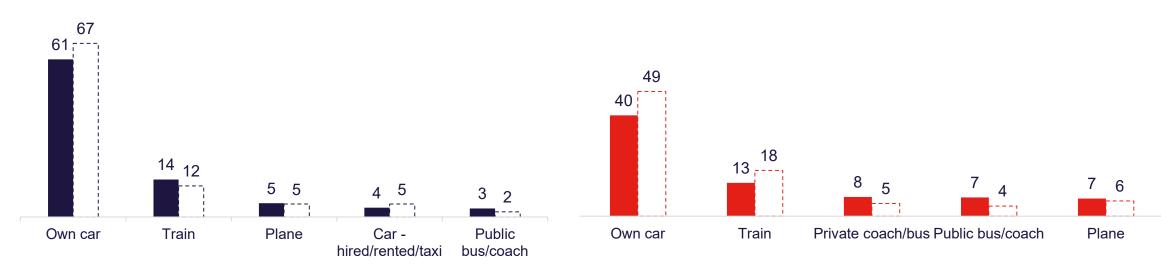


Figure 21. Top 5 main modes of travel to destination for <u>trip in</u> October to December 2022, Percentage, June 2022, UK





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







Accommodation type for the next overnight trip in the UK

For the next overnight trip between July and September 2022, 'Hotel/motel/inn' is the leading accommodation type, following by 'friends/relatives' home'. For October to December 2022 trips, the leading accommodation type is a 'hotel/motel/inn', followed by 'friends or relatives home'.

Figure 22. Top 10 accommodation types planning on staying in on next UK overnight <u>trip in July to September 2022</u>, Net Percentage, June 2022, UK

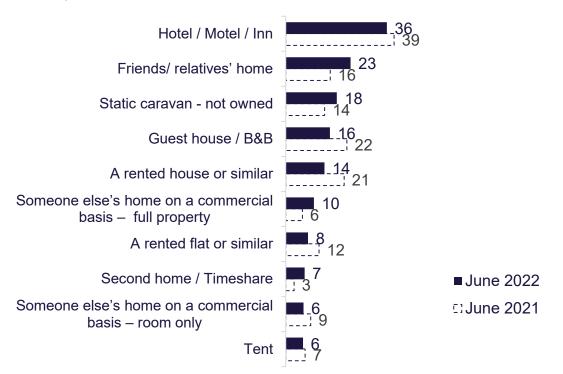
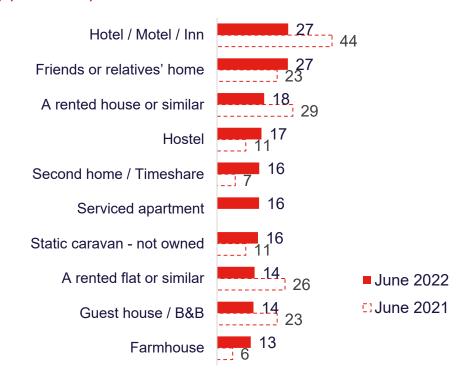


Figure 23. Top 10 accommodation types planning on staying in on next UK overnight <u>trip in October – December 2022</u>, Net Percentage, June 2022, UK



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

Base: VB6a. What type/s of accommodation do you expect to be staying in during your next UK holiday or short break in? Base: All June respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK between July to September 2022 n = 732, October to December 2022 n = 233; July to September 2021 n = 526, October to December 2021 n = 187. See tables for full breakdown.







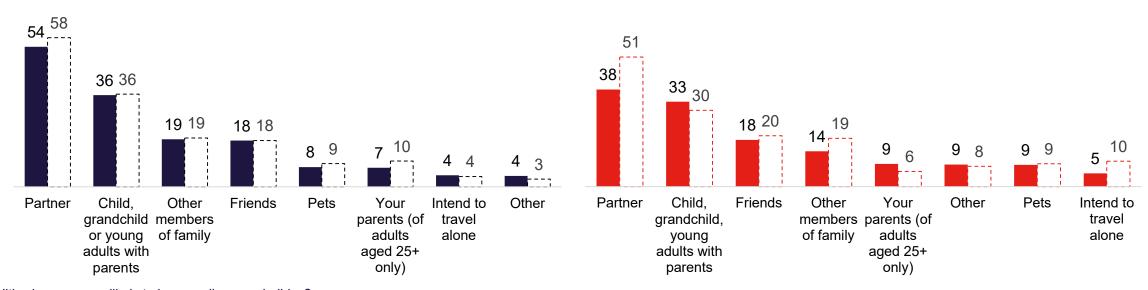
Visitor party for the next overnight trip in the UK

'Partner' is the leading visitor party member for both time periods, followed by 'child, grandchild or young adult with parents'.

Figure 24. Visitor party make-up for <u>trips taken from July to</u> <u>September 2022</u>, Percentage, June 2022, UK

■June 2022 □June 2021

Figure 25. Visitor party make-up for <u>trips taken from October – December 2022</u>, Percentage, June 2022, UK



QVB4d. With whom are you likely to be spending your holiday?

