

## Information Resources for Tourism

This guide will give you information about some of the key online resources for Tourism. The lists are not exhaustive, but are designed to give you an introduction to the resources for a particular subject area. SPRIG will endeavour to keep this guide current but if you find that any of the links are broken, or if you have any other suggestions for resources, please contact a member of the SPRIG committee. The resources are divided into the following types:

[Bibliographic databases](#)

[Reference materials](#)

[Journals](#)

[Papers/reports/articles](#)

[Online books](#)

[Datasets](#)

[Educational materials](#)

[Resource guides](#)

[Travel Guides](#)

[Organisations and societies](#)

[Trade organisations](#)

[Research Centres](#)

[Government departments](#)

[News Services](#)

[Mailing Lists](#)

### Bibliographic databases

Many large, commercial databases are free to members of UK higher and further education institutions, if your library has paid a subscription. You may need an ATHENS username and password from your library.

### COPAC

<http://copac.ac.uk/>

Copac is a bibliographic library catalogue that can be accessed free of charge via the Internet. It provides "free access to the merged online catalogues of major University and National Libraries in the UK and Ireland". Copac includes details of documents dating from c.1100AD to the present day, in a number of languages, and across all subject areas. A variety of materials are available, including books, reports, printed and recorded music, videos, and electronic materials. Increasing numbers of records include a link to the document full-text where this is made available by another service. FAQs and a Support section with details of help, documentation and training from Copac are provided on the welcome screen.

### European Library

<http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org>

The European Library portal offers a search service which spans the 47 national libraries of Europe. A replacement for the Gabriel service, it is a multilingual online service, which enables users to search for books, journals etc., both digital and non-digital. Users are offered a simple and an advanced search, which allows them to specify national collections or search for online materials. The site also features news, exhibitions and a treasures section, which shows digital images of artefacts, rare books, manuscripts and drawings.

### ISI Web of Knowledge Service for UK Education

<http://wok.mimas.ac.uk/>

The Web of Knowledge is a platform providing access to all ISI products. It is hosted at MIMAS (Manchester Information & Associated Services). The basic Web of Knowledge databases are ISI Web of Science and ISI Proceedings. ISI Web of

Science consists of the Social Sciences Citation Index, the Arts and Humanities Citation Index and the Science Citation Index. ISI Proceedings comes in two editions: the Social Science + Humanities edition and the Science + Technical edition. In addition to these, several other products are available for an extra charge including: Current Contents Connect, Journal Citation Reports, CAB Abstracts, Journal Use Reports, and a linkage service. Web of Knowledge is available to Higher and Further Education institutions and research councils in the UK. You can check on the Web of Knowledge site whether your institution subscribes to the service. Users from participating institutions will need to log in via their institution to access the service.

### **Zetoc: Electronic Table of Contents from the British Library**

<http://zetoc.mimas.ac.uk/>

Zetoc provides access to the British Library's Electronic Table of Contents of around 20,000 current journals and around 16,000 conference proceedings published per year. It's well worth signing up for the free email alerting service, which will then email you details of new publications in your subject area as they appear. ZETOC is available free of charge to further and higher education institutions in the UK through MIMAS (Manchester Information and Associated Services) at the University of Manchester, on behalf of the British Library.

### **Hospitality and Tourism Complete**

<http://www.epnet.com/thisTopic.php?marketID=1&topicID=418>

Hospitality and Tourism Complete is a bibliographic database from EBSCO Publishing, covering scholarly research and industry news relating to all areas of hospitality and tourism. Full text articles are available from more than 200 publications, including periodicals, company and country reports, and books. Full text periodicals include Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research, Current Issues in Tourism, Hotel Business, Hotel and Motel Management, Hotels, International Journal of Tourism Research, Journal of Ecotourism, Journal of Leisure Research, Journal of Sport Tourism, Journal of Sustainable Tourism, Leisure Sciences, Leisure Studies, Lodging Hospitality, Nation's Restaurant News, Restaurant Business, Restaurants and Institutions, Tourism and Hospitality Research, Tourism Review and Travel Weekly. Sources are both domestic and international in range and scope. Institutional subscription required.

