Monthly Inbound Update

Oct Nov Dec 2023 (Provisional)
International Passenger Survey by the ONS
(Published 26th March 2024)
1. Key Takeouts

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   - 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. Key Takeouts

Oct, Nov and Dec 2023 (Provisional)
Key takeouts

• **Visits:** A strong October but a sluggish November and December brought Q4 2023 visits below 2019 levels. Provisional visits in 2023 totalled at 37.9m visits, down 7% vs 2019 (and in line with VisitBritain’s forecast).

• **Spend:** A record spend for October but weaker November and December saw Q4 just below 2019 levels but across 2023, visitors spent a record £30.9bn, up 9% vs 2019 (just below VisitBritain’s forecast). In real terms, visitor spending was down 10% vs 2019 (and up 9% vs 2022).

• **Journey purpose:** In 2023, visits to friends/relatives was the only journey purpose to surpass 2019 levels with holiday and misc. visits just below 2019 and business visits down by one quarter. However, looking at growth vs 2022, VFR visits are showing a slowdown in growth whilst other journey purposes are recovering at a faster rate.

• **Global regions:** North America visits dipped in December but overall saw record visits in 2023. European visits were around one tenth below pre-pandemic levels at the annual level whilst the Rest of World was further behind at -17%.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 & 2023P. 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

Oct, Nov and Dec 2023 (Provisional)
Volume and Value Headlines

- **Visits:** Inbound visits to the UK in October 2023 were on par with 2019 but dipped in November and December. Across Q4, visits totalled at 9.4m, down 9% vs 2019 and down 2% vs 2022. Provisionally, total inbound visits across 2023 reached 37.9m, just below 2019 visits at -7% but surpassing 2022 visits by 21%.

- **Spend:** October 2023 saw record spend at £3.0bn whilst November and December spend remained below 2019 spend. Q4 2023 spend came to £7.3bn, down 3% on 2019 and down 6% on 2022. In 2023, inbound visitors spent a record £30.9bn in the UK, up 9% vs 2019 and up 17% vs 2022.

- **Average spend per visit:** The average spend per visit in 2023 was £816, up 17% vs 2019 and down 4% vs 2022.

These provisional results are broadly in line with VisitBritain’s forecast which predicted 37.8m visits and £31.7bn spend in 2023. Revised figures, due out in May will conclude the full story for 2023. See the full forecast on our website.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 and 2023 (2023 data is provisional). 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.
In real terms (i.e. taking inflation into account):

- **Inbound spend** was down across the months in Q4 2023 with the sharpest decline seen in December 2023. At the annual level, in real terms, visitor spend was down 10% vs 2019 and up 9% vs 2022.

- **Average spend per visit** was also below 2019 levels across all months in Q4 2023. In 2023, average spend per visit was down 3% vs 2019 and down 10% vs 2022.

International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 and 2023 (2023 data is provisional). 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. Real term %s calculation from the CPI on the [ONS website](https://www.ons.gov.uk).
• **Holiday** visits in October reached a record but it was a weaker November and December leading to Q4 visits being down vs 2019. In 2023, holiday visits totalled at 15.9m, down 6% vs 2019 (and up 31% vs 2022).

• **Visits to friends and relative (VFR)** had been surpassing 2019 levels from June and saw record visits in October. However, recovery looked to slow down in November and December bringing Q4 visits down 4% vs 2019. Overall in 2023, VFR visits were the only journey purpose to surpass 2019 levels at a record 12.7m visits, up 2% vs 2019 (and up 8% vs 2022).

• **Business** visits remained below 2019 levels across Q4 2023 and at the annual level saw a slower recovery vs other journey purposes, remaining one quarter below 2019 levels (but up 27% vs 2022).

• All other visits under ‘miscellaneous’, which includes study totalled at 2.7m visits, down 4% vs 2019 (and up 23% vs 2022).

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### International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 and 2023 (2023 data is provisional). 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.
**Global Region**

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<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Europe</td>
<td>2,530</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>-9%</td>
<td>-19%</td>
<td>2,180</td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6,720</td>
<td>-7%</td>
<td>-2%</td>
<td>24,970</td>
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<td>19%</td>
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<td>EU</td>
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<td>0%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>-22%</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6,050</td>
<td>-7%</td>
<td>-3%</td>
<td>22,620</td>
<td>-9%</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU15</td>
<td>1,810</td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>-14%</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>1,660</td>
<td>-8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4,820</td>
<td>-9%</td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>18,410</td>
<td>-9%</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>-20%</td>
<td>-24%</td>
<td>1,230</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>-7%</td>
<td>6,110</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of World</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>-19%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>-26%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>1,470</td>
<td>-23%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6,780</td>
<td>-17%</td>
<td>42%</td>
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</table>

- Visits from **Europe** were on par with pre-pandemic levels in October 2023 but dropped in November and December. Across 2023, there were 25.0m visits from Europe, down 9% vs 2019 (and up 19% vs 2022). A similar pattern of recovery was seen from the EU and EU15 in Q4 and 2023. See breakdown of other European groupings from slide 20.