Base: All June respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK between July to September 2022 n = 732, October to December 2022 n = 233; July to September 2021 n = 526, October to December 2021 n = 187 n = 233 Note: Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents anticipate a range of party types.







Motivations for the next overnight trip in the UK

Both time periods share the same top two reasons for going on the next overnight trip – 'to get away from it all and have a rest' and 'family time or time with my partner', although they are stronger motivations for a trip in July to September.

Figure 26. Motivations for UK holidays and short breaks in July to September 2022, Percentage, June 2022, UK, Full list

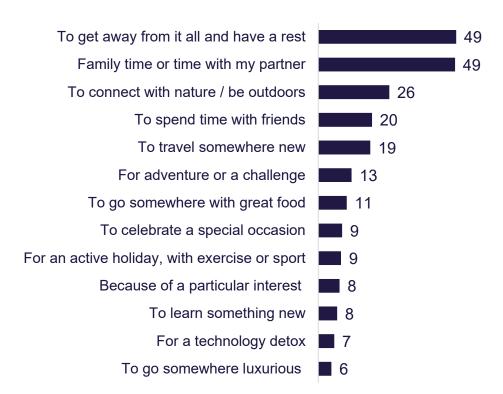
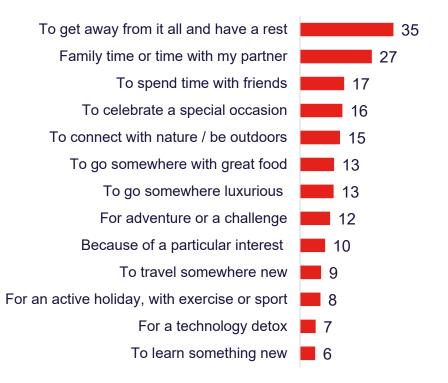


Figure 27. Motivations for UK holidays and short breaks <u>in October – December 2022</u>, Percentage, June 2022, UK, Full list









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

Base: All June 2022 respondents planning on taking a holiday or short break in the UK between July to September 2022 n = 732, October to December 2022 n = 233. Note: Multiple choice question. Totals may exceed 100%.

Activities for the next overnight trip in the UK

Top two activities for both time periods are 'trying local food and drink' and 'walking, hiking', just in a different order for each period.

Figure 28. Activities for UK holidays and short breaks, <u>in July to September 2022</u>, Percentage, June 2022, UK, Full list



Figure 29. Activities for UK holidays and short breaks, in October – December 2022, Percentage, June 2022, UK, Full list





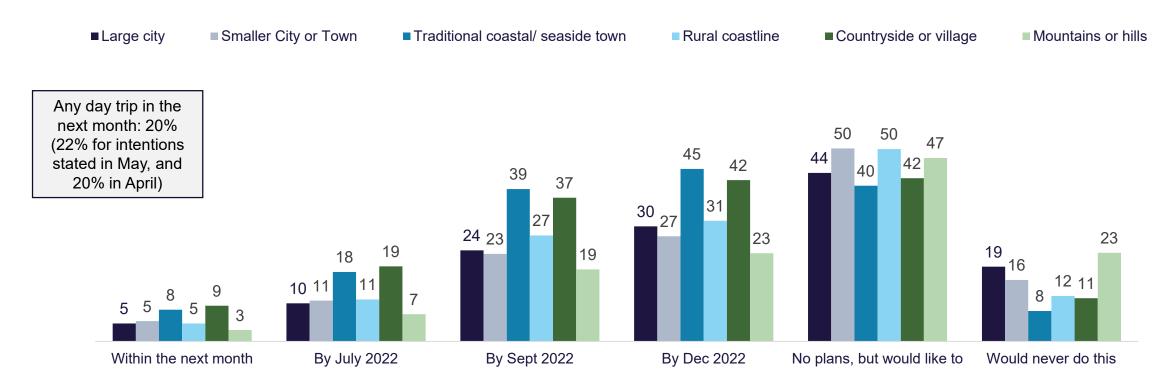




The next UK day trip intention by destination type

20% of UK adults intend to take any type of day trip by the end of the month, a similar proportion to both May and April. 'Countryside or village' is the destination type most likely to generate a day trip by June and July 2022, while 'traditional coastal/seaside town' is most popular by the end of September.