### **Leisure Tourism Database**

<http://www.leisuretourism.com>

Produced by CABI Publishing; a division of CABI International, this database is a valuable current awareness and research tool; covering leisure, recreation, tourism and hospitality. Contents include abstracts and full text articles, news, spotlights, reports and analyses of specific subjects. All articles are archived and fully referenced. A calendar of events and a free electronic newsletter are also available. Institutional subscription required.

[Back to top](#)

## **Reference materials**

### **CIA World Factbook**

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

The CIA World Factbook is maintained by the Central Intelligence Agency in the USA. It provides a detailed profile of each country in the world, covering geography, population, government and politics, economic conditions, transportation systems, conflicts and military issues and trade. There are also flags of the world and maps of

each country as well as larger areas. Both the current and previous fact books (back to 2000) are available for download as a Zip file. The reference maps are also available for individual download as Zip files. The information is updated on a regular basis. The print version is to be replaced by a Web only version; available in Spring 2009. The information is updated on a regular basis.

### **KnowUK**

<http://www.knowuk.co.uk>

KnowUK is an encyclopaedic database from ProQuest LLC, containing information about the people, places, culture, and government of the United Kingdom. The database contains separate reference publications that are searched simultaneously by the site's search engine. Results are then listed in abbreviated form, sorted by relevance. Clicking on results takes the user to the full entry as digitised from the source material. The reference works contained in the database includes a section for Leisure and Tourism. The site also functions as a directory of local services, which can be searched or browsed. It also features a guide to 'life events' such as going to university and retiring. Subscription required.

[Back to top](#)

### **Journals**

#### **Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sport & Tourism Education (JoHLSTE)**

<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/johlste/home>

This is the peer reviewed, international electronic journal of the higher education Academy Network for Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism. It is published in the spring and autumn each year and focuses on all aspects of education in the hospitality, leisure, sport and tourism subject areas. It is also possible to sign up to a free subscription to the JoHLSTE mailing list and receive information on forthcoming editions of the journal, calls for papers, submission deadlines and special editions.

#### **Channel View Publications**

<http://www.multilingual-matters.net/default.htm>

Channel View Publications publish tourism journals; including Current Issues in Tourism, Journal of Ecotourism, Journal of Sustainable Tourism, Journal of Tourism and Cultural Change and the Journal of Heritage Tourism. Tables of contents and abstracts are freely available online; full text versions are available to subscribers as PDF files from 2004 onwards.

#### **Tourist Studies**

<http://www.sagepub.co.uk/journalsProdDesc.nav?prodId=Journal201263>

This multidisciplinary journal examines the nature of tourism as a social phenomenon, taking a global perspective. It is published online by Sage Publications, and integrates approaches to tourism from sociology, socio-psychology, leisure studies, cultural studies, geography and anthropology. The table of contents and abstracts for current and back issues are freely available from this site. An institutional subscription is required for full text.

[Back to top](#)

### **Papers/reports/articles**

#### **Europa : Enterprise : Publications by Theme : Tourism**

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/library/lib-tourism/>

From the Europa website, this is a list of tourism publications from the European Commission, which are categorised into guides, studies, conference proceedings, statistics and projects. Most of the documents are available in English as well as several other languages, and many are available to download online as PDF files. Some are also available in summary format. There is also a link to access official documents.

## **Online books**

### **Town and Tourists**

<http://www.bl.uk/learning/langlit/texts/tourists/townandtourists.html>

From the British Library's Texts in Context series, this selection explores how towns become tourist attractions; focusing primarily on Lyme Regis and the Peak District. Texts from a particular time period can be selected, including poetry, guidebooks, catalogues and satires. This collection is illustrated with original sources, for which bibliographic details are provided.

