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"A falling oil price and strong Pound should generate freer spending on short-haul holidays in general. These factors are also likely to act as a further incentive for 'mix and match' or 'hybrid' travel behaviour — travellers who seek to economise as much as possible on the transport component of their holiday in order to trade up and spend more on accommodation or in the destination itself."

— John Worthington, Senior Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- What is the likely impact of falling oil prices and a stronger Pound on holiday spending patterns?
- How do spending patterns differ between package and independent holidaymakers and what are the implications for the travel and tourism industry?

The past six years have been extremely tough for travel and tourism businesses. UK consumers spent only 4% more (at current prices) on holidays in 2014 than they did in 2008, despite the overall cost of living having risen 21% over that period. Profit margins, often thin in the industry even in good times, have been squeezed further. Travellers have become adept at shopping around both online and offline.

Socio-economic inequalities necessitate a broad segmentation of holiday products, budget, mid-range and luxury, but many holidaymakers also have higher than ever expectations, and there is growing demand for more upmarket versions of mass market products – the concept of affordable luxury is increasingly used across the industry.

This report explores key market drivers, discusses budget, mid-market, premiumisation and luxury trends across the market, and focuses on an in-depth analysis of the spending approaches of overseas package, independent and UK domestic holidaymakers. This is the first time Mintel has reported on this theme.

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DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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Table of Contents

Introduction

Definition

Abbreviations

Executive Summary

The market

Overseas going up, domestic going down

Figure 1: Domestic and overseas holiday volume, 2008-14

Figure 2: Domestic and overseas holiday expenditure, 2008-14

Market factors

Macro-economic factors favour overseas revival

Figure 3: UK average weekly earnings (excl bonuses)* vs CPI inflation, percentage change year-on-year, January 2013-december 2014

Figure 4: European Brent Crude Oil Spot Price (US\$ per barrel), January 2014-January 2015*

Figure 5: Sterling exchange rate versus euro and US\$, annual averages, 2009-14, and spot rate January 2015

Companies, brands and innovation

Budget long-haul and ultra-luxury

Experiential luxury

Hybrid Traveller

'Affordable luxury'

Sun enters online deals space

The consumer

Upmarket package

Figure 6: Approaches to spending on package holidays abroad, November 2014

Independent jugglers

Figure 7: Approaches to spending on independent holidays abroad, November 2014

Domestic sector has broadest spending patterns

Figure 8: Approaches to spending on UK accommodation, November 2014

Save on fares, splurge in destination

Figure 9: Selected attitudes towards holiday spending, November 2014

What we think

Issues and Insights

What is the likely impact of falling oil prices and a stronger Pound on holiday spending patterns?

The facts

The implications

How do spending patterns differ between package and independent holidaymakers and what are the implications for the travel and tourism industry?

The facts



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The implications

Trend Application

Trend: Minimize Me
Trend: Slow It All Down
Trend: Let's Make a Deal

Market Drivers

Key points

Consumers beginning to feel better off

Figure 10: GfK/NOP Consumer Confidence Index, January 2013 - December 2014

Figure 11: UK average weekly earnings (excl bonuses)* vs CPI inflation, percentage change year-on-year, January 2013-december 2014

Oil price crash likely to boost travel abroad

Figure 12: European Brent Crude Oil Spot Price (US\$ per barrel), January 2014-January 2015*

Pound reaches seven-year high against euro

Figure 13: Sterling exchange rate versus selected currencies, annual averages, 2009-14, and spot rate January 2015

End of staycation?

Figure 14: holidays, volume, expenditure and average price, 2008-14

Highest spending age groups

Figure 15: Overseas holidays, expenditure per day*, by age and gender, 2013

Figure 16: Domestic holidays, expenditure per day*, by age, 2013

High spending short breakers

Figure 17: Overseas holidays, expenditure per day*, by holiday duration, 2013

Figure 18: Domestic holidays, expenditure per day*, by holiday duration, 2013

Premium versus budget destinations

Figure 19: Overseas holidays, number of visits, number of nights, expenditure and spend per night*, by destination, 2013

Innovation and Trends

Key points

The hybrid traveller

The luxury traveller

'Affordable luxury'

Premiumisation of traditional holidays

Deal hunters

Low income holidays

The Consumer - Holiday Taking

Key points

Who goes where?

Figure 20: Destinations visited on holiday in the past 12 months, November 2014

Figure 21: Destinations visited on holiday in the past 12 months, by socio-economic group, November 2014

Figure 22: Destinations visited on holiday in the past 12 months, by household income, November 2014

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Figure 23: Destinations visited on holiday in the past 12 months, by age group, November 2014

The multiple holidaymaker

Figure 24: Single versus multiple holiday-taking in the past 12 months, by destination, November 2014

How holidays are booked

Figure 25: Booking profile of overseas and domestic holidays taken in the past 12 months, November 2014

The Consumer – Holiday Types

Key points

Beach and city are neck and neck

Figure 26: Types of holiday taken in the past 12 months, November 2014

Figure 27: Types of holiday taken in the past 12 months, by destination*, November 2014

Who takes which type of holiday?

The Consumer - Holiday Spending: Transport, Accommodation & Car Hire

Key points

Overall spending patterns

Figure 28: Approaches to holiday spending, November 2014

Package holidaymakers abroad

Figure 29: Approaches to spending on package holidays abroad, November 2014

Independent holidaymakers abroad

Figure 30: Approaches to spending on transport for holidays in Europe, November 2014

Figure 31: Approaches to spending on transport for holidays outside Europe, November 2014

Figure 32: Approaches to spending on accommodation abroad, November 2014

UK domestic holidaymakers

Figure 33: Approaches to spending on UK accommodation, November 2014

Single versus multiple holidaymakers

Figure 34: Approaches to holiday spending, single versus multiple holidaymakers per destination, November 2014

Demographics of spending patterns

Package holidays

Independent holidays abroad: short-haul transport

Figure 35: Approaches to spending on transport for holidays in Europe, by gender, November 2014

Figure 36: Approaches to spending on transport for holidays in Europe, family versus non-family, November 2014

Independent holidays abroad: long-haul transport

Figure 37: Approaches to spending on transport for holidays outside Europe, family versus non-family, November 2014

Independent holidays abroad: accommodation

UK holidays: accommodation

Summary

Figure 38: Approaches to holiday spending, by age group, November 2014

Spending approaches by holiday type

The hybrid traveller: Mintel's mix & match groups

Figure 39: demographic profiles of all independent holidaymakers abroad, versus 'mix and match short-haul' group and 'mix and match long-haul' group, November 2014

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Figure 40: Holiday types taken in the past 12 months by all independent holidaymakers abroad, mix and match short-haul' group and mix and match long-haul group, November 2014

Mintel's qualitative panel

Holiday car hire spending

Figure 41: Approaches to spending on holiday car hire, November 2014

The Consumer – Other Holiday Spending

Key points

Travellers prioritise spend on eating out

Figure 42: Approaches to other holiday spending, November 2014

Holiday shoppers

Figure 43: Approaches to other holiday spending, by type of holiday booking, November 2014

The Consumer - Attitudes towards Holiday Spending

Key points

Premium spending attitudes

Figure 44: Attitudes towards holiday spending, November 2014

Budget spending attitudes

The hybrid holidaymaker (continued)

Premium versus Budget

Figure 45: Preference for longer budget versus shorter luxury holidays, by socio-economic group, November 2014

Package more premium-oriented than independent travel

Figure 46: Attitudes towards holiday spending, by type of holiday booking, November 2014

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