

# En Voyage

Aurigny's leisure and business magazine

ISSUE 24



## SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVIN' IS EASY

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SPIRIT

BUSINESS  
NEWS

SPORTS  
SECTION

PLUS  
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# JACOB & CO

## GENEVE



### ASTRONOMIA SKY

The latest in the Astronomia collection from Jacob & Co., the Astronomia Sky is the most complicated version yet. Like the others in the Astronomia collection, everything turns, spins and rotates – the triple-axis tourbillon, the time display, the seconds display, and the Jacob-cut orange sapphire. In addition, the Sky adds sidereal time, with the blued titanium base turning one full rotation in a solar year, displaying the sidereal month on the side. A gold Oval Sky Indicator circles this dial once in a solar day, showing the constellations visible overhead in 18K gold. The Astronomia Sky is really a solar system on your wrist, with everything visible thanks to the incredible sapphire crystal case.



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"I TRAVEL NOT TO GO ANYWHERE,  
BUT TO GO. I TRAVEL FOR TRAVEL'S SAKE.  
THE GREAT AFFAIR IS TO MOVE."

Robert Louis Stevenson



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# CATHERINE BEST



Clematis Collection



## Jewellery that captures moments

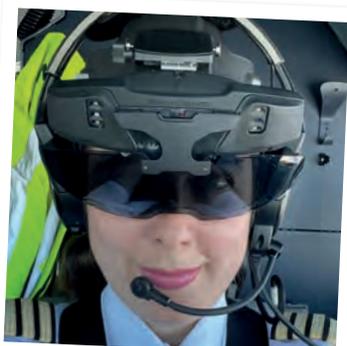
Inspired by Raymond's Clematis Bluebird and Clematis Empress varieties, Catherine has created the perfect collection for nature lovers everywhere. Catherine has always been influenced by nature, and admires Raymond's world class work. That admiration has led to an exciting collaboration and our blossoming Clematis collection.



# #Aurigny

## SEND US YOUR SHOTS!

We want to see your photos, perhaps a colourful sunset at 12,000 feet, a runway panoramic or an onboard abstract. Upload your best photo to any social media platform and tag using #Aurigny. It could be featured in the next issue of En Voyage. Please remember to make sure your device is switched to the flight safe mode for taxi, take-off and landing, and upload at a suitable time.



@maaikepilot

I feel the need... Still getting used to landing with the goggles on.



@jessawanderer  
Alderney.



@paul\_gsy\_ci  
The Humps from 2,000 feet.



@hudgeguernsey

It's that bald beauty who makes awesome Guernsey fudge in the latest Aurigny magazine.

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### COVER PHOTO

Barcelona beach @istockphoto

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### CONTRIBUTORS

What's a magazine without wordsmiths? En Voyage receives content from a variety of writers and contributors in both Guernsey and further afield.



# CONTENTS

- 9 **WELCOME ABOARD!**  
Message from Nico Bezuidenhout,  
Aurigny's Chief Executive Officer
- 10 **AURIGNY NEWS**
- 20 **GUERNSEY CLEMATIS**  
Raymond Evison talks about his  
world-renowned growing business
- 25 **GUERNSEY BEACH GUIDE**  
Pembroke and L'Ancrese
- 28 **COMMUNITY SPIRIT**
- 33 **WHAT'S ON?**  
Forthcoming events in the  
Bailiwick and beyond
- 38 **DISTILLING SUCCESS**  
Luke Wheadon discusses the rise of  
his family-run gin and rum company
- 44 **GUERNSEY CONNECTING**  
Time to travel
- 46 **IRELAND**  
Discover some of the heritage gems  
and film locations on the Emerald Isle
- 51 **BARCELONA**  
Catalonia's cosmopolitan capital
- 56 **LEEDS**  
Experience the largest city in  
'God's Own County'
- 62 **48 HOURS IN EDINBURGH**  
Where history and culture combine
- 64 **CASTLE CORNET**  
Discover this magnificent fortress
- 68 **BUSINESS SECTION**  
Inspiring interviews and local  
business news
- 112 **GUERNSEY PRIDE**  
Celebrating 50 years since the first  
Pride march in the UK
- 115 **SPORT**  
Dave Harfield heads up the Guernsey  
Sports Commission's holiday club
- 118 **ALAN JENNER**  
Outdoor Sports Development Officer
- 121 **SKY SNACKS AND DUTY FREE**

**LEADERS**

ADVANCING PHENOMENAL PERFORMANCE

# NEXUS



## Join our 2023 cohort!

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**1968**  
Founded



**17 MILLION**  
Aurigny has carried over 17 million passengers since it was founded



**MORE ROUTES IN 2022**

Aurigny will be operating to more destinations than ever before in 2022 while continuing to operate its scheduled services



**HOLIDAY FLIGHTS IN 2020**

Aurigny was one of the only airlines in the world to offer isolation-free holidays in 2020 with travel corridors between Alderney, Guernsey and the Isle of Man



**2019**  
Named Airline of the Year at 2019 Southampton Airport Awards



**6**  
Aircraft



**1977**  
First airline in the world to ban smoking on all services



**1**  
In-flight marriage



**1**  
FA Cup  
Flown to Guernsey on 19th August 2016



**300**  
Staff



**1**  
Birth on board  
Between Alderney and Guernsey



**2019**  
Ranked best short-haul airline by Which?



# AURIGNY

## GUERNSEY'S AIRLINE



OK, it's not the easiest of names – pronounced **Or-ree-nee** – but it's certainly one that islanders are proud of. 'Aurigny' is the Norman name for Alderney, the northern island in the Bailiwick of Guernsey, where Aurigny Air Services was launched in 1968.

Aurigny has been serving the Channel Islands for over 50 years and is owned by the States of Guernsey.

## OUR DESTINATIONS

### FROM GUERNSEY

- ALDERNEY
- BIRMINGHAM
- BRISTOL
- DUBLIN
- EAST MIDLANDS†
- EXETER
- GRENoble†
- LEEDS BRADFORD†
- LONDON GATWICK
- MALAGA†
- MANCHESTER
- SOUTHAMPTON

### FROM ALDERNEY

- GUERNSEY
- SOUTHAMPTON

† Seasonal route

Look out for additional destinations for short breaks being added throughout 2022.

Direct flights to Ibiza, Madrid, Prague, Porto, Nice, Mallorca, Barcelona and Edinburgh already on sale.

Visit [aurigny.com](http://aurigny.com) for more details.



# OUR FLEET

Aurigny currently has a fleet of six aircraft serving the network.

We introduced our flagship Jet, an Embraer 195, in July 2014 to service the Guernsey-Gatwick route. The twinjet aircraft is the largest aircraft in the fleet, with a capacity of 122 passengers.

Three ATRs also help to serve our UK and European destinations. The newest additions are three brand-new ATR 72-600 aircraft which Aurigny took delivery of at the end of 2019. Each came fitted with a contemporary cabin design which introduced the latest standards of comfort, offering more space for luggage in overhead bins and providing passengers with 18" wide seats.

We took delivery of our second New Generation Dornier 228 in 2017, to serve the Alderney routes.



Embraer 195

**NUMBER IN FLEET** 1

**BUILT** Sao Jose Dos Campos, Brazil

**ENGINES**

2 x General Electric CF34-10E7 Turbofans

**MAXIMUM SPEED** 542 knots (624 mph)

**PASSENGERS CARRIED** 122

**RANGE** 2,500 miles (4,023 km)



ATR 72-600

**NUMBER IN FLEET** 3

**BUILT** Toulouse, France

**ENGINES**

2 x Pratt & Whitney PW-127 M Turboprops

**MAXIMUM SPEED** 276 knots (318 mph)

**PASSENGERS CARRIED** 72

**RANGE** 1,023 miles (1,646 km)



Dornier 228NG

**NUMBER IN FLEET** 2

**BUILT** Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany

**ENGINES**

2 x Garrett TPE331-10 Turboprops

**MAXIMUM SPEED** 223 knots (257 mph)

**PASSENGERS CARRIED** 19

**RANGE** 350 miles (563 km)



# WELCOME ABOARD!

**NICO  
BEZUIDENHOUT**  
CHIEF  
EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER

Summer is here – one of the best, if not the best, on record. Our seasonal schedule is in full swing, and as we bask in the heatwave, there are plenty of opportunities to enjoy Guernsey and the other destinations we fly to.

We are delighted to offer more routes with Aurigny than ever before. I know many of you on board are taking long-awaited trips to see family and friends. Others may be taking the opportunity to travel to the UK and connect to somewhere else. Gatwick is a great user-friendly airport offering many destinations whatever your taste and budget. Our travel pages have some inspired ideas of what to do in a number of places on our network.

If you are in Guernsey then there is lots to do and see. Check out the what's on listings (page 33) and enjoy the vibes at our traditional summer shows.

The island always looks beautiful at this time of year with the hedgerow flowers blooming, as well as all the planters on show. Flowers are part of our heritage, and on page 20, you can read an interview with Raymond Evison from Guernsey Clematis. Raymond has specialised in growing clematis for years and has won numerous awards at the Chelsea Flower Show. A firm favourite of HM The Queen, his story is worth reading.

We also shine the spotlight on Luke Wheadon from The Channel Islands Liquor Company, producers of Wheadon's Gin and Spiced Indica Rum that are both available to purchase onboard. Read all about the drinks and what inspires them on page 38.

On a sunny summer's day, there is nothing better than going to the beach. On page 25, we take a look at Pembroke and L'Ancrese.