- Visits from **North America** during October and November were similar to the volumes seen in 2022 (but above 2019 levels). December was weaker bringing the Q4 total to 1.2m visits, up 3% vs 2019 but down 7% vs 2022. Overall in 2023, North America showed the strongest recovery across global regions with a record 6.1m visits, up 14% vs 2019 and up 11% vs 2022.

- Those visiting from the **Rest of World** contributed 1.5m visits in Q4 and 6.8m visits across 2023, down 17% vs 2019 (and up 42% vs 2022).

International Passenger Survey by the ONS 2019, 2022 and 2023 (2023 data is provisional). 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.
3. Detailed monthly trends

Oct, Nov and Dec 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>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
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<tbody>
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<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>
<td>458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>158</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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</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 - spend

![Graph showing monthly trends in spending to the UK](image)

### 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>
<th>Apr</th>
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<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>1,646</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>
</tr>
<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>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>234</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>3,637</td>
<td>3,609</td>
<td>2,831</td>
<td>3,040</td>
<td>2,070</td>
<td>2,180</td>
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</table>

**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.

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

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>
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<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
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</thead>
<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>
<td>1,313</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>1,149</td>
<td>954</td>
<td>1,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1,115</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>113</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>802</td>
<td>515</td>
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<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>1,273</td>
<td>1,316</td>
<td>991</td>
<td>1,210</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1,080</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**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 - Business Visits (000)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Jan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>621</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>754</td>
<td>832</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>610</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>110</td>
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<td>549</td>
<td>567</td>
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<tr>
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<td>690</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>470</td>
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**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 - 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>
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<th>Years</th>
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<td>196</td>
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<td>2022</td>
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<td>352</td>
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<td>238</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>210</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.
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

<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>1,936</td>
<td>1,742</td>
<td>2,365</td>
<td>2,417</td>
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<td>1,996</td>
<td>2,537</td>
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<td>2020</td>
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<td>313</td>
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<td>1,258</td>
<td>775</td>
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<td>823</td>
<td>1,413</td>
<td>1,634</td>
<td>1,828</td>
<td>1,727</td>
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<td>2,202</td>
<td>1,830</td>
<td>2,269</td>
<td>2,483</td>
<td>2,135</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023</td>
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<td>2,065</td>
<td>1,976</td>
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<td>2,530</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>2,180</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.
Detailed monthly trends – global regions - EU

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

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>
<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>1,803</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>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1,827</td>
<td>1,697</td>
<td>948</td>
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<td>66</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>167</td>
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<td>691</td>
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<td>2021</td>
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<td>761</td>
<td>1,289</td>
<td>1,459</td>
<td>1,668</td>
<td>1,572</td>
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<td>2,026</td>
<td>1,642</td>
<td>1,993</td>
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<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>2,063</td>
<td>2,104</td>
<td>1,787</td>
<td>2,290</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>1,980</td>
</tr>
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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. No data monthly data is available April – December 2020, due to the impact of COVID. See slide 26.
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

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 26.
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

<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>
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<td>332</td>
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<td>305</td>
<td>306</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023</td>
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<td>490</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>320</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 26.
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 26.
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

<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>
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<td>319</td>
<td>570</td>
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<td>2020</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>87</td>
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<td>338</td>
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<td>648</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>370</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
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<td>757</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>300</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.
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

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 26th March 2024. The report covers provisional October, November and December 2023 data. Comparisons have been made to 2019 to show the rate of recovery, and also to 2022 to show growth coming out of the pandemic. The ONS have also revised Jan-Jun 2021 figures as they did not scale up to the annual figures first published.

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, which can be found in the 2022 travel trends publications.

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), unless stated otherwise.
• From 2021, data excludes those travelling across the Irish Land Border.
• 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.
Visit the VisitBritain IPS webpage to explore the IPS data in more detail.
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.

• **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

Oct Nov Dec 2023 (Provisional)
International Passenger Survey by the ONS
(Published 26th March 2024)