### **Traveller's Handbook**

<http://www.travelleronline.com/library/handbook/>

This handbook is available in full-text as part of the Traveller online website. It offers useful information and advice on a range of issues, including the ethics and impact of tourism, classic journeys and types of traveller, especially working travellers. Questions of culture, safety and health are considered and there is advice on planning your trip, including what to take, ways of travelling and accommodation. The handbook also features fact files on countries around the world and a 'traveller's directory' with global information such as world weather reports and vaccinations required for travel to various regions. Details on specialist organisations and transport issues are given. It is also available for purchase as a book.

## **Datasets**

Electronic access to large (and often previously inaccessible) collections of data

### **National Statistics online : Tourism**

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/CCI/nscl.asp?ID=8141&x=12&y=13>

This is the government's official website for UK statistics. The transport, travel and tourism section brings together information and statistics for the United Kingdom and overseas. A large number of datasets, covering this theme are free to view onscreen or download. Note that files can be downloaded as Excel spreadsheets or CSV files which can be used in any spreadsheet package. Other files are available as PDF files. Topics covered include domestic tourism, international travel, tourism accommodation and a wide range of other statistical data taken from Regional Trends and similar governmental statistical sources.

[Back to top](#)

## **Educational materials**

Find online material to support learning and teaching

### **Biz/ed**

<http://bized.co.uk/>

Biz/ed is a unique eLearning service for students and educators in business studies, economics, accounting, leisure, sport & recreation and travel & tourism; developed for both the further and higher education curriculum in the UK. It is part of Cengage

Learning, an educational publisher. It offers a huge variety of online learning materials; including worksheets, glossaries, study skills, and notes.

### **Current Practice Case Studies : Sustainable Development**

<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/hlst/resources/casestudies/sustainabledev>

From the Higher Education Academy Network for Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism Website, this page lists and describes case studies of how sustainable development issues have been included in HLST programmes, with assessment examples, module guides and links to external sites of interest.

### **National Qualifications Online : Travel and Tourism**

<http://www.ltsotland.org.uk/ng/subjects/Travelandtourism.asp>

This is the travel and tourism section of the National Qualifications Online website, which is managed by Learning and Teaching Scotland. This page lists resources that are suitable for both students and teachers at intermediate and higher levels. The resources are freely available for download in several formats including Microsoft Word and PDF. Topics include marketing, tourism impact, customer service and holiday planning.

### **Internet for Travel and Tourism**

<http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/tutorial/travel>

This is a free, teach yourself tutorial on the Web, teaching Internet information skills for travel and tourism. It is aimed at students and lecturers, particularly in Further Education, who want to improve their knowledge of the best Internet resources for this subject. The site includes quizzes and interactive exercises. The tutorial has been written by Philip Rowe from City of Bristol College, and is one of a set of tutorials within the Intute Virtual Training Suite.

[Back to top](#)

### **Resource guides**

Specialist subject sites to explore

### **Intute : Travel and Tourism**

<http://www.intute.ac.uk/socialsciences/travel/>

Intute: Travel and Tourism provides free access to high quality resources on the Internet. Each resource has been evaluated and categorised by subject specialists based at UK universities. Intute aim to match resources to the curriculum and the needs of researchers; their target audience is students, staff and researchers in higher and further education.

### **Planeta.com : Exploring Ecotourism Resource Guide by Ron Mader**

<http://www.planeta.com/ecotravel/etour.html>

This comprehensive guide to ecotourism provides a definition for this form of travel, including information on the International Year of Ecotourism, discussion of community tourism and educational travel. Links to various online conferences are also provided and there is a special feature of ecotourism in Mexico. As well as a traveller's guide to ecotourism, a developer's guide and a policy maker's guide are also provided. Links to academic centres, articles, events calendar, bibliography and a discussion forum are also included.

### **John Beech's Travel and Tourism Information Gateway**

<http://www.stile.coventry.ac.uk/cbs/staff/beeceh/tourism/index.htm>

This Website is designed to be a starting point for British university students wishing to search the Web for data sources relevant to coursework for travel and tourism

modules on Bachelor and Masters Degree programmes, and also for tourism staff undertaking desk research. Topics covered include heritage, sports and events, spa tourism, surface transport, ecotourism, attractions and travel agents.

