

Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



"Despite uncertain economic times in the UK there are plenty of opportunities for smaller specialist agents to leverage their expertise in niche markets. More than half of the UK adult population say they are interested in a dedicated special interest holiday."

- Fergal McGivney, Senior Travel Analyst

## This report looks at the following areas:

Younger people are looking for ways to discover new passions and interests, and are especially open to using technology to meet new people that share their interests.

- Special interest breaks can help parents bond with their children
- Helping special interest holidaymakers connect
- Independent bookers are using Airbnb Experiences

# BUY THIS REPORT NOW

**VISIT:** store.mintel.com

**CALL:**EMEA
+44 (0) 20 7606 4533

Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250

+86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com

**DID YOU KNOW?** 

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



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

### **Table of Contents**

#### **Overview**

What you need to know

Products covered in this Report

#### **Executive Summary**

The market

3.2 million potential customers for dedicated special interest holidays

Market contraction is possible but potential growth in "add-on" special interest holidays

Figure 1: Preferences for dedicated special interest holidays, December 2017

The consumer

Nearly a third of the population have taken a special interest holiday in the past

Figure 2: Special interest holiday participation, December 2017

High degree of satisfaction amongst special interest holidaymakers

Figure 3: Taking a special interest holiday in the future, December 2017

Specialist travel agents versus independent bookers

Figure 4: Booking special interest holidays, December 2017

UK is a popular destination for special interest holidaymakers

Figure 5: Destinations for special interest holidays, December 2017  $\,$ 

Exploring couples' interests

Figure 6: Preferred travel partner for special interest holidays, December 2017

Could special interest holidays be a way to inspire a carrier change?

Figure 7: Attitudes towards special interest holidays, December 2017

What we think

#### **Issues and Insights**

Special interest breaks can help parents bond with their children

The facts

The implications

Helping special interest holidaymakers connect

The facts

The implications

Independent bookers are using Airbnb Experiences

The facts

The implications

## The Market - What You Need to Know

29% of Brits have taken a special interest holiday

A tenth interested in a dedicated special interest holiday

Potential contraction of special interest market in 2018  $\dots$ 

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300 APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 |

EMAIL: reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

... as growth in the broader overseas holiday market slows

Potential for growth in domestic special interest holidays market

#### Market Size

3.2 million potential customers for dedicated special interest holidays ...

Market contraction possible but further scope for "add-on" special interest holidays

Figure 8: Preferences for dedicated special interest holidays, December 2017

Potential slowdown in overseas segment opens doors at home

Figure 9: Behaviours related to booking special interest holidays, December 2017

#### **Market Background**

#### The domestic market; a return to staycations?

Figure 10: Domestic holiday market volume and value\* forecast, 2012-22

Figure 11: Forecast of domestic holiday market volume, 2012-22

#### Overseas volume finally surpasses a milestone, but slowdown expected

Figure 12: Overseas holiday market volume and value\*, 2012-22

Figure 13: Forecast of overseas holiday market volume, 2012-22

#### Most popular hobbies and interest not necessarily the most common for special interest holidays

Figure 14: Hobbies and interest amongst UK consumers, December 2017

Figure 15: Special interest participation, by hobbies and interests, December 2017

Figure 16: Attitudes towards special interest holidays, December 2017

### Companies and Brands - What You Need to Know

TUI recognises Destination Services as a potential growth area

TUI partners with Utrip to leverage data and AI for destination activities

Zero gravity nightclub takes to the skies in Frankfurt

 $\mbox{Cox}\ \&\ \mbox{Kings}$  unveils film-based Finding Your Feet in Rome trip

Croatian company takes wine enthusiasts underwater

Three groups of leading brands in the market

Other key players in the market

## **Launch Activity and Innovation**

TUI recognises Destination Services as a potential growth area

TUI partners with Utrip to leverage data and AI for destination activities

Zero gravity nightclub takes to the skies in Frankfurt

Figure 17: BigCityBreaks Zero Gravity nightclub

Cox & Kings unveils film-based Finding Your Feet in Rome trip

Croatian company takes wine enthusiasts underwater

Figure 18: Edivo Vina underwater winery in the Croatian town of Drače

Special interest growth in the luxury market

### **Company Profiles**

Three groups of leading brands in the market

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300 APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 |