Figure 30. Next UK day trip intention between June 2022 and December 2022, Cumulative percentages, June 2022, UK













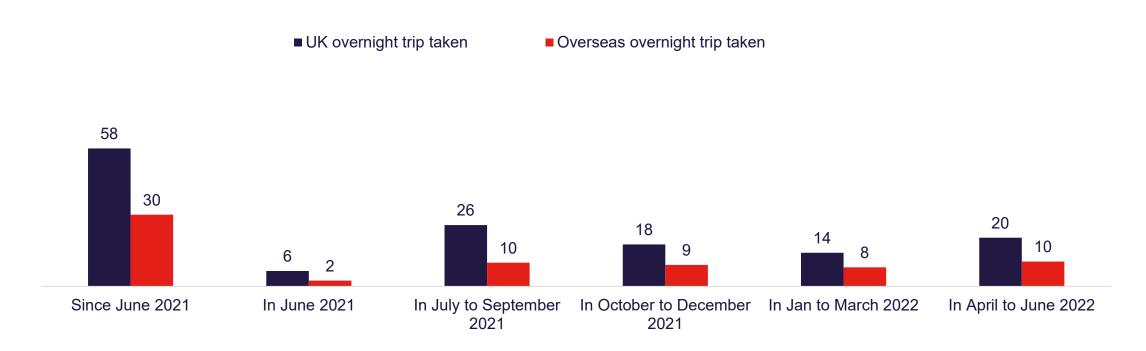
4. Past UK and Overseas Trips



Proportion taken a UK and overseas trip in last 12 months

Nearly 6 in 10 (58%) of UK adults have taken an overnight UK trip since June 2021, nearly twice as many as have taken an overseas overnight trip in that period (30%). Both types of trips are most likely to have been taken in July to September 2021 (domestic: 26% and overseas: 10%).

Figure 31. Proportion taken an overnight UK or overseas trip in below time period, Percentage, June 2022, UK







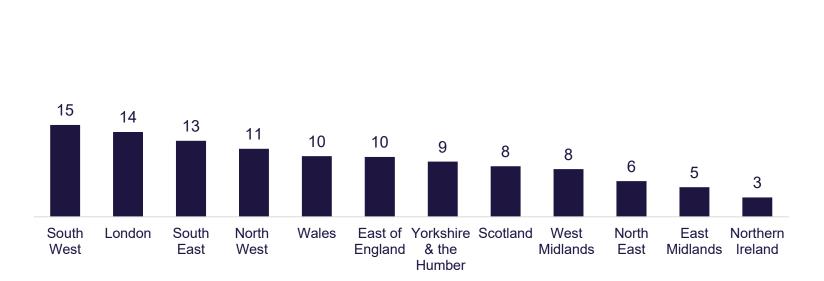


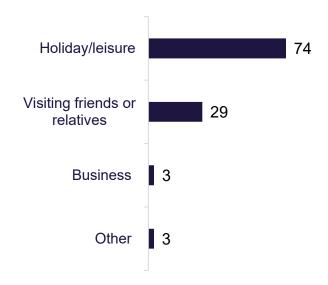
Where stayed and purpose of last UK overnight trip

The South West of England was the most popular destination for trips in the past three months, 15% of trip takers having stayed there, followed by London at 14%. Holiday / leisure was the most dominant purpose for overnight UK trips (74% having taken trips for this reason).

Figure 32. Destination of overnight trips taken in UK in the past three months, Percentage, June 2022, UK

Figure 33. Purpose of overnight UK trip taken in the past three months, Percentage, June 2022, UK





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 June 2022 respondents that took an overnight trips in the last three months n=355

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 (May 2020 data *)



Intentions for overnight business trips in the next three months (May data)

17% of UK adults in employment plan on taking an overnight business trip in the next 3 months (relatively consistent with the previous 5 waves). 'Meeting 6 or more people' is the leading reason for taking one (at 30%), followed by 'team building' (at 27%)

Figure 34. Proportion anticipating an overnight business trip in next 3 months, Percentage, May 2022, <u>UK adults in employment</u>

Figure 35. Reasons for taking an overnight business trip in next 3 months, Percentage, May 2022, UK adults in employment planning a trip

■ Feb-22 ■ Mar-22 ■ Apr-22 ■ May-22

81% of UK adults interviewed are in employment





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.







VB14b: What would be the main reason for this overnight business trip? Base: May respondents currently in employment n = 1,347. All taking a business trip n=242





6. Methodology



Methodology

- This report presents findings from the June 2022 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.
- June 2022 fieldwork was conducted between 8-14 June 2022.





Master Data Table

- The full data tables are publish on the VisitBritain website alongside this report and questions' data not shown in this report are available to view there: https://www.visitbritain.org/domestic-sentiment-tracker
 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 pre-pandemic
 - VB5b. Reasons for not planning to stay in a large city during your next UK holiday or short break
 - VB9a/b. Intention to visit leisure places in the UK in the next 12 months/ in the next month
 - VB9c. Which, if any, would you normally visit in the next 12 months, but will avoid due to COVID-19-related reasons?
 - VB10a/b. Intention to conduct leisure activities in the UK in the next 12 months/ in the next month
 - VB10c. Which, if any, would you normally do in the next 12 months, but will avoid due to COVID-19-related reasons?
 - Q63. Conditions essential for indoor tourism and leisure providers to have in place for you to visit/use them over the next 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.