## **Travel Guides**

Comprehensive international destination guides

### **Lonely Planet**

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com>

This website acts as an informative starting point to tourism. It provides detailed guides to different countries and regions worldwide, including maps, facts, events, climate, costs, attractions, activities, how to get off the beaten track, history, environment, transport and culture. There are links to books, discussion lists for each region, a weekly newsletter on world news called Comet (registration required), a travel blog, feature articles about all aspects of travel and travel health information and a host of travel related links. There is also a selection of themed travel guides available for purchase, covering topics such as art, language, beaches, deserts, history, food, islands, music, religion, sport and water sports.

### **World Travel Guide**

<http://www.worldtravelguide.net>

This site is provided online by Columbus Publishing. It provides comprehensive guides to countries, cities and airports, as well as information on world attractions and weather. The guides cover maps and information such as currency, accommodation, activities, climate and culture. Online services include personalised guides, reservations, holiday brochure ordering, and travellers' reviews. There is also detailed information on health, disabled travellers and different religions, as well as travel warnings and a world clock. The site is updated on a quarterly basis.

[Back to top](#)

## **Organisations and societies**

Most organisations have their own website. Here are some examples ...

### **Higher Education Academy Network for Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism**

<http://www.hlst.heacademy.ac.uk/>

This is one of 24 subject centres aiming to promote high quality learning and teaching practice in UK higher education. The site features a calendar of events, current news items, and links to resources, the LINK newsletter which is published three times a year, and the (electronic) Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism Education (JoHLSTE). There are Resource Guides, as well as resource reviews, case studies and links to Web resources; many resources are freely available to download as PDF files. There are also details of ongoing projects and subject specialists in the field.

### **World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)**

<http://www.world-tourism.org/>

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is a specialised agency of the United Nations; they are the leading international organisation in the field of travel and tourism. It serves as a global forum for tourism policy issues and a practical source of tourism know-how. The site provides information about the WTO and its activities. There are statistics and other information; some freely available to download as PDF

files. Additional services include a news release service, events listing and an online bookshop of WTO publications.

### **Tourism Network**

<http://www.tourismknowledge.com/>

The Tourism Network is an independent, non profit industry support agency. It was established by Susan Briggs, an independent marketing consultant. Its aim is to support the UK tourism industry in a practical way with training workshops, Network meetings, publications, and research and consultancy advice. The Network endeavours to help those working in attractions, accommodation, destinations, tour companies, transport and other areas of the tourism industry. Users may sign up to a free monthly marketing newsletter.

### **Tourism Concern**

<http://www.tourismconcern.org.uk>

This is the website of a UK based membership organisation campaigning for ethical and fairly traded tourism. It features information about the organisation and how to join, details of current and past campaigns, a directory of tour operators, responsible travellers codes, and articles on fair trade and sustainability, which are downloadable as PDF files. There is also an extensive media area, links to related websites, and a resources section, listing material which is available to purchase.

### **Trade organisations**

The governing bodies in tourism set the standards to be met by companies operating in the industry. These websites publish the rules and regulations as well as providing advice and guidance that is available to both the industry and the public

### **Civil Aviation Authority**

<http://www.caa.co.uk>

The website of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) is an online resource providing information about the CAA's responsibilities and activities in the area of civil aviation. As aviation regulator for the United Kingdom, the CAA ensures that UK civil aviation standards are set and adhered to. Its prime areas of responsibility are air safety, economic regulation, airspace regulation, and consumer protection. The site is organised accordingly, and each section gives comprehensive information about policy, procedures, codes of practice, regulations, and relevant legislation if applicable. Some key documents are available as PDF files.

