

# Travel Finance Conference

28-29 February 2024

KPMG, 15 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5GL



## Host partner



## Event partners



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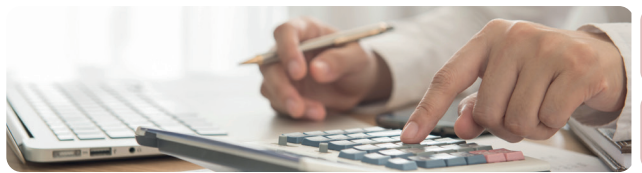


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## DAY ONE

09:30 **Registration, tea and coffee**

10:00 **Welcome and opening remarks**

**Felicity Jefferis-Boyd**, Director of Finance, **ABTA**

10:10 **Keynote address: the current economic climate and the impact of global affairs on the travel industry**

- Expectations for consumer confidence and spending through uncertainty
- Understanding the impact of the sustained cost of living crisis on UK economy
- What level of business investment activity do we expect over the next year?

**Yael Selfin**, Chief Economist, **KPMG**

10:30 **Data lead insights from across the travel industry**

- Utilising the Barclays consumer spend data to take a closer look at 2023
- Understand your customers, and how they spend, to drive growth

**Simon Atkinson**, Head of Travel, **Barclays**

**Jamie Evans**, Director of Travel, **Barclays Payments**

10:50 **Panel discussion: negotiating the changing travel landscape**

- Negotiating political, regulatory and economic uncertainty
- Identifying and managing the key challenges facing the industry and the impact on the finance function:
  - AI
  - climate change
  - workforce

**Moderator: Susan Deer**, Director of Industry Relations, **ABTA**

**Michelle Heywood**, Finance Director, **easyJet holidays**

**Colman Candy**, Director, Commercial Counsel, **Royal Caribbean Group**

**Colin Parselle**, Chief Financial Officer, **Hotelplan**

11:20 **Networking tea and coffee break**

11:45 **Accounting, financial reporting and audit update**  
*A bitesize, technical update providing practical information about the latest changes on:*

- UK GAAP and news from Companies House (including changes to small company exemptions)
- Audits and how to prepare for them following ISA 315

**Ashleigh Ryninks**, Director, Financial Accounting Advisory Services, **Grant Thornton**

12:05 **Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) reporting**

- Understanding what is required in ESG reporting
- Reporting requirements and climate change financial disclosures
- Best practice
- How do investors view companies with good ESG credentials and processes?

**Rebecca Wilson**, ESG & Corporate Reporting Director, **KPMG**

12:25 **Networking lunch**

13:40 **The current M&A landscape, trends and what we can expect in the future**

- M&A deal update in the travel industry
- Accessing company data

**Mike McDonald**, Managing Director, Consumer & Leisure M&A, Deal Advisory, **KPMG**

**Mamoona Aslam**, Director, **KPMG**

14:00 **M&A panel discussion: due diligence, company valuation and raising finance**

- How do you value your travel business?
- Raising finance
- PE investment

**Moderator: Richard Aston**, Deal Advisory, **KPMG**

**Ken Campling**, Group Finance Director, **Hays Travel**

**Deborah Potts**, Director, **Summit Advisory**

**Chad Lion-Cachet**, Chairman, **Clico Capital**

**Nicola Sartori**, Partner, Corporate Finance, **Grant Thornton**

14:30 **Networking tea and coffee break**

14:55 **Data and reporting strategies in travel businesses**

- Using customer data to inform decisions and drive value and returns
- Implementing systems and identifying reporting requirements for data use

**Paul Thomas**, Head of Business Development, **Sagacity**

**Lisa Edwards-Webb**, former Marketing Director, **Saga Travel Group**

15:15 **Panel discussion: training, recruitment & retention of finance talent**

- The current talent crisis and what's key to employees
- Diversity and inclusion in the finance team
- Tips for retaining talent

**Moderator: Danny Waive**, Head of Membership, **ABTA**

**Roshni Shah**, Finance Director, **Flight Centre Travel Group**

**Vicki Wolf**, Head of Education and Career Development, **ABTA**

**James Kearns**, Commercial Manager, **Kefron**

**Luke Davis**, Chief Operating Officer, **Diversifying Group**

15:40 **Closing remarks**

15:50 **Networking drinks**



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## DAY TWO

09:30 **Registration, tea and coffee**

10:00 **Welcome and opening remarks**

**Martin Alcock**, Director, **Travel Trade Consultancy**

10:10 **Essential regulation update for travel finance professionals**

- Package Travel Regulations consultation update: UK and EU perspective
- Cross border selling
- Competition and consumer policy consultation and the work of the CM
- ATOL reform

**Simon Bunce**, Director of Legal Affairs, **ABTA**

10:45 **Panel discussion: regulatory reform and financial protection**

- Package Travel Regulations, ATOL reform and pipeline protection
- Segregation of customer monies and PTR requirements for trusts
- The changing risk appetite of financial protection providers

**Rachel Jordan**, Director of Membership and Financial Protection, **ABTA**

**Michael Budge**, Head of ATOL, **Civil Aviation Authority**

**Craig Belsham**, Assistant Director, Partnerships & International Consumer Team, **Department for Business & Trade**

**Sami Doyle**, CEO & Co-founder, **TMU Management**

11:25 **Networking tea and coffee break**

11:50 **Panel discussion: advances in travel fintech, pricing and innovations in payments**

- Open banking, frictionless payments and embedded finance
- Flexible financing: buy now, pay later schemes
- Virtual credit cards and their use in the travel industry
- Impact of financial protection changes on payments
- The future of payment regulation

