Help desk: quick links to get you going

Where can I turn to for information, assistance, advice and networking?
Do your homework and find out what opportunities and which contacts are available and applicable to your business!

VisitBritain/VisitEngland
As the national tourism agency – a non-departmental public body funded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS), VisitBritain/VisitEngland plays a unique role in building England’s tourism product, raising Britain's profile worldwide, increasing the volume and value of tourism exports and developing England's and Britain's visitor economy.

Working with a wide range of partners in both the UK and overseas, our mission is to grow the volume and value of inbound tourism across the nations and regions of Britain and to develop world-class English tourism product to support our growth aspirations.

Active in 16 markets, and with 4 regional hubs, our international activities include advertising, press and PR, trade shows and B2B initiatives, consumer promotions, online communications and consumer research.

Our online resources are the best starting point for you. These aim to signpost you directly to marketing programs and resources that will help you generate more business and help you gain a better understanding of market conditions.

Destination management organisations (DMOs)
Tourism at a local level is led by destination management organisations. They may cover a single destination or a number of smaller destinations with a strong identity caused by natural geography or landscape well-known in its own right.

These organisations might be public sector bodies, e.g. a local authority, private companies, or partnerships between the public and private sector. They are funded by their local authority, or by private sector membership, or a combination of the two.

They coordinate a wide range of local stakeholders, including the tourism business community, local authorities, business improvement districts, transport operators, visitor information providers, major landowners, cultural bodies, retail associations and local community groups.

A list of DMOs can be found here: visitbritain.org/business-advice/find-local-support
For further assistance and information, please see the following:

**Business is GREAT**
Support, advice and inspiration for growing your business, provided by HM Government. The website is packed full of advice from writing a business plan to recruitment advice, with helpful case studies and many links to further information. Government backed support and financial assistance is also available for some ventures, via the website below.

Website: [great.gov.uk](http://great.gov.uk)

**UKinbound**
UKinbound represents the interests of the UK's inbound tourism sector and ensures it is recognised as a leading economic and employment driver in the UK. It helps its diverse membership of nearly 400 businesses all across the country to grow and develop via a programme of events designed to connect buyers and suppliers in the travel trade. It also provides marketing opportunities, market seminars, and access to the latest industry insights.

In addition, it also lobbies Government on behalf of its members on key industry issues such as skills, taxation and visas, and engages with the media to raise the profile of inbound tourism and highlight its importance to the UK economy.

Website: [Ukinbound.org](http://Ukinbound.org)

**European Tourism Association (ETOA)**
ETOA is the leading trade association for tour operators and suppliers with business in European destinations. Over 900 members include tour and online operators, intermediaries and wholesalers, European tourist boards, hotels, attractions and other tourism suppliers.

ETOA offers a valuable networking platform for tourism professionals and also provides advocacy support on a European level, high profile industry campaigns and B2B marketing representation opportunities; all in order to promote Europe as a number one tourism destination.

Website: [etoa.org](http://etoa.org)
British Educational Travel Association (BETA)
BETA represents some of the biggest and most established businesses in the youth, student and educational travel industry. Covering inbound, outbound and domestic youth, student and educational travel, its members operate within the fields of studying abroad, language schools, internships, activity holidays, gap, volunteering, school visits, adventure travel, as well as including a whole host of specialist agents and operators.

Website: betauk.com

For a full list of industry bodies and organisations see visitbritain.org/industry-groups-bodies