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 19: Special interest holiday brands that are members of AITO, February 2017

Other key players in the market

Other players in the market

#### The Consumer - What You Need to Know

Nearly a third of population have taken a special interest holiday

High degree of satisfaction amongst special interest holidaymakers

Specialist travel agents versus independent bookers

Destinations close to home are popular

Most wish to travel with their partner

Local experts are key

#### **Special Interest Holiday Participation**

#### Nearly a third of population have taken a special interest holiday

Figure 20: Special interest holiday participation, December 2017

Figure 21: Participants in special interest holidays, by hobbies/interests, December 2017

#### Younger generations most likely to take special interest holidays

Figure 22: Special interest holiday participation, by age, December 2017

#### Opportunities for the luxury sector

Figure 23: Special interest holiday participation, by socioeconomic group, December 2017

## Gender divide for special interest holidays

Figure 24: Special interest holiday participation, by gender and age, December 2017

## Males bigger fans of active hobbies

Figure 25: Hobbies and interests of consumer, by gender, December 2017

## **Future Plans for Special Interest Holidays**

## Satisfaction high amongst special interest holidaymakers

Figure 26: Taking a special interest holiday in the future, December 2017

Figure 27: Interest in going on a special interest holiday, by special interest holiday participation, December 2017

### Younger generations are key targets ...

Figure 28: Those that have not been on a special interest holiday but are interested in going on one, versus those that have been on one, by age, December 2017

... but brands should not forget about cash-rich, time-rich seniors

Courting middle-aged consumers and families

#### **Booking Special Interest Holidays**

#### Specialist travel agents versus independent bookers

Figure 29: Booking special interest holidays, December 2017

The young and affluent book with specialist agents

Over a third have used Airbnb experiences to book

### **Destinations for Special Interest Holidays**

#### UK is a popular destination for special interest holidaymakers

Figure 30: Destinations for special interest holidays, December 2017

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 | **EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 31: Preference for special interest holidays - Home versus abroad, December 2017

France is a key market for special interest holidaymakers

Age bias for staying in the UK offers opportunities

Figure 32: Proportion who selected the UK as a destination for a special interest holidays, December 2017

Younger consumers have a strong preference for overseas

Figure 33: Destinations for special interest holidays, overseas versus UK, December 2017

#### **TURF Analysis - Destinations for Special Interest Holidays**

Methodology

How many destinations should brands offer?

Figure 34: TURF analysis – Destinations of special interest holidays, December 2017

Figure 35: Table - TURF analysis - Destinations of special interest holidays, December 2017

#### **Preferences for Special Interest Holiday Companions**

Holiday with partner most popular

Exploring couples' interests

Figure 36: Preferred travel partner for special interest holidays, December 2017

Helping parents bond with their children

Single parents should not be forgotten

Men prefer to travel solo

Almost a third of solo travellers enjoy being on their own ...

Figure 37: Preference for special interest holiday companions, December 2017

 $\ldots$  almost two fifths want to meet people with shared interests

Figure 38: Solo versus meeting people, December 2017

## **Attitudes towards Special Interest Holidays**

Smaller brands need to put consumers' minds at ease

Expert or local knowledge is important for special interests

Could special interest holidays be a way to inspire a career change?

Figure 39: Attitudes towards special interest holidays, December 2017

 $\textit{Figure 40: Target groups based on statements towards special interest holidays - CHAID - Tree output, \, December \, 2017 \\$ 

### **CHAID Analysis – Attitudes towards Special Interest Holidays**

Methodology

Figure 41: Target groups based on statements towards special interest holidays - CHAID - Tree output, December 2017

Figure 42: Target groups based on statements towards special interest holidays - CHAID - Table output, December 2017

## Appendix - Data Sources, Abbreviations and Supporting Information

Abbreviations

Consumer research methodology

Appendix - Market Size and Forecast

Forecast methodology



**VISIT:** store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 | **EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com