As well as our usual beach guide, Antonia Rainbow from Guernsey with Kids gives some great hints and tips about walks by the beach to keep younger members of the family entertained. And if you've forgotten to bring your bucket and spade, don't worry. At Pembroke and Cobo beaches there are boxes full of beach toys. A community initiative driven by Antonia, Beach Toy Borrow Boxes allow those who have come to the beach empty-handed to borrow some toys and replace them at the end of the day. Equally, if you wish to leave toys in the box for others to enjoy, this is encouraged. You can see in our news pages that an inflatable toy Aurigny jet is for sale – perhaps you may find one of those in the toy box!

From Pembroke, you can see Alderney to the north. Easily accessible via one of our multiple daily flights, it is home to just 2,000 residents and is unique in its tranquil charm. Only five kilometres long, there is plenty to do. Ornithologists and nature lovers may flock to see Gannet rock, home to around 8,800 pairs of the birds, approximately two per cent of the world's population. Or perhaps you fancy a ride on the Alderney railway, a restored engine pulling historic London underground rolling stock. It operates on Saturdays from May to September, and on Sundays in August.

A day trip to one of the islands is a must-do experience. There are convenient summer boat schedules to Sark and Herm. If you visit one island, you'll probably want to see the others, too! They are a real escape from modern-day life.

Wherever your journey takes you to today, I hope you have a pleasant flight. Thank you for choosing to fly with Aurigny - we look forward to welcoming you on board again in the near future.

AURIGNY NEWS

# CAPTAIN TIM RIDES ON THE MUSIC TRAIN

One of our Aurigny Dornier pilots, Tim Osborne, has produced and made music in his spare time. Now there's a new song out with an exciting music video to go alongside it.

The song is called the Train of Life and is written and produced with Emily Fern, who also sings the song and is in the music video. Tim plays the piano and keyboards in the song.

It really is amazing what some of our team do in their spare time! Well done Captain Tim!



Captain Tim and Emily Fern



# SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS?

Traditionally, duty free has been something for adults - a treat to drink or something that smells nice, all at good value. We are often asked whether there will be anything on board for the kids, especially as many of them love the Aurigny brand.

Well, we have been looking at what we could offer for a while ... and now you can purchase an Aurigny inflatable jet to enjoy on your holiday abroad or here in Guernsey on the beach or by the pool. While these are not flotation devices - and, like all inflatables should not be used unattended by children - we hope they are a fun addition to our duty free range and something for the kids to enjoy.

All we ask is - just like the lifejackets - please do not inflate until you are outside the aircraft!



# CELEBRITIES IN JUNE

This month we were delighted to welcome on board Aurigny Sugar Ray Leonard as he came to Guernsey for a boxing event. He was happy to meet ground crew and was a thorough gentleman. We here at Aurigny think he looks incredible and is truly a legend. We were also delighted to carry another 'special' item! The Commonwealth baton was returned to Birmingham on one of our flights. Our crew had their photo taken with it, and as passengers waited in the terminal, many took up the opportunity to have a selfie with the baton. The Commonwealth Games takes place from 28 July - 8 August.





## LUKE DUQUEMIN

### REVENUE & DISRUPTION SUPERVISOR

“ I’ve been fortunate to travel to lots of exciting places, but the top of my list would have to be Lapland, closely followed by Amsterdam. ”

**How long have you been with Aurigny?**

*Just coming up to eight years.*

**What are your hobbies outside work?**

*Travelling, catching up with friends and eating out.*

**What is your proudest moment?**

*Securing my mortgage and buying my own property.*

**What would a perfect day look like?**

*Hopping on a flight to Gatwick and heading to either London or Brighton to have a spontaneous day out.*

**What is your favourite holiday destination?**

*I’ve been fortunate to travel to lots of exciting places, but the top of my list would have to be Lapland, closely followed by Amsterdam.*

**What was the last book you read?**

*I couldn’t tell you as I’m not a big reader, but I do enjoy educating myself by reading lots of random things on Wikipedia.*

**Do you have a favourite TV programme or series?**

*Friday Night Dinner, it never gets old.*

**What music is on your playlist?**

*It’s extremely varied! My go-to favourites are Paramore, Lewis Capaldi and Musical Theatre tunes.*

## SkySnacks & Duty Free

Enjoy our fantastic range of refreshing drinks and snacks at great prices. See pages 121-122.



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# SAFETY FIRST

## COVID SAFETY

The safety of our passengers and crew remains a priority at this stage in the pandemic. Our aircraft are deep cleaned and fogged every day using an antibacterial and antiviral solution which remains active for up to 10 days. Masks are now optional on most Aurigny flights. Please check our latest guidance online for details. Please respect the personal space of others as much as you can.

## HAND BAGGAGE

Once you've boarded and located your seat, please ensure your hand baggage is stowed safely. Small bags can be placed underneath the seat in front of you, unless you are seated in an emergency exit row.

All other items should be placed inside an overhead locker. Please take care when opening the overhead lockers as items may have moved during flight and falling items may cause injury.

## YOUR SAFETY

We want to look after you on board and our main concern is for your safety and that of the Aurigny crew. Cabin crew are here primarily for your safety, so please pay attention to their instructions. Any feedback about the crew and flight is welcomed.

Life jackets are provided for use in the extremely unlikely event of an emergency. It is an offence to tamper with or remove them without authorisation and this may jeopardise the safety of others.

Both staff and passengers have the right to fly within a calm, safe and friendly environment. Aurigny has a zero-tolerance policy towards any violent, disruptive or offensive behaviour, and crew have been trained to deal with such incidents.

## SMOKING

Smoking of cigarettes and e-cigarettes is not permitted on board, including within the toilets.

## FOOD ALLERGIES

Allergy information is available for all snacks – please see the packaging label or ask a member of the crew.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES\* HANDHELD DEVICES WITH A 'FLIGHT SAFE' MODE

Handheld devices, such as tablets, e-readers and mobile phones, may be used during all phases of the flight, provided the 'flight safe' mode is enabled before departure. Larger devices must be safely secured in hand luggage during taxi, take-off and landing, either in the overhead locker or under the seat in front of you. Any device that transmits or receives communications but does not have a flight safe mode must be switched off from doors closed to doors open.

## LAPTOPS, ULTRA-BOOKS AND NOTEBOOKS

Devices may be used during boarding but not for taxi, take-off and landing when they must be safely stowed away in hand luggage. They may be used in flight, provided they are set to flight safe mode, with WiFi turned off, and in the case of the ATR, Bluetooth must also be turned off throughout the flight.

## DEVICES WITHOUT A 'FLIGHT SAFE' MODE

This will include items such as DVD players, electronic games and music players. Only small, handheld devices may be used during taxi, take-off and landing. Larger devices must be switched off and safely stowed away in hand luggage during taxi, take-off and landing.

## BLUETOOTH ACCESSORIES

All Bluetooth accessories (for example wireless keyboards, headphones etc.) may be used on the Embraer, but when travelling on the ATR must be switched off whenever the aircraft doors are closed.

## ARE THERE ANY TIMES I CANNOT USE MY HANDHELD DEVICES?

Under certain circumstances your flight or cabin crew will ask that all electronic devices be switched off, for example, during refuel operations. This will be announced over the PA.

## CAN I USE MY HEADPHONES THROUGHOUT THE FLIGHT?

Personal headphones can be used for some stages of the flight and may be attached to your personal device. We ask that customers remove their headphones whenever the seat belt signs are illuminated during the taxi, take-off and landing phases and during the safety demonstration.

## CAN I USE A REMOTE POWER PACK?

Aurigny does not allow passengers to charge their devices while on board our aircraft.

**Please ask a member of cabin crew if you have any queries.**

\*Electronic devices can only be used on the ATR and Embraer E195 aircraft. Unfortunately they cannot be used on the Dornier.

## BAGGAGE ADVICE FOR PASSENGERS



Always secure a tag onto your baggage containing key contact details, including where you will be staying.



Insert a sheet of paper into your bag with key personal details, such as your name, contact details, flight numbers and address of where you will be staying.



Carry any essential items, such as money and medication, with you on the flight.



Customise the look of your bag to make it easier to identify.



Immediately report the loss of checked-in luggage if it does not arrive at your destination. Do this before leaving the airport.



ON BOARD

# PASSENGER AWARENESS

## Welcome on board!

We hope that you will enjoy your flight and of course allow others to enjoy theirs. All passengers have the right to safe, secure and comfortable travel on board our aircraft. Unruly or disruptive behaviour would ruin this experience and could also be traumatic for passengers or crew.

### UNRULY BEHAVIOUR PRIOR TO FLIGHT:

If unruly or disruptive behaviour is noticed prior to the flight, please be aware that transport may be denied.

### UNRULY BEHAVIOUR DURING THE FLIGHT:

If such behaviour is demonstrated during the flight, please be aware that there may be serious consequences to these actions. The aircraft may divert and make an unscheduled landing, authorities may meet the flight, and the person responsible for the unruly or disruptive behaviour may be arrested, fined, charged and/or prosecuted.

It is for this reason that we ask all passengers to always:

1. Follow crew member instructions promptly
2. Respect crew members and fellow passengers
3. Behave in a safe and appropriate manner
4. Refrain from endangering the safety of the aircraft or its occupants

### OFFENCES AND OTHER ACTS COMMITTED ON BOARD AIRCRAFT:

Under the Air Navigation Order (A.N.O) and Aviation & Maritime Security Act the following are considered as unacceptable behaviours on board:

1. Assault and other acts of interference against a crew member on board a civil aircraft
2. Assault and other acts endangering safety or jeopardising good order and discipline on board a civil aircraft
3. Other offences committed on board a civil aircraft

### OFFENCES TO AVOID:



Assaulting, intimidating, threatening a crew member or passenger



Smoking anywhere on board, including in the lavatories



Refusing to follow instructions from the crew



Tampering with the smoke detectors



Intoxicated or disorderly conduct or consuming alcohol which was not provided by crew members



Using a portable electronic device when not permitted to do so



Engaging in or displaying any indecent or lewd behaviour



Removing or damaging safety or emergency equipment, the aircraft or property on board



# WE SET THE SCENE

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LAURENCE BRANNIGAN AND  
MARTIN SEARCH. IMAGES © GUERNSEY PRESS

# SUBLIME TIME IN GUERNSEY

## MASTER WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLERY CREATOR JACOB & CO HAS INSTALLED A BOUTIQUE SHOP-IN-SHOP AT ELITE JEWELLER RAY & SCOTT.

The bespoke furniture displaying beautiful and innovative pieces within Ray & Scott's store marks the brand's first private room shopping experience for Jacob & Co within the British Isles.

The official launch was celebrated with regular clients and friends of the retailer visiting for a glass of bubbles and to see the incredible timepieces on display.

'We are delighted to launch this boutique of brand identity containing beautiful and innovative products in Guernsey with the wonderful team at Ray & Scott, who will be able to offer a true brand experience for their friends and customers,' said Laurence Brannigan of Jacob & Co UK. 'They can now regularly welcome customers with a bespoke Jacob & Co showcase which mirrors the latest design and styling of the luxurious Jacob & Co Geneva Boutique. Having the brand situated within its own private room makes this installation particularly special and the first of its kind in the British Isles. Partnering with Martin Search and Jeff Fox, who are fun, dynamic and offer a superior customer experience, aligns with our vision for the brand.'

The Jacob & Co collections offered by Ray & Scott include exquisite timepieces from Palatial, Epic X, Epic X Chrono and ladies' Brilliant Diamond watches, and the amazing Jacob & Co Mystery Baguette and Mystery Brilliant timepieces.

A further event to celebrate the creation of the boutique installation will be held in October.

'We are extremely proud to have secured the authorised dealer status and shop-in-shop boutique installed to such a high standard,' said Martin Search of Ray & Scott. 'Jacob & Co is a very prestigious brand and it is the first time it's going to be presented in the Channel Islands. We very much look forward to showing the pieces and allowing our customers to have the same experience as we did when we visited the Geneva Boutique for the first time.'





# LA SABLONNERIE



Established in 1948, La Sablonnerie retains the characteristics of an old farmhouse built some 400 years ago and is situated on the lovely island of Sark in the Channel Islands.

ADVERTORIAL

La Sablonnerie is owned and managed by Elizabeth Perrée. Guests return year after year to recapture the beauty of the island and to enjoy the excellent cuisine, wine, cosiness and friendliness that are evident at the hotel.

Of course, being so close to the sea, freshly caught fish and famous Sark lobsters are popular specialities of the hotel. La Sablonnerie has been featured in the Which? hotel guide as 'the place to stay in the Channel Islands', and also received the highly coveted award from Condé Nast Johansen - Small Hotel of the Year as well as being nominated as their Most Romantic Hotel and now Les Routiers' Hotel of the Year Award. Needless to say, you have to visit to find out exactly what everyone is talking about.

Arrive by ferry or private boat, horse and carriage or just Shanks' pony to enjoy the charm of La Sablonnerie, a hotel of rare quality situated in the southern part of Sark, even more beautiful, remote and romantic than the rest. Nestled in gorgeous gardens, a haven for lovers of peace and tranquillity, birds, butterflies and flowers. How could one not enjoy this amazing paradise? A stepping stone to heaven, even if you just arrive for one of their glorious cream teas or a lobster salad in the garden.

Guests gather in the bar or the rose- and lavender-scented

garden for a cocktail or a glass of Champagne before dining. The bar with its roaring log fire is a convivial meeting place. After dining, guests return to the bar to sit and converse with each other. Some guests take advantage of Little Sark as the perfect place for a moonlit walk or simply gazing at star-studded skies. Sark offers exceptional star-gazing due to its lack of light pollution.

Sark is how life used to be, it is like stepping back into an Enid Blyton book - what dreams are made of, but still having the modern luxuries.

La Sablonnerie is a hotel of rare quality situated in a time warp of simplicity on the tiny, idyllic Channel Island of Sark, where no motor cars are allowed and life ambles along at a peaceful, unhurried pace. The hotel has an enviable reputation for its superb food and wines; local butter, fresh cream, meat, fruit and vegetables which, where possible, are sourced from the hotel's own farm and gardens. The hotel accommodation is very clean and comfortable and totally geared to unhurried relaxation.

It has a strong international clientele who visit regularly. It is like having friends to stay, and of course, picking up a string of awards and accolades is terrific.

The hotel has been extended and discreetly modernised to provide 22 rooms, each individual in style

and décor, including a delightful Honeymoon Suite. Immaculate comfort, lovely linen, fresh flowers and fruit. Excellent food and service, with ample staff who are courteous and a joy to be with, creating lots of fun and real joie de vivre for everyone.

The hotel's motto is 'Nothing is impossible at La Sablonnerie - the show must go on - and everything must be tickety-boo!'

## Q&A with Elizabeth Perrée

**If you weren't a Hotel Owner/ Manager, what would you have been?**

*I honestly do not know, probably an interior designer or an actress.*

**Which hotelier do you most admire?**

*Raymond Blanc.*

**Describe your business in five words:**

*A real 'joie de vivre'!*

**Contact:**

Elizabeth Perrée at 01481 832061

E-mail: [reservations@sablonneriesark.com](mailto:reservations@sablonneriesark.com)

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# A SHROPSHIRE LAD WITH A PASSION FOR GROWING

Raymond Evison OBE is the founder and chairman of Guernsey Clematis. He chats to Amanda Eulenkamp about his journey from being a teenager developing his first clematis plant to receiving more than 30 gold awards at the Chelsea Flower Show.

His story begins in Shropshire, where he started his horticultural career at 15 in the family business, learning his craft at his father's side. By 18, he had developed his first clematis – named 'Edith', after his mother – and by 23, he was managing director of the business.

Growing clematis then was considered 'difficult', according to Raymond. He reflects on his first Chelsea Flower Show when, aged 16, he would listen to his fellow gardeners talk about the plant in the build-up to the show.

'I got very enthused about clematis,' he says. 'At the time, most people were probably grafting plants but we started producing them commercially from cuttings. Most of the plants in the UK at the time were probably grafted plants from Holland.'

However, a bitterly cold winter convinced him to move his business to the milder climate of Guernsey. 'We had a terrible winter in 1981 when the temperature regularly dropped to -20C. In fact, one night it dropped to -26C – we lost one third of all our plant material, around 80,000 young clematis plants.

'So, I moved to Guernsey and was able to buy some old tomato greenhouses and start the Guernsey Clematis Nursery.'

Since then, he has 'fine-tuned' the process of propagating clematis from cuttings, and has bred and developed more than 100 clematis cultivars (hybrids) at the nursery which comprises more than four acres of state-of-the-art greenhouses, which have been updated and modernised during the last 10-15 years.

The 5,000 square metre (one acre) propagation block of glass is extremely modern with ebb and flow mobile tables on which the young cuttings are grown. Growing conditions for plants are entirely controlled by computer, while it uses an environmentally friendly integrated pest control system, recycles most of its water and uses night screens to avoid light pollution. In addition, many other environmentally friendly programmes have been implemented at the nursery for the conservation and recycling of energy, water, compost and other materials.

Now, up to 50 staff members produce up to 25,000 cuttings per day in an environmentally-friendly growing programme.

'I guess we're leaders in the breeding and development of clematis,' he says humbly. 'I think we're very much recognised as one of the top companies in the world to breed, develop and to produce young clematis plants. Our production this year will be about two and a half to three million plants.'

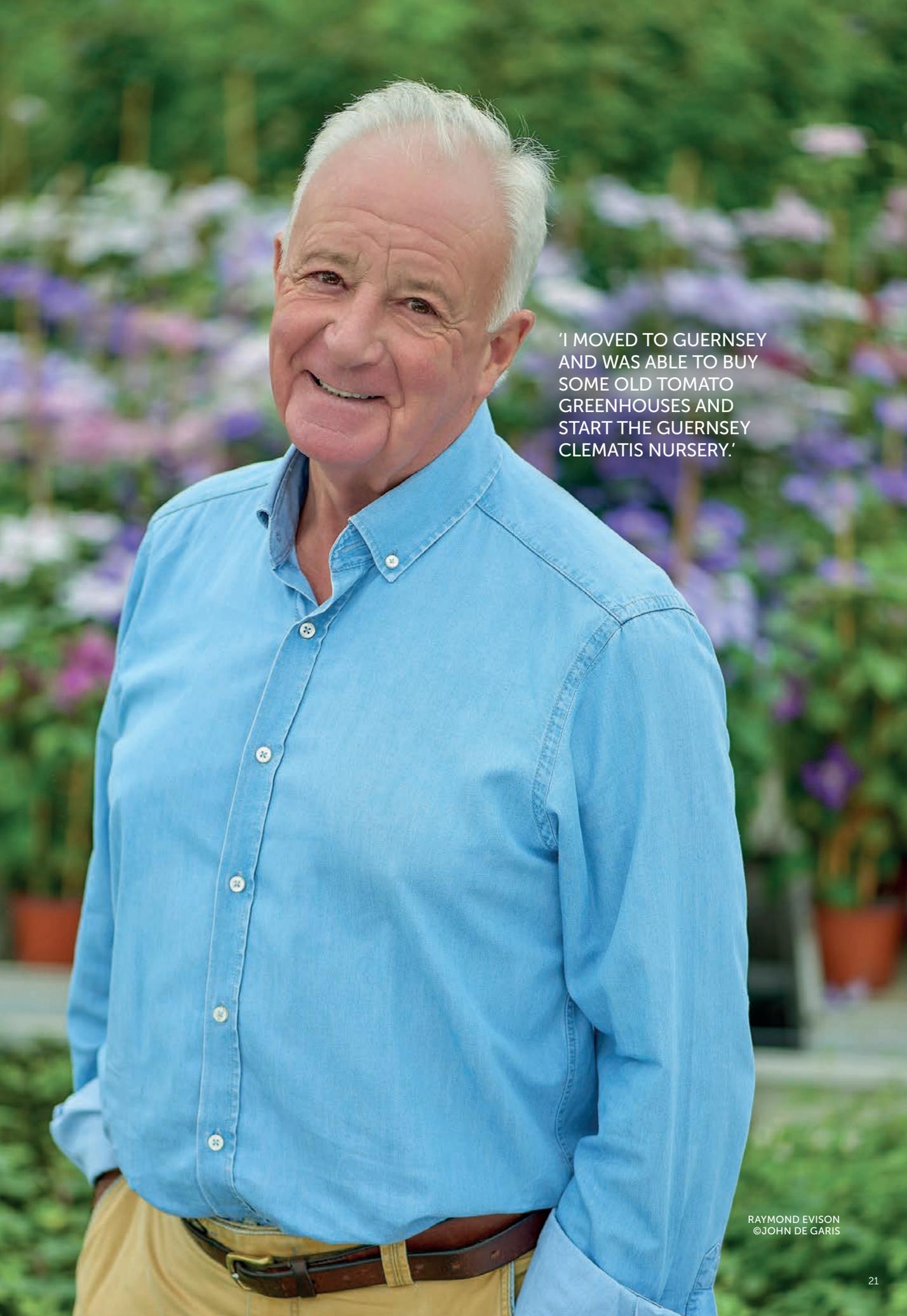
The clematis, representing 25% of the world market for young clematis plants, are shipped globally, with the biggest marketplace being North America, followed by the UK and Europe.

Plants are also supplied into China, South Korea and Japan. According to Raymond, many of the garden plants actually originated in China.

## CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

He received his first Chelsea Flower Show gold medal in 1967 but by his own admission, the exhibits 'were tiny, very amateurish compared to what we stage today'.

Raymond's Chelsea haul now includes 32 gold medals, plus 'quite a lot' of annual medals. In 1995 he was awarded the RHS Victoria Medal of Honour for his outstanding service to British horticulture. That was followed, in 2000, by an OBE for services to horticulture in Guernsey.



'I MOVED TO GUERNSEY  
AND WAS ABLE TO BUY  
SOME OLD TOMATO  
GREENHOUSES AND  
START THE GUERNSEY  
CLEMATIS NURSERY.'

RAYMOND EVISON  
©JOHN DE GARIS



©JOHN DE GARIS

He says it has been 'wonderful' to meet Her Majesty The Queen over the years, whom he has got to know well because of his various roles within the Royal Horticultural Society. She has regularly visited his stand.

### THE ROYAL WARRANT

A recent high spot for Raymond has been the granting of a Royal Warrant, following a working relationship between himself and Charles, Prince of Wales.



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### MORE THAN A GROWER

Since the 1980s, Raymond has had strong representation within numerous horticultural bodies, both British and international. After senior level involvement in the International Plants Propagators

Society (as a previous international president) and the National Council for Conservation of Plants and Gardens, he was the main driving force behind the formation of the International Clematis Society in 1984, of which he was president from 1989-1991 and is now an honorary fellow. He has held various positions as chairman of Royal Horticultural Society committees, as well as being a member of the RHS Council for 16 years, and he was elected a vice-president of the RHS in 2005.

As well as being passionate about conservation, he is also a published author and has lectured on his subject. He is one of only 25 people in the world to be an honorary member of the Kew Guild.

As our interview draws to a close, he agrees he's come a long way from the teenage grower he started out as, but his enthusiasm for clematis has not abated one bit.





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## GUERNSEY

# Beach Guide

Guernsey has a beach and a bay for everyone. Here we discover Pembroke and L'Ancrese Bay.



IMAGE ©VISITGUERNSEY

## PEMBROKE AND L'ANCRESE BAY

The hypotenuse on this triangle of an island comes to an end at the north coast, a comparatively short stretch of coastline that's home to just three beaches.

The wide, flat expanse of Pembroke and L'Ancrese Bay is the biggest and most beautiful of the three, and is justifiably popular with visitors and locals alike.

Possessing the dream combination of soft white sand at the top and a vast plain of harder sand lower down, it's no surprise that Pembroke is a firm favourite with families.

Access couldn't be easier, with ample room in the car park and a slipway and a short flight of steps providing uncomplicated routes to the beach. It also offers an almost limitless amount of sand that's crying out for sandcastles and ball games. You'll probably find yourself sharing the beach with any number of relentlessly active people, including kite-flyers, footballers and windsurfers, but there's so much space to go around that you won't feel crowded out.

In times gone by, when the Channel powers squabbled over Guernsey, Pembroke, as a wide and shallow bay pointing in the vague direction of both England and France, would

have been an ideal spot from which to launch an amphibious invasion of the island. As a result the surrounding coast is home to no fewer than five loophole towers. You might expect these granite sentinels to form an imposing backdrop but, with their original context consigned to history, if anything they improve the view.

When the tide is low it's very, very low, which can often make swimming tricky – after a walk down to the shoreline that's so far you start to feel like you ought to be doing it for charity, you then have to keep on wading seemingly to the horizon before you can do anything other than flounder around inelegantly in the shallows.

So do yourself a favour and arrive at a high tide that's on the turn,

go for a swim first and then enjoy the vast swathes of sand that the receding waters uncover.

Several kiosks are dotted along the sea wall selling snacks, beach balls and windbreaks, and there's also a café, The Beach House, serving decent burgers and salads along with arguably Guernsey's best soft ice cream, pumped full of enough sugar to keep you running around on the sand all day long.

**Optimum Tide** Mid, going down

**Best Feature** Vast swathes of sand

**Worst Feature** When the tide is very low, it's not the ideal place to swim

*Words: Adam Bayfield, Gordon MacRae, Tony Curr*

*Taken from Guernsey Beach Guide. Beaches change – stay up to date at [www.guernseybeachguide.com](http://www.guernseybeachguide.com)*

IMAGE ©CHRIS TOSTEVIN-HALL



NORTH COAST

### WHAT'S THERE ?



TOILETS



CAFÉ/RESTAURANT



SWIM

### DOGS ON BEACHES



Most of Guernsey's beaches are dog friendly during the summer months. The beaches where dogs are banned between 1st May and 30th September are Fermain, Petit Bot, L'Érée, Vazon (Northern end), Cobo, Port Soif, L'Ancrese and Pembroke.

# PEMBROKE FOR KIDS, BEYOND THE BEACH

Pembroke offers one of the most stunning beaches in Guernsey, however, it also offers so much more for families, including two of our favourite walks.

## WALK TO FORT LE MARCHANT

When you look to the right of Pembroke beach you will see a loophole tower, a fort and some German fortifications in the distance, and it's a lovely stroll to get to them from the footpath to the right of the beach. The views are stunning and with benches dotted along the path, you have ample opportunities to sit and take in the view.

There are numerous path options that will take you around the headland to Fort Le Marchant, a site that has had a fort of some description on it since around 1680. With rocks to climb, windows looking out to sea, a gaol, small stone passages and an upper level, it's the perfect place for kids to explore.

## REAL ROCK CLIMBING FUN

There is so much on offer at Pembroke that there is also a great walk and amazing natural playground for children to the left of Pembroke Beach. When looking at the headland you will see a small building, this is Fort Pembroke; you cannot get inside the fort but the surrounding rocky landscape is well worth a visit and is easily accessed by following the gravel footpath to the left of the beach.

On the headland there are numerous rocks to climb. A large number of them are not on the edge, making them safer to climb without fear of a big drop, and with little climbs for little legs and more challenging climbs for older children (and adults), it's a place for people of all ages. This is best explored at low tide when there is a staggering amount of rock on show and rockpools to investigate.

To return to the beach you can retrace your steps or carry on around the headland where you will see another bay called La Jaonneuse. This tiny cove has soft white sand and crystal-clear water, and as very few people have heard of it, it is nearly always empty.

## LA VARDE DOLMEN

Pembroke is the gift that keeps on giving and a few minutes' walk inland from Pembroke Beach, on L'Ancrese Common, is La Varde Dolmen, the largest megalithic structure surviving on Guernsey, dating back to between 4,000 and 2,500 BC. Visiting a passage grave is probably not at the top of your list of things to do with your kids, however, it's actually a great visit for a family.

My girls enjoy the walk up the hill to it (the views are amazing) and love being inside what they consider a cave. You have to duck your head to get inside and there are no lights (cue phone torch) so within a few minutes my girls are telling each other spooky tales!

*For more information about enjoying Guernsey with children including what's on for families, visit [guernseywithkids.com](http://guernseywithkids.com)*

*Antonia Rainbow is mum to nine-year-old twin girls and has a passion for writing and a real love of Guernsey. She founded [guernseywithkids.com](http://guernseywithkids.com) to help families get the best out of the island.*







# TAKE TO THE SAND...

Access to the beach is something that most of us probably take for granted. But if you're a wheelchair user, can you reach the beach? You can at Pembroke, courtesy of charity Guernsey Beach Wheelchairs.

Nothing beats getting close to the water, feeling the sand beneath our toes, listening to children shriek with delight as they play in the sunshine.

But for some, a trip to the beach is fraught with obstacles. If you're a wheelchair user, can you actually access the beach? The answer is probably 'unfortunately not' – most wheelchairs aren't designed to cope with sand or pebbles.

This is where the Beach Wheelchair scheme comes in.

Beach Wheelchairs is for any person who finds that, for whatever reason, they have difficulty walking on the beach. Chairs will be held in a secure location at Pembroke. All of the beach wheelchairs have been specially designed to enable individuals with disabilities to get on the beach. Unlike standard manual wheelchairs, they have large rubber wheels that move easily over the sand. The beach wheelchairs will be free to use but donations are always welcomed.

Volunteers will not be able to help the user get into the beach wheelchair, which means the user will need to be accompanied by an adult helper to assist with transfers and to push the wheelchair. The helper needs to be fit enough to push the wheelchair across the sand and up and down the slipways.

Bookings can be made via the website giving 24 hours' notice. Online booking requests will be acknowledged by email, then confirmed.

New users will have a quick induction at the beach and a short disclaimer form must be completed and signed. For further information, visit [gsybeachwheelchairs.com](http://gsybeachwheelchairs.com) or email [info@gsybeachwheelchairs.com](mailto:info@gsybeachwheelchairs.com).



**Guernsey  
Beach  
Wheelchairs**  
Everyone can enjoy a day at the beach



ABOVE: MIM'S KIOSK COBO, RIGHT: L'ANCRESSÉ KIOSK, FAR RIGHT: 'GUERNSEY WITH KIDS' BEACH TOYS AT KEYPRICE

# BEACH TOY BORROW BOXES

Mum of nine-year-old twin girls and founder of Guernseywithkids Antonia Rainbow came up with the brainwave of sustainably sharing buckets and spades.

I remember visiting Guernsey for the first time as a family over the May bank holiday in 2018, and I couldn't get over the beautiful beaches (being at Port Soif felt like we were on a foreign holiday) and what really stuck out was how few people were on them, despite the beautiful weather.

I was used to beaches in the UK, like Brighton, and on a sunny day you could put your arm out and touch the people next to you.

Since moving to Guernsey, we take every opportunity to spend time at the beach (though I am only just getting my head around how important the wind direction is for beach choice) and I have on so many occasions turned up at the beach ill-prepared. By this, I mean I have swim stuff but nothing else, and with girls who are big sandcastle-building fans, I make a mental note to put our various buckets and spades in the car, but for some reason it never happens.

This got me thinking that maybe something could be done to make it easier for less organised parents like me who keep buying plastic beach toys, despite having lots at home.

## INTRODUCING BEACH TOY BORROW BOXES

Fast forward a few years and it's actually happened, Beach Toy Borrow Boxes are in situ. I was so pleased that the States of Guernsey got on board with the idea of

providing beach toys that could be borrowed by families while on the beach. Not only is this great for locals but for families visiting Guernsey on holiday, it's one less thing to bring or purchase and leave behind and it helps in the fight against plastic.

The well-crafted colourful boxes have been made in the shape of the bow of a boat and it may surprise you to learn that they were built by inmates at Guernsey Prison.

## GUERNSEY PRISON INVOLVEMENT

The States of Guernsey saw the opportunity to make this a community project and contacted Guernsey Prison to see if they would like to be involved, and they agreed. They got quickly on board and I couldn't believe the quality of the two boxes they made.

Prison governor John de Carteret said: 'Guernsey Prison was delighted to be involved in such a unique and exciting project which will clearly benefit the community. I am enormously proud of the effort that the staff, and especially the prisoners, put in to deliver such quality work that will be enjoyed by a large number of children for what I hope to be years to come. This type of project is a good example of how the prison tries to provide vocational skills and experience for prisoners in order for them to take a positive role in the community upon release.'

## HONESTY

The whole idea revolves around honesty and people returning the toys they have borrowed when they finish with them, and that's why only two Beach Toy Borrow

Boxes are being introduced to start with. I really hope the beach toys are looked after and returned and then we can look at rolling this out across more of Guernsey's family-friendly beaches.

## LOCATIONS

There is a Beach Toy Borrow Box at Cobo, next to Mim's Kiosk, and also one at L'Ancressé, next to L'Ancressé Kiosk. Big thanks go out to Mim and Deirdre for agreeing to the boxes being sited at their kiosks and for agreeing to keep an eye on them over the summer.

## THE BEACH TOYS

A very big thank you is in order for Shelley at Keyprice for supplying the beach toys for the initial launch of the boxes. For each box Keyprice donated six buckets, six spades, three Frisbees, two hippo sand diggers and three extendable fishing nets and they have all been put in the boxes ready to be enjoyed on the beach. I couldn't believe how much stock they have in the shop, so we were spoilt for choice when it came to choosing what to include.

## DONATIONS WELCOME

We are realistic that toys will get broken so if anyone has any beach toys they no longer use, we would be very grateful if you could put them into one of the borrow boxes – the more the merrier and it will help to keep the boxes full for the duration of the summer.

The Beach Toy Borrow Boxes are in place now, so keep a look out for them when you're at Cobo and L'Ancressé and please enjoy what's inside. Just make sure to return it afterwards.



IMAGE: REIGATE GREENHOUSE  
©ROBINSONS

# OUTDOOR LIVING

Caplain Glasshouse Services in Guernsey has everything to bring your garden to life and give you precious extra space.

Originally selling commercial products, Caplain Greenhouses has diversified to selling all sorts of outdoor structures, from greenhouses through to garden studios, outdoor home offices, and even outdoor bars.

Working from home? Then a garden office is just the place for some peace and quiet. Home gym? Find a spot in your outdoor space to exercise in style. Log cabin? Perfect for overnight guests. Or somewhere for older children to escape to. Or just keep it for yourself. Craft room? The ideal space to get your creative juices flowing. Garage? Give your car its own place and keep it protected from the elements.

Owner Eric Caplain has seen trends come and go since he set up the business in 1981. Currently, investing in your own home and saving money on moving house or building an extension by expanding your living space into the garden is extremely popular.

Likewise, as the daily cost of living continues to rise, growing your own fruit and vegetables has surged in popularity. Their greenhouses, which like all the other products they supply are high-quality and built to last, are perfect for green-fingered folk to nurture their plants.

They've also seen a rise in the sale of outdoor bars as more and more of us enjoy entertaining at home. And the children haven't been forgotten, either, as there are a number of climbing frames available through Caplain Greenhouses to purchase.

Time to get outdoors and use your space in inventive ways!

*For further details email [ericcaplain@gmail.com](mailto:ericcaplain@gmail.com), call 07781 144159 or see [www.caplaingreenhouses.com](http://www.caplaingreenhouses.com)*



Caplain Glasshouse Services sells quality structures. One supplier is Dunster House Garden Buildings & Climbing Frames.

A Dunster House log cabin is more than a stylish wooden garden building, it provides an extra garden room that can have multiple uses such as a family room, or man-cave such as a games room, or garden gym, space for parties and entertaining, according to what is important to you and your family.

Dunster House is a specialist garden building supplier and is a long established company, operating for more than 25 years.

The log cabins are made from 45mm thick, high quality, slow-grown spruce timber for strength and longevity. Industry-leading secure locking systems are on log cabin windows and doors.

The greenhouses that Caplain supply can suit any size garden or budget. Many are available in unlimited lengths, multiple colours, shapes and finishes. Some offer greater eaves height to give a better growing environment. Styles include Victorian greenhouses, orangeries, and lean-to, as well as the more conventional free-standing greenhouses. You can 'grow your own' or relax and entertain from your garden in a Caplain garden structure which will complement your home.



IMAGE LEFT: THE 'HANGOVER' GARDEN BAR ©DUNSTER HOUSE



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# WHAT'S ON IN THE BAILIWICK?



THE WEST SHOW



THE WEST SHOW

## 17 & 18 August THE WEST SHOW

Established more than 100 years ago, the West Show is held over two days at L'Eree on the west coast. Featuring large displays of exhibits in traditional country show classes, there is also a full programme of entertainment, vehicle displays, a funfair, lawnmower racing and much more – plus, as the sun sets, the beer tent comes alive with music.

Further information at [thewestshow.com](http://thewestshow.com)

## THE GUERNSEY STREET FESTIVAL CONCERTS IN CANDIE GARDENS

Sundays 3pm – 4pm

- 7 August – Guernsey Street Festival Awards Winners showcase
- 14 August – Lydia Pugh
- 21 August – Bordeaux Blue
- 28 August – GADOC
- 4 September – Mariposa Strings
- 11 September – The Dawberts
- 18 September – Stephanie Coombs
- 25 September – Fourtissimo

ALL IMAGES THIS PAGE ©GUERNSEY PRESS



THE WEST SHOW



THE BATTLE OF FLOWERS

## 24 & 25 August THE NORTH SHOW & BATTLE OF FLOWERS

As well as traditional livestock classes, such as Guernsey cattle, goats and agricultural produce, there is also a funfair, and numerous stall-holders providing refreshments and other items for sale.

On the afternoon of the second day, the Battle of Flowers takes place, with numerous colourful floats, all competing for the coveted 'Prix d'honneur'.

The Battle culminates in the evening illuminated cavalcade, rounded off with a spectacular firework display.



THE BATTLE OF FLOWERS

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The jewel in La Barbarie's crown is the Award-Winning restaurant, which produces outstandingly good food with complete reliability. Rick Stein stayed while making one of his television cookery programmes, and pronounced the lobster the best he had ever tasted - praise indeed from one of the country's most celebrated seafood chefs.

A perfect location, combined with the popular restaurant makes La Barbarie Hotel one of the best Guernsey hotels for relaxing short breaks, activity breaks and corporate visits.

La Barbarie is consistently ranked highly on Trip Advisor and Booking.com, but don't take our word for it, check online yourself!

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6 – 10 September

## HERM ALE & CIDER FESTIVAL

Enjoy ales and ciders at the Mermaid Tavern's September festival, plus the usual mix of local live music.

8 September

## GUERNSEY AIR DISPLAY WITH THE RED ARROWS

Enjoy watching some of Britain's most historic and treasured military aircraft take to the skies between Guernsey and Herm, including the iconic Red Arrows. Find a spot along Guernsey's east coast to view. Further details can be found at [guernseyairdisplay.com](http://guernseyairdisplay.com)



THE GUERNSEY AIR DISPLAY

10 September

## PROMS ON THE WICKET

### KGV Playing Fields

Guernsey's summer finale – an outdoor concert to celebrate the Last Night of the Proms with live performances from Guernsey Symphonic Winds and Jazz band and the second half of the Last Night of the Proms live from the Albert Hall.

New for 2022 is the Family Prom, an hour of well-known songs from films and musicals. The evening concert will feature an evening of singing with the Guernsey Welsh Male Voice Choir and Bel Canto.

See [facebook.com/guernseyproms](https://facebook.com/guernseyproms) for more information.



17 September – 2 October

## AUTUMN WALKING FESTIVAL

A variety of walks around the Bailiwick. See [visitguernsey.com/experiences/events/autumn-walking-festival](https://visitguernsey.com/experiences/events/autumn-walking-festival) for details of walks.

## SEAFRONT SUNDAYS

Enjoy the last few Seafrost Sundays, offering the chance to stroll along St Peter Port's seafrost, enjoying the casual friendly atmosphere.

14 August and  
18 September

### Eat Drink and Be Local!

A celebration of local produce.

11 September

### GSPCA

A fun day for all the family to celebrate the animals in Guernsey and all the wonderful work that is done to care for them.

## WHAT'S ON ELSEWHERE?

FLY TO  
**MANCHESTER**  
TO SEE  
THE OSMONDS:  
A NEW MUSICAL

FLY TO  
**EXETER**  
TO VISIT THE  
FOODIES FESTIVAL

## THE OSMONDS: A NEW MUSICAL

9 – 13 August  
Palace Theatre Manchester

This brand new musical features a chart topping list including Love Me For A Reason, Crazy Horses, Let Me In, Puppy Love, One Bad Apple, Long Haired Lover From Liverpool, Paper Roses and many more.

For more information see [visitmanchester.com](https://visitmanchester.com)

## FOODIES FESTIVAL

16 – 18 September

Watch MasterChef Champions, Michelin-starred and top local chefs cooking their signature summer recipes in The Chefs Theatre. See MasterChef: The Professionals 2021's Daniel Marreiros cooking live, and local legends Mark Dodson of the Michelin starred Masons Arms, Peter Gorton, and Dan Bowden of The Bay Hotel in Coverack.

Learn how to make show-stopping cakes in The Cake & Bake Theatre with expert bakers. Great British Bake Off stars will share their best baking hints and tips live on stage with easy to make recipes that are as delicious to look at as they are to eat.

Music headliners: Sophie Ellis Bextor, Scouting For Girls, Five and East 17.

See [foodiesfestival.com/events/exeter](https://foodiesfestival.com/events/exeter) for information and tickets.

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# A FAMILY ENTERPRISE

FOUR DECADES SINCE REGENCY BEGAN MAKING BEDS IN GUERNSEY, THE COMPANY CONTINUES TO THRIVE AND ADAPT

Regency is celebrating 40 years in business. The company was initially started by Robert Lee, who had come to Guernsey from the UK for early retirement. After a little gardening/sports 'holiday' he decided he required something more challenging to keep him active.

Robert began importing mattresses, which he sold successfully in the island. He had a warehouse in a church hall and two delivery drivers. Demand outstripped supply and so Robert moved to larger premises at Church Road and decided to restart his manufacturing business. In 1982, Regency Bedding Ltd was founded.

He was helped by Philip Swan, the father of the present MD, Ben Swan, who was a highly qualified power station engineer in Kent prior to his move to Guernsey.

After a few years of successful growth, Regency was purchased by Philip and Nikki Swan in partnership with Stuart Walker. During the late 1990s and early 2000s Regency designed custom specification boat mattresses exclusively for Aquastar and to this day still provides a bespoke bed manufacturing service for use in unconventional settings.

In the early years there were several expansions and sub-brands created, both locally and on the mainland. The Bedding Superstore, Big Deal Furniture, De La Re Upholstery, Regency House Furnishers and Regency Robes all

belonged to the group. However, in January 2000, all departments were brought back under the same roof after Philip and Nikki Swan bought out their partner to become sole owners of the company.

They wanted to concentrate on the core product range, prevent brand dilution and improve the already excellent customer service offered by Regency. On 25 October 2007 Philip Swan unexpectedly passed away in tragic circumstances. During this intensely difficult period, the whole team, including family members, pulled together in an unprecedented fashion to keep operations running smoothly and work towards a successful future for the company.

Regency has always been a family enterprise. During its history, three generations of the same family have worked at the company at one time or another. Current managing director Ben Swan has also followed in the family tradition, from pestering his old man to be allowed to come to work and grudgingly being allowed to sweep the factory at an early age, to starting part-time when he was just 16. Regency has always had a very loyal, hard-working team, currently with more than 200 years of combined experience between them in manufacturing and retail.

While it may have started as a humble bed manufacturer, its

expertise has spread to all other areas of home furnishings. The store now has displays of not just beds and bedroom furniture, but dining tables and chairs, desks, lamps, sofas and occasional chairs – in fact, everything you could possibly need for your home.

As times change, the company's passion for bed making hasn't diminished, but it is also passionate about being positive for the planet and its people. Sustainability and conservation are at the heart of the business, as the company sources suppliers who strive for a lower carbon footprint, better working practices, and products which are more environmentally sustainable, while still ensuring its customers receive quality and value.



# A SUMMER COOLER

BY AMANDA EULENKAMP

The Channel Islands Liquor Company is storming ahead with its flavoursome rum and gin, distilled in both Guernsey and Jersey.

I'm more of a G&T girl. To me, nothing beats the freshness and coolness of a sparkling glass of the tippie. As a pre-dinner drink, it's my go-to favourite. And I prefer gin-based cocktails. Tom Collins, anyone?

So, when Luke Wheadon (of Wheadon's Gin, Indica Rum and Spiced Indica Rum), poured me a Spiced Indica rum topped off with a Fever-Tree white grape and apricot soda, with a few ice cubes to cool things down, I wasn't sure what to expect.

Certainly not the zinging, refreshing number that I finished to the last drop.

If, like me, you'd always thought that a rum and coke was about all you could order, then think again. Luke's Spiced Indica Rum is, in my opinion, as far away from pirate-swigging rum as you can get. It's grown-up, sophisticated, and perfectly flavoured. Definitely one I'll try again.

## FLAVOUR IS KING

Luke's background as a chef who is passionate about flavour, combined with the island's maritime environment, are key to why the drinks are so deliciously delectable.

Developing new flavours inspires him.

'At the moment I'm working on a new

blend,' he says. 'I'll close the doors of my distillery tonight, play very loud music, and make a new flavour. For me, it's a very creative process and I am completely infatuated with flavour.'

## INSPIRED SPICE

To create the Indica rum, four rums from Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Panama, and Barbados are blended together. Then the pressed flowers of the Indica plant – which is a cannabis plant, grown legally in Guernsey for CBD production – are distilled with the rum.

All of the essential oils are extracted from the flower. 'We elevate and change the nature of the rum, while maintaining the respect for the quality of the rum,' he says. To add zing to the Spiced Indica Rum, the blend is sweetened with a touch of fresh ginger.

In 2020, Indica Rum picked up four Golds and three World awards at the World Rum Awards, testament to the work that Luke and the team put into developing the drink. They now even export it to Barbados, which, as Luke says, 'is like taking coals to Newcastle'.

## HOW IT ALL STARTED

The Wheadon family has been involved in the production and distribution of fine alcohol on Guernsey for more than a hundred years. Luke says it was something that was always in his life. 'I feel very privileged and humble that I do something I love to do,' he says.

The Channel Islands Liquor Company now has two commercial distilleries – the Old Sail Loft Distillery in Jersey, and the cellar distillery at the Bella Luce Hotel in Guernsey. In Jersey, gin and rum tasting experiences are available, which are extremely popular, especially with corporate groups.

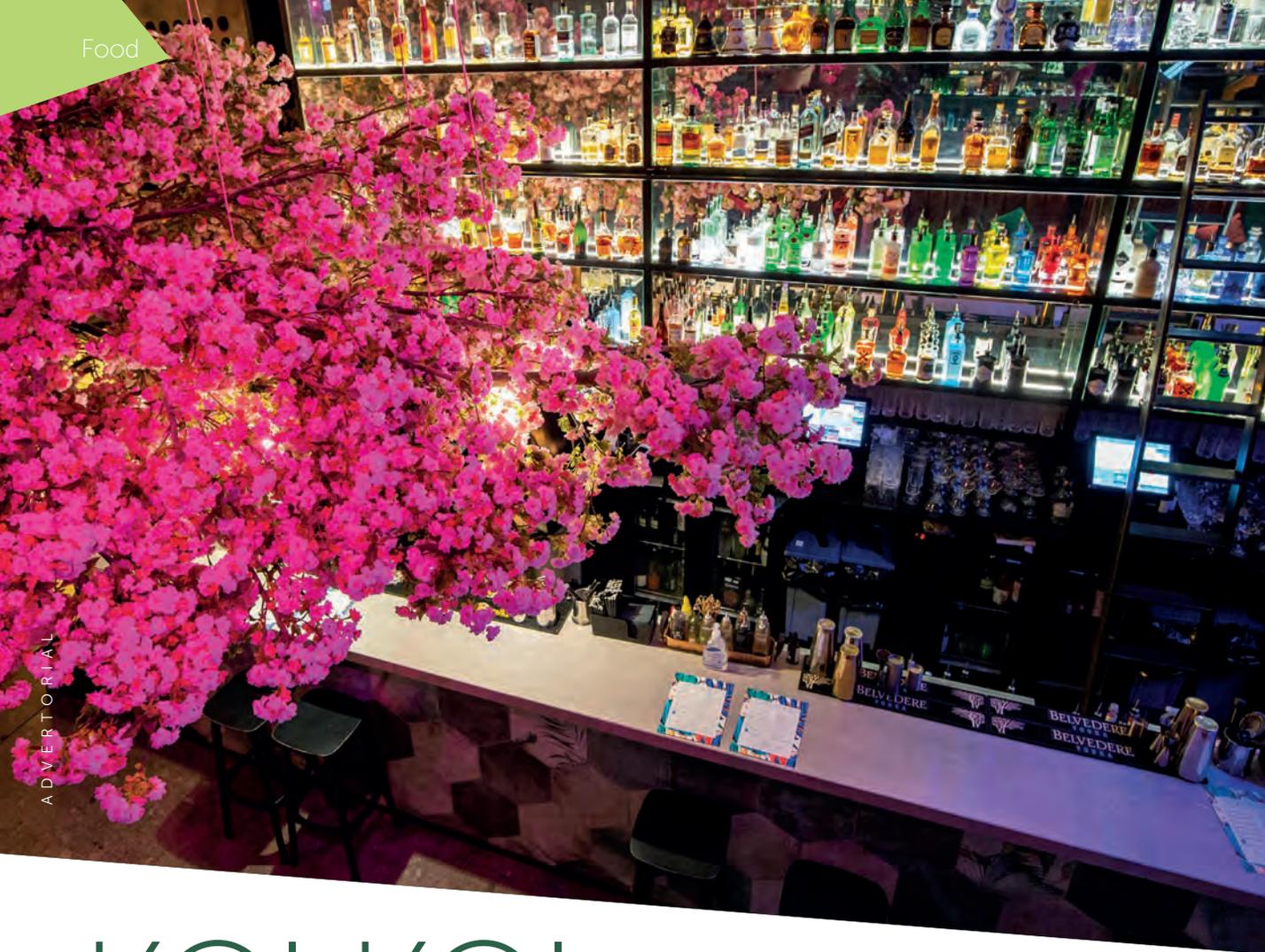
Wheadon's Gin and Spiced Indica Rum are available to purchase on board.





'AT THE MOMENT I'M WORKING ON A NEW BLEND...  
FOR ME, IT'S A VERY CREATIVE PROCESS AND I AM  
COMPLETELY INFATUATED WITH FLAVOUR.'

LUKE WHEADON OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS LIQUOR COMPANY



# KOI KOI

## AMANDA EULENKAMP RETURNS TO THE TASTE OF THE ORIENT IN THE HEART OF ST PETER PORT

One of the best things about returning to Koi Koi to eat is the sheer friendliness of the staff. That and the amazing food and cocktails, of course!

When photographer Sophie and I went there on a mid-week evening in July, there was a fantastic vibe about the place. Manager Cosmin Movila greeted us warmly and led us straight to our table. Tip: make time to enjoy your cocktail in the bar area downstairs, while you peruse the backlit menu – no need to struggle by the light of your mobile at Koi Koi!

As we'd already discussed the new cocktail menu in advance, it wasn't long before cocktail guru Miguel delivered three vibrant drinks to our table.

Designed around colours, the new drinks are welcome additions to the already comprehensive menu. The red one – deliciously sweet but still perfectly balanced – boasted strawberry and elderflower liquors, while the yellow one (our favourite) contained butterscotch and lemon curd. Both had limoncello as their base. The blue one was especially made for me as it was gin-based. A quick chat to Cosmin and Miguel and they will spirit up a cocktail to order.

Koi Koi is so accommodating. Everything is freshly made, so feel free to ask if you prefer something less spicy. For me, the dishes are seasoned to perfection, each one bringing out the taste of the main event on the plate.

Dish after dish magically appeared from the kitchen. For those new to Koi Koi, dinner is an experience, with food designed for sharing rather than a more formal three-course meal. Any regular readers of En Voyage will know that we reviewed Koi Koi in the last edition, so we needed to switch up a few of the dishes.

However, some favourites remained, namely the divine, melt-in-the-mouth, finely sliced and oozing flavour Japanese wagyu beef (you can't leave without trying this), and the broccoli tempura. Light, crisp, and cooked to perfection, it's another must-have.

We were treated to a veritable feast. Beetroot dumplings with cream cheese tahini and green



ALL IMAGES © SOPHIE RABEY

apple; Bao buns stuffed full of delectable crispy duck with maple teriyaki; soy seared scallops with dashi, avocado and coriander emulsion and pickled daikon; spicy edamame beans; seaweed salad with sesame dressing; fillet steak with garlic pressed potato and truffle aioli.

Plus a pleasing-to-the-eye-and-palate platter of said wagyu beef, salmon, tuna and unagi sashimi. Usually, these are served individually, but when served on a platter together, there is a real wow factor.

For dessert (was there room, I hear you ask?!), we shared the miso chocolate fondant, accompanied by a scoop of Guernsey salted caramel ice cream. Neither too sweet nor too savoury, but hitting the spot that a good dessert should, it was the finishing touch to a superb evening.

A few diners popped over to say 'hello' to us while Sophie was photographing the food and drink. It turned out that at least three tables of diners on that night alone had read the review in the last edition of En Voyage and had come along to see what Koi Koi was all about. They all raved about the food and the service and were delighted that they'd discovered Koi Koi, which is tucked up in Lefebvre Street.

I ended my last review saying that 'I'll be back'. My verdict is exactly the same this time.

**KOI KOI IS OPEN:**

**Takeaway & Dinner**

Tuesday - Saturday: 6pm - 9pm

**Bar**

Tuesday - Saturday:

5:30pm - 12:45am

See [koikoi.gg](http://koikoi.gg) for further information

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## QUEEN OF CAD

**ON THE EVE OF EXPANDING HER BUSINESS TO TWO PREMISES, KITCHEN AND BEDROOM INTERIOR DESIGNER SANDRA ROBINSON TELLS AMANDA EULENKAMP ABOUT HER CAREER TO DATE AND HOW COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN PLAYED A BIG PART IN THE JOURNEY.**

Known as the 'Queen of CAD', Sandra Robinson was certainly ahead of her time when she first arrived in Guernsey. A qualified draughtsperson who was at the cutting edge of computer aided design when it arrived in her industry, she had spent her early years training people across the south of the UK in the new technology.

But when she arrived on Guernsey's shores, she found that the industry was still using pencil and paper.

'It was like going backwards – but I introduced CAD to the island and it went from there,' she says.

Her design career has spanned 28 years, during which time styles have changed, as has the way customers approach designing the spaces in their homes. 'It's not unusual for customers to have made an electronic mood board with images from Pinterest and Houzz,' she says. 'There is so much choice out there – the most important thing is to listen to your customer and to take into account personal taste and budget. We make people aware of what's new and available and guide them through the whole process.'

She says that people here have always invested in their homes and upgrading their kitchens and bedrooms. Trends have moved to open-plan living. 'Kitchen, dining and lounge areas flow into each other, so it's important

to get the proportions and design just right,' she says. 'I really enjoy working with the homeowners, who each have their individual tastes, and it is hugely satisfying seeing their pride in the finished job.'

Top requests currently include pantries, cocktail units and gin bars. Breakfast stations are also really popular, where the coffee machine and toaster are all kept together, then hidden away during the day when not in use.

'Most popular now in the kitchen is a 'Quooker' boiling water tap. It delivers hot, cold, and boiling water and can also provide chilled, filtered, still, and sparkling water. It's environmentally-friendly, safe and cost effective. And one less thing on the worktop.'

On the environment and sustainability, Sandra says that her company responsibly separates all waste both when taking delivery of new kitchens and bedrooms and when disposing of old ones. Her main supplier, 'Masterclass Kitchens' in Cardiff, has sustainability at the forefront of its operations.

She supplies mid- to high-end products that will stand the test of time. At the time of writing, Sandra was in the midst of expanding her business by opening a larger studio at The Albany, South Esplanade. She now has a team of nine, with qualified fitters and designers, so the extra space will allow her to have dedicated showroom space, as well as a presentation area where customers can see computerised visuals of their designs.

'It's a really exciting time,' she says. 'I'm also keeping on my original showroom and to have all this space is just fantastic.'

The move is due to take place in the autumn of 2022. One thing is guaranteed - Sandra's enthusiasm, professionalism, and love of her job, will be present in both places.

# SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVIN' IS EASY

By Amanda Eulenkamp

INTRODUCING  
THE WRITERS



Jessamy Baldwin



Nick Le Poidevin



Antonia Rainbow



Rupert Diggins

JUST ONE FOR THE ROAD



PLAÇA D'ESPANYA AND MONTJUÏC MOUNTAIN,  
BARCELONA AT SUNSET. ©ISTOCKPHOTO

**It's hard to believe that we are already in the second half of 2022. Time flies when you're having fun, they say...**

Flying has become part of the way of life again in the islands. Business travellers are taking the opportunity to visit clients and colleagues for those all-important, face-to-face meetings. Yes, Teams and Zoom are still a huge part of the corporate landscape but you can't beat seeing someone, reading their body language, and connecting as your business relationship develops.

As the school holidays approach, many families are heading off-island for their holidays and seeing relatives, just as incoming passengers fly to the islands to visit family and friends, or soak up the sun on the Bailiwick's beautiful beaches.

The Bailiwick of Guernsey is so much more than just Guernsey, the largest of the islands. Aurigny has regular flights to the furthest north of the Channel Islands, Alderney, where you can relax and explore what the island has to offer. Sark and Herm are just a boat trip away but with no cars, they feel like a different world altogether. Summer livin' at its best.

For many of us, the destination airport is just the start of the adventure. In this issue, we take a look at what is near (and a little further away from) Dublin, one of the airports on Aurigny's network. If you're a film or TV buff, take a peek at the article on Ireland's top film locations. In the south-west of Ireland is Cork, the country's second largest city. Why not take a flight to Dublin then hire a car to explore the stunning countryside between the two cities? Wexford, Waterford, and Limerick are all worth visiting.

New contributor to this issue is my friend Nick Le Poidevin who (foolishly!) told me he had booked a couple of Aurigny's direct European flights – one to Barcelona and one to Madrid. Fortunately, he was quickly persuaded to share his travels with us. This issue features his trip to Barcelona, a city that I have visited a number of times and absolutely love – it's a bustling city, with plenty of sightseeing to take in.

Our intrepid regular contributor Rupert Diggins (check out his fabulous travel blog at [justonefortheroad.com](http://justonefortheroad.com)) has stayed closer to home for this edition, exploring the north of England.

With regular flights to Manchester and Leeds/Bradford with Aurigny, there is no excuse not to go beyond the cities to discover the dales and villages within easy reach of the airports.

Meanwhile, Jessamy Baldwin suggests what to do in 48 hours in Edinburgh. If you're heading up there on Aurigny's direct flights over the August bank holiday weekend, then don't miss her highlights. If her words tempt you to visit, Edinburgh is easily reached by air or train from several airports on Aurigny's network.

I remember going to Edinburgh Castle as a child to see the Edinburgh Tattoo, then again visiting a few years ago. The castle is renowned for its guns, which remind me of the noonday gun that sounds each day between April and October at our own castle, Castle Cornet. The castle had free entry to the public for the Queen's Jubilee, so I took the opportunity to visit again. Antonia Rainbow shares what's to do there for kids, too. Whether you're a visitor to Guernsey or live here, it's well worth a few hours of your time to explore – and there are great views of the other islands from its battlements!



# FROM ISLAND TO IRELAND

Aurigny operates regular flights between Guernsey and Dublin three times a week – why not hop over and enjoy an Irish adventure? See [Ireland.com](http://Ireland.com) for further inspiration.

For help planning a trip to Dublin and for more information on accommodation, things to do, and how to get around the city, go to [visitdublin.com](http://visitdublin.com)

Articles courtesy of [ireland.com](http://ireland.com)



HOUSES AND CATHEDRAL IN COBH.  
ALL IMAGES ON THIS SPREAD ©ISTOCKPHOTO

# TOP 10 HERITAGE GEMS IN IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

Ireland's Ancient East is strewn with centuries-old monuments telling dramatic, romantic and heart-breaking stories that stretch over 5,000 years. Here are the top attractions you must visit.

## 1. Brú na Bóinne, Co. Meath

Older than both Stonehenge and the Pyramids, this UNESCO World Heritage Site resonates with otherworldliness. Neolithic Newgrange is the centrepiece, a 5,000-year-old tomb that is penetrated by the rising sun on the winter solstice.

## 2. Hill of Uisneach, Co. Westmeath

Ireland's sacred hill has been at the heart of the island's history over millennia. Here a great fire was lit each year to usher in summer, an event celebrated today in the annual Bealtaine Fire Festival.

## 3. Clonmacnoise, Co. Offaly

Once a great centre of monastic learning, Clonmacnoise boasts impressive high crosses and round towers, the ruins of a cathedral and churches, plus the largest collection of Early Christian grave slabs in Western Europe.

## 4. Castletown House, Co. Kildare

Ireland's largest and grandest Palladian style house was built by an Irish commoner. Ornate and opulent, 18th-century Castletown tells tales of lords, rebels and rock stars.

## 5. Wicklow Gaol, Wicklow

For 200 years, this prison held the poor and desperate alongside rogues and rebels. An interactive tour led by costumed actors tells the story of its prisoners.

## 6. Rock of Cashel, Co. Tipperary

The iconic Rock of Cashel is an impressive medieval walled stronghold containing a castle, a cathedral and a round tower. Shrouded in legend, this was the ancient seat of royal and religious power.

## 7. Kilkenny Castle, Kilkenny

Kilkenny Castle, a Norman bastion boasting majestic halls, extensive parklands and an art gallery, overlooks the River Nore and marks the beginning of Kilkenny's famous medieval mile.

## 8. Dunbrody Famine Ship, Co. Wexford

The Dunbrody Famine Ship is a replica 'coffin ship' that ferried poor emigrants across the Atlantic. With exhibitions and costumed performers, it gives a unique insight into the plight of those fleeing the famine.

## 9. The Viking Triangle, Waterford

Ireland's oldest city is famous for its Viking connections. At its heart is the Viking Triangle, where the Waterford Museum of Treasures displays artefacts from over 1,000 years of history.

## 10. Cobh, Co. Cork

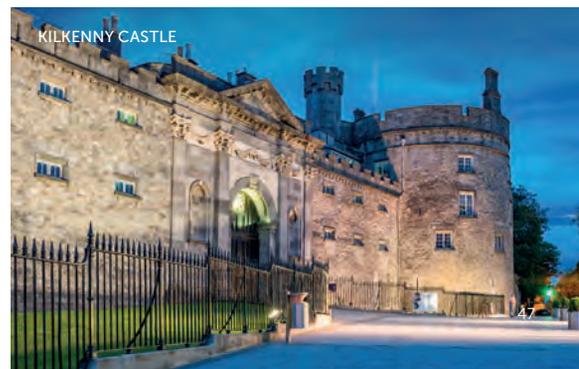
This charming seaside town was the Titanic's last stop before beginning her maiden voyage. The liner's tragic tale and its enduring connection with the town are told in Titanic Experience Cobh.



CLONMACNOISE



BURIAL MOUNDS, BRÚ NA BÓINNE



KILKENNY CASTLE



ENGLISH MARKET, CORK. ALL IMAGES ©IRELAND.COM

## FALL UNDER CORK'S BUSY, ATTRACTIVE AND ARTSY CHARM

Ireland's vibrant second city is a rare mix of cosmopolitan sophistication and laid back charm.

Within its compact centre, art galleries rub shoulders with snug traditional pubs and historic buildings tower over trendy coffee shops.

Cork is the perfect base from which to explore both the Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland's Ancient East, but first you must get under its skin.

The best way is to walk the narrow, undulating streets, crisscrossing the River Lee which flows through the city. Along the way, Cork's colourful history will make itself felt.

St Fin Barre's Cathedral, an imposing example of French-gothic architecture, attests to the city's founder and patron saint who established a monastery there in AD 650.

Gateways at street level point to Cork's more recent past as a merchant city when, in the 18th century, traders brought their goods in by boat. A visit to the Cork Butter Museum reveals more about this period when the Cork Butter Exchange became the largest butter market in the world.

The city's 19th century history is told in the magnificent Cork City Gaol visitor centre, which is particularly atmospheric on an evening tour.

The fascinating heritage explored, now delve into the city's well-deserved reputation as a first-class foodie destination. The many restaurants and gastro-pubs serve up delicious local dishes, and the thriving craft beer scene can wash it all down.

The city is the home of the famous English Market, regarded as one of the best covered food markets around and a source of delicacies and artisan produce from around the world. An afternoon spent browsing its shops and stalls is an epicurean's delight.

Cork folk are fond of a festival and barely a month goes by without one. From the Cork International Poetry Festival in February to the city's famous Christmas celebration, Glow, there is a fountain of festivals that feature everything from music to literature, food and film.

Should you somehow miss one though, there's enough fun in the city's lively, music-filled pubs to provide plenty of ad hoc entertainment.

A visit to Cork isn't complete without climbing to the belfry of the 18th-century St Anne's Church to ring the world-famous Shandon Bells. From there you can also enjoy panoramic views over the city and surrounding countryside.

Cork people are fiercely proud of their city. After a visit, it will be easy to see why.



RINGING THE SHANDON BELLS



ST ANNE'S CHURCH



STROLLING BY THE RIVER LEE

# GO BEHIND THE SCENES AT IRELAND'S TOP FILM LOCATIONS



TRIM CASTLE

If there were an Oscar for film location, Ireland would have a long list of credits.

When it comes to dramatic settings you can't do much better than the island of Ireland, which is why it's become the 'go to' place for movie-makers.

It's where *Game of Thrones*, *Harry Potter* and *Star Wars* played out their otherworldly tales, where *Braveheart* and the Vikings battled for glory and where many other iconic movies and TV series found the perfect backdrop for their story.

Getting that behind the scenes vibe at some of the world's biggest productions is a real treat for film fans and set jetties, and it's made all the more enjoyable by the ease of access to the filming locations and many guided and self-guided tours.

Among the film locations along the spectacular Wild Atlantic Way there is the chance to see the home of *The Quiet Man* in the pretty village of Cong and *Harry Potter's* horcrux cave at the foot of the famous Cliffs of Moher.

Malin Head in the rugged north-west and the ancient monastery on the island of Skellig Michael, off the coast of County Kerry, are locations where *Star Wars* fans can feel the force.

In Ireland's Ancient East, set-jetties can stroll along the golden expanse of Curracloe Beach in County Wexford, which featured in *Brooklyn* and *Saving Private Ryan*, and follow in the footsteps of the Vikings through the beautiful Wicklow Mountains.

A visit to magnificent Powerscourt Estate reveals the elegant setting for *Ella Enchanted* and *The Tudors*, while Trim Castle in County Meath recalls the battles in *Braveheart*.

