

UK Tourism Facts 2003

In 2003, UK Residents made 151.0 million overnight trips within the UK spending more than £26.4 billion. Figures show 24.7 million trips were made to the UK by overseas visitors, spending approximately £11.9 billion.

All data sourced from United Kingdom Tourism Survey unless otherwise stated.

Volume and Spending of Tourists in 2003

	Trips/Visits	Nights	Spending
	Millions	Millions	£ Millions
UK Residents	151.0	490.5	26,482

Purpose of tourism in the UK 2003

	UK Residents	
	Trips	Spending
	Millions	£ Millions
Holiday, Pleasure/Leisure	70.5	13,667
Visiting friends and relatives, mainly as a holiday	20.5	2,508
Business	22.3	6,142
Visiting Friends and Relatives	34.3	3,444
Other	3.4	712
All Purposes	151.0	26,482

Holiday tourism in the UK 2003

	UK Residents	
	Trips	Spending
	Millions	£ Millions
Holidays 1 - 3 Nights	57.3	8,117
Holidays 4 - 7 Nights	26.1	5,905
Holidays 8+ Nights	7.5	2,152
Total Holidays	91.0	16,174

Average Expenditure 2003

	UK Residents
Average Spend per Trip	£175
Average Spend per Night	£54

Tourism spend by category 2003

	UK Residents	
	% of Total	£ Millions
Package trip	4	1,140
Accommodation (non package trip)	27	7,090
Eating out	22	5,750
Total Shopping	16	4,260
---clothes	9	2,390
---other shopping	7	1,870
Travel within the UK	18	4,830
Entertainment*	8	2,080
Services etc.	2	480
Other	3	850
Total	100	26,480

Notes: *Entertainment includes visits to tourist attractions, historic houses, theatres etc.

Duration of all tourism trips in 2003

	UK Residents
	% of Trips

1 night	29
2 nights	27
3 nights	15
4 nights	9
5 nights	5
6 nights	3
7 nights	6
8 - 13 nights	3
14 nights	2
15+	*
Average number of nights	3.25

Note: *less than 1%

Month of all tourism trips in 2003

	UK Residents
	% of Trips
January	7
February	7
March	7
April	9
May	9
June	8
July	10
August	12
September	8
October	8
November	6
December	8

Seasonality of all tourism trips in 2003

	UK Residents
	% of Trips
Jan, Feb, Mar	21
Apr, May, Jun	26
Jul, Aug, Sep	31
Oct, Nov, Dec	22

Distribution of domestic tourism by Government Office Region in 2003

	Trips	Nights	Spend
	Millions	Millions	£ Millions
West Midlands	10.8	25.9	1,633
East of England	11.8	37.6	1,654
East Midlands	9.6	28.0	1,352
London	14.3	32.8	3,212
North West	16.0	44.4	2,615
North East	4.8	13.3	824
South East	20.7	60.1	2,999
South West	22.8	92.1	4,263
Yorkshire & the Humber	13.1	35.8	1,930
Total England	121.3	371.9	20,560
Total UK	151.0	490.5	26,482

Origin of tourists by Government Office Region in 2003

	UK Residents
	% of Trips
South East	15
London	11
North West	12
East of England	9
West Midlands	9
South West	9
Yorkshire & the Humber	10
East Midlands	7
North East	4
Wales	4
Scotland	9
Northern Ireland	2
Total	100

Accommodation used by tourists in 2003

	Trips	Spending
	%	%
Hotel/Motel/Guesthouse	29	41
B&B/Farmhouse B&B	7	8
Rented House/Flat/Chalet	6	9
Hostel/University/School	1	1
Friends/Relatives Home	42	24
Second Home/Timeshare	2	1
Camping	3	2
Towed Caravan	2	2
Other	13	12

Serviced accommodation 2003

	2003	2002	2001
Room Occupancy	59%	59%	57%
Bedspace Occupancy	44%	44%	42%

Source: United Kingdom Occupancy Survey (UKOS)

Booking characteristics in 2003

	UK Residents
	Millions
All Trips	151.0
Firm Booking via the Internet	10.9
Firm Booking made in Person	7.2
Firm Booking via the Telephone	40.0
Firm Booking via Email	1.9
Firm Booking via Post	2.1
Firm Booking made in some other way	0.6
No Booking	86.6
Don't know	0.5

Transport used within the UK in 2003

	UK Residents
	% of Trips
Car	73
Train	12
Regular Bus/Coach	4

Organised Coach	2
Motorised Caravan/ Campervan	1
Motor Cycle	*
Bicycle	*
Plane	5
Boat/Ship	*
Other	2

Note: *less than 1%. Transport used on the longest part of your journey from home to the destination. Longest means distance, not time.

Age profile 2003

	UK Residents
	% of Trips
16-24	15
25-34	19
35-44	23
45-54	18
55-64	13
65+	13

Social profile 2003

	UK Residents
	% of Trips
AB	35
C1	32
C2	18
DE	15

Sources:

UK Residents - United Kingdom Tourism Survey (UKTS), sponsored by the UK Statutory Boards
Occupancy Data - United Kingdom Occupancy Survey (UKOS), sponsored by the UK Statutory Boards

Last Updated: 17 August 2004