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"France needs to promote two contrasting messages to UK visitors; the first is being a slow and sensuous destination which offers a tranquil escape from the modern, over-busy, 'always connected' world, he second highlighting a vibrant, quirky, dynamic and contemporary country."

- John Worthington, Senior Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- No-fly France remains a key selling-point despite rise in air travel
- Singles potential
- Families on tour
- Budget families

The number of holidays to France increased in 2017. This cancelled out the fall seen in the previous year in the wake of the 2015/16 wave of terrorist attacks in Paris and Nice. However there has been an underlying decline in the UK source market over the past decade. Current trip volumes are still down on 2007, and expenditure growth is heavily lagging behind the overseas holiday market as a whole.

In an era of cheap flights, all-inclusive package deals and unparalleled destination choice for travellers, France is no longer the automatic choice for a holiday abroad that it once was. Its reputation as a relatively expensive place to visit is a double-edged sword – helping to project an upmarket, sophisticated image, but likely to deter visitors in a period of rising living costs and a weak Pound. However, the destination retains some strong pull factors – gastronomy, diversity of regions and tourism products, and its accessibility by a range of transport options.

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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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Holidays to France regain momentum

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Ferry

#FeelFrance

Sporting chance

Green France

Launch Activity and Innovation - What You Need to Know

Eurostar entertainment

New holiday parks

Visitor attractions

Golf opportunity

Design hotels

Launch Activity and Innovation

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Disney meets Center Parcs

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New visitor attractions

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Appendix - Data Sources, Abbreviations and Supporting Information

Definition

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Consumer research methodology

CHAID methodology

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