### **Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA)**

<http://www.abta.co.uk>

This is the website of one of the UK's main trade associations for tour operators and travel agents. There is extensive information about ABTA itself, and the publications list includes full-text access to their annual report and information leaflets, many of which are available as PDF files. In addition the site includes travel and holiday statistics, trends and research, and there are a wide range of services including careers advice, online brochure ordering, and a 'research your trip' facility. ABTA's site also includes consumer services, covering issues such as arbitration, disability, responsible tourism, and financial protection. The ABTA.com e-directory includes details of its members, with information on the destinations they feature and their special skills. This is a really full site and worth exploring.

### **Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) : travel advice**

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/travel>

This is the travel advice section of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website. This website has travel advice by country, travel checklists, information on travel health and safety (for example avian and pandemic flu which is described separately in Intute), passports and visas, sporting events, sustainable tourism, and risk of terrorism. This website has frequently asked questions, a site map and a search facility.

### **Federation of Tour Operators (FTO)**

<http://www.fto.co.uk>

The FTO are the point of contact for the UK government on all UK outbound tour operating related issues. They coordinate member activity in the key areas of crisis handling, health and safety, sustainable tourism, operational issues and establishing best practise standards. The website provides further details of their activities and publications. Some publications are freely available to download as PDF files, whilst others must be purchased. Materials are available on health and safety and sustainable tourism. Further information for tour operators' available online includes topics such as operations, pricing and profit, legal requirements and UK operational support. Links to member sites and other useful links are given, whilst news and an archive are also available.

### **Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO)**

<http://www.aito.co.uk>

AITO is an association of small to medium sized independent tour operating companies, who specialise in particular areas or types of holiday. This site is a guide to alternative holiday ideas offered by AITO members. Its search facilities allow access to details and brochures of tour operators according to type of holiday or area of the world. The site includes information about the quality assurance procedures applied to each member, useful links and a section about AITO's commitment to responsible tourism.

[Back to top](#)

### **Research centres**

Keep up with the latest research

### **Christel DeHaan Tourism and Travel Research Institute (TTRI)**

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ttri/>

The TTRI is a research and teaching unit based at Nottingham University Business School. Its mission is to undertake quality research and provide research led teaching which will contribute to government and business policy formation. Its website contains information about the Institute, a section on postgraduate study opportunities and details of research and publications. There are also links to related websites and full-text articles. TTRI discussion papers are freely available to download as PDF files.

### **European Tourism Research Group**

<http://www.miun.se/ETOUR-In-English/Home/>

ETOUR are based in Sweden; they are one of the largest tourism research groups in Europe. ETOUR's research is carried out in the three main areas of destination development, nature and culture based tourism and tourism in the experience economy. Research findings are made available at seminars and conferences. Information is also made available to businesses, authorities and educational institutions through their publications, newsletters and via their website. Some publications are available to purchase via the site and some are available to download as PDF files. A Swedish version of the site is also available

## **World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC)**

<http://www.wttc.org/>

The WTTC is a research body and forum for the private sector of the worldwide travel and tourism industry. It aims to raise awareness of the importance of the industry in terms of employment and economic benefits. It encourages governments to adopt the Council's policy framework for sustainable tourism development, which considers the impact of tourism on the environment and culture. The site contains information on the organisation and its members, regional programmes, country and regional reports which include very current tourism statistics, and a 'Competitiveness Monitor' databank, which contains information on a range of countries indicating their competitiveness in terms of economic development, price, infrastructure, environment, technology and social development.

[Back to top](#)

## **Government departments**

Public services and government information online

### **Department for Culture, Media and Sport: Tourism and Leisure**

[http://www.culture.gov.uk/about\\_us/tourism\\_and\\_leisure/](http://www.culture.gov.uk/about_us/tourism_and_leisure/)

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) tourism Web pages archives of press notices, publications and consultation documents regarding tourism experience, industry and policy in the UK. There is information about preparations for the 2012 Olympic Games, as well as about skills and quality issues, sustainable development, tourism statistics and tourism summits. Publications available include the Tomorrow's Tourism report, and the Fitness for Purpose paper and position statement. Most documents are freely available to download as PDF files.