**Moderator: Lisa Kingman**, Senior Financial Protection Manager, **ABTA**

**Mark Skehill**, Senior Business Development Manager, Travel, **Trust Payments**

**Will Bicknell**, Founder, **Felloh**

**Sami Doyle**, CEO & Co-founder, **TMU Management**

12:25 **Networking lunch**

13:45 **Fraud risk management**

- Understanding the threats facing the travel industry:
  - emerging cyber risks in travel
  - payment fraud

14:05 **Tax policy update**

- IR35 compliance
- Update on global minimum corporation tax
- Environmental, Social and Governance criteria (ESG) and responsible tax behaviour
- Future tax reform

**Alexander Simpson**, Partner, Business Tax, **Evelyn Partners**

**Alistair Nichol**, Partner, Business Tax, **Evelyn Partners**

14:20 **Future of travel VAT and TOMS**

- UK VAT TOMS Scheme
- Current position for UK tour operators paying VAT in EU member states
- Update on the European Commission review of the EU TOMS VAT rules
- EU Platform Economy-Deemed Supplier Regime

**Paul Stewart**, Indirect Tax Director, **KPMG**

14:40 **Networking tea and coffee**

15:05 **Currency outlook and managing volatility risk**

- Understanding external and transactional factors in FX markets to achieve lower costs, stability, good growth and sales
- Reducing currency risk between bookings and departure
- Managing large currency movements
- Different hedging strategies used by travel businesses
- Upcoming financial events and anticipating what might happen to the pound and major global currencies in the months ahead

**Eva Obersneider**, Senior Business Development Manager, **Equals Money**

15:30 **Interview with the world's fastest accountant!**

*Eugene Amo-Dadzie is a 100m sprinter for Great Britain, and one of the fast sprinters in the world today. His remarkable story within sport began in a unique way as he only started running in 2018 aged 26, and he is still a practicing full-time qualified chartered accountant. This summer he ran 9.93 seconds in the 100m, becoming the 10th fastest European in history and the 4th fastest in UK history, alongside winning two national bronze medals. This was then followed by a 10th place at the World Athletics Championships, all whilst on annual leave from work!*

*Hear Eugene's story and discover what is possible when you identify and work to develop your talent irrespective of barriers along the way.*

**Eugene Amo-Dadzie**, Senior Management Accountant, **Berkeley Group**

15:55 **Closing remarks**

16:00 **Close of conference**





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## The conference

This key industry event brings together travel representatives, financial experts, and industry regulators for two days of insightful updates and discussion. Attend this conference to get an update on the current economic climate and financial trends in the travel industry, along with an essential regulatory update including the **Package Travel Regulations review** and **ATOL reform**.

As the industry sees an increase in **M&A** deals, sessions will provide an insight into the trends that we're seeing along with discussion on company valuation and raising finance.

Attend this comprehensive conference for essential updates on **recruitment & retention** of the finance team, **managing fraud risk**, receive guidance on **environmental, social and governance reporting**, stay on top of changes in **accounting and tax** and much more.

Through a mix of keynote presentations, engaging panel discussions and industry case studies, this conference will provide you with the insights and knowledge necessary to take on the latest challenges in Travel Finance.

Hear from leading travel organisations including **easyJet Holidays**, **Royal Caribbean Group**, **Hotelplan** and **Hays Travel** and don't miss the opportunity to hear from **Eugene Amo-Dadzie**, **GB 100m sprinter and accountant**, discuss developing your talent irrespective of barriers.

## Benefits of attending

- Gain in-depth insight on all the **key travel finance issues** facing companies today, including the latest accounting and tax issues.
- Get an update on the **current economic climate**, including the pace of economic recovery and consumer spending.
- Hear first hand-experience from **industry leaders and finance directors** from large and small businesses.
- Get insight on how to effectively **recruit and manage finance teams**.
- Hear the latest thinking and **best practice in environmental, social and governance (ESG)** reporting.
- Understand how you can better **manage your foreign exchange risk** to protect your bottom line.
- Hear an update on the **current financial trends** and what they mean for your business.
- Have the chance to **bring your questions** to ABTA, industry speakers and finance regulatory experts.

## Who should attend?

The event is ideal for large and small companies within the travel industry, including the following:

- CEOs and directors
- Finance directors and managers
- Finance, audit and commercial teams

Use this two-day event to contribute towards your Continuing Professional Development

## Group booking

If you are interested in sending a group, please contact [events@abta.co.uk](mailto:events@abta.co.uk) for a bespoke cost.

## How to register

You can book online and pay by credit card.

Visit [abta.co.uk/abtaevents](https://abta.co.uk/abtaevents) to book.

You can view our terms and conditions on the event webpage at [abta.com/eventstermsandconditions](https://abta.com/eventstermsandconditions)

## Event format and prices

### ABTA Member/ABTA Partner rates\*

Full two-day rate – **£439 plus VAT**

One-day rate – **£309 plus VAT**

### Non-Member rates:

Full two-day rate – **£699 plus VAT**

One-day rate – **£469 plus VAT**

*This includes lunch and refreshments throughout the day, all delegate materials, presentations and an attendee certificate.*

**You may attend one day and nominate a colleague to attend the other day. Please register your place for both days then email [events@abta.co.uk](mailto:events@abta.co.uk) with the name and job title of your colleague and which day they would like to attend.**

\*To qualify for the ABTA Member/Partner discount you must have a current ABTA Member/Partner number or your application must be in progress when the event takes place. For details on becoming an ABTA Member or Partner visit [abta.com/join](https://abta.com/join)

For information on how to promote your company at this event, please contact **Sara Dolan** on **07766 517 611** or email [sdolan@abta.co.uk](mailto:sdolan@abta.co.uk)

## Upcoming events

### Travel VAT Training

6 March 2024, London

### Travel Law Seminar

1-2 May 2024, London



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