

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Powering the UK economy¹

International travel powers the UK economy - making an overall gross value added (GVA) contribution of £88bn annually, and supporting the employment of more than 1.4m people right across the UK.

ABTA and UKinbound have come together to celebrate our respective parts of the UK's vibrant tourism mix, outbound and inbound travel, which are interdependent and interlinked. International travel has shared physical infrastructure, such as airports and ports, but also brings wider mutual benefits such as the route viability and connectivity underpinned by two-way travel flows.

We also know that the benefits of international travel are far wider than solely economic. Our sectors offer enormous social, wellbeing and cultural benefits to individuals, and contribute to the UK's international soft-power.



£88.5bn

in total GVA to the UK economy from international travel

£57bn

in total GVA from outbound travel

£25.1bn direct

£18.4bn indirect

£13.4bn induced²

£31.5bn

in total GVA from inbound travel

£14.6bn direct

£9.4bn indirect

£7.4bn induced³

£105.3bn⁴

in total spending on international travel (all expenditure within the UK)

£67.3bn outbound

£38bn inbound

1. All data ABTA/York Aviation, The Value of International Travel, September 2026
All figures are subject to rounding and may not calculate exactly

International travel – providing jobs across the UK

1.4m
Total jobs

576,000 direct
337,000 indirect
252,000 induced

865,000
Outbound jobs

359,000 direct
223,000 indirect
162,000 induced

508,000
Inbound jobs

217,000 direct
114,000 indirect
90,000 induced

UK – jobs & GVA from international travel in the regions and nations