### **Regional Development Agencies**

<http://www.englandsrdas.com>

The regional development agencies are tasked with ensuring central Government's tourism strategies are carried forward. It is possible to search for a specific region and identify its strategy for tourism from their website. An events listing, case studies and press releases are also available.

### **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Tourism Programme**

<http://www.unep.fr/scp/tourism/>

This website provides substantive and balanced information on sustainable tourism and ecotourism, with relevant links throughout the text. Guidance on best practice within the discipline is provided, with many publications, some for purchase and some are available to download as PDF files. An events listing is also given.

[Back to top](#)

## **News Services**

Find the latest travel news online

### **Air and Business Travel News**

<http://www.abtn.co.uk/>

This is a weekly news review (updated every Monday) aimed at the UK aviation and tour operator industry as well as regular travellers. News headlines and summaries of topical issues are offered. Registration to access the full news stories and features on current topics is free and an email newsletter is available. Examples of topics

covered include passenger health and safety, airlines, tourism trends, airline technology, customer services, and developments in hotel and car rental services.

### **BBC Travel News**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/travelnews/>

This is the most up to date source for travel planning within the UK, whether you are driving or using public transport. The site features an interactive national travel incident map and can be browsed by region or by the transport provider. These pages also feature the main travel related news stories and live Web cam links.

### **Travel Trade Gazette**

<http://www.ttqlive.com>

This is the online version of the weekly newspaper, which contains the latest travel related news. A searchable archive of news items, articles and features is available as well as a directory of tour operators, suppliers and tourist boards. Job vacancies are listed and a separate section for the business sector is also provided.

### **Travel Weekly**

<http://www.travelweekly.co.uk>

This is a weekly newspaper for the UK travel industry, providing industry news, details of events and jobs for travel professionals working in leisure or business travel, tour operators and other sectors of the travel trade. As well as current issues, there are online supplements on a range of destinations and types of holiday, together with online courses for registered travel agents. It is possible to the news archives from 2005 onwards. Other features include Interviews with key industry figures, careers advice, job advertisements, RSS feed and blog. Also includes links to sister journals Travel Weekly China and Travel Weekly Australia.

### **Guardian : travel**

<http://travel.guardian.co.uk>

This is the travel section of the online version of the Guardian newspaper. Search or browse for travel articles, restaurant and hotel reviews, currency converter, information about carbon emissions, reader's tips and photographs, news, a blog and audio guides. Destination guides are provided, which can be browsed either via the a-z index or by type of activity. It is also possible to book cars, flights and hotel accommodation via the site. Links to external related sites are also provided.

### **Independent : Travel news and Advice**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/travel/>

The travel section of the Independent newspaper online contains current news articles on travel as well as archived travel articles. Articles are categorised by world region or by theme and are full-text. This website has a search and an advanced search facility (located at the bottom of the page), including limiting by date and display by date or relevance. Also provided here are the 48 hours in... guides to popular destinations.

### **Mailing lists**

Great for networking with like-minded people

### **JISCMail**

<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/>

JISCMail provides tools for setting up and running email discussion lists and is free to members of the HE and FE community in the UK. There are a number of lists for business and tourism and you can often browse the archives of previous discussions. If there isn't a list already, you can easily set one up yourself and invite others to join.

## **TOURISM**

<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/tourism.html>

This JISCmail discussion group is aimed at academics and researchers working in all areas of tourism. This includes issues involved with the teaching of tourism at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level, and research into tourism and its related areas. Archives date back to September 1998.

## **TOURISM-MARKETING**

<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/tourism-marketing.html>

This is an email discussion list that is aimed at academics, researchers and practitioners working in tourism marketing. The list was set up to facilitate discussion and the exchange of ideas. The list is freely available to registered users in further and higher education and a searchable archive of messages is available from June 1999

## **TOURISMANTHROPOLOGY**

<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/tourismanthropology.html>

This list is aimed at all practitioners with an interest in tourism, and in particular the anthropological issues associated with it. The list also aims to promote both scholarly and applied research in the field of tourism; archives date back from September 1998.

[Back to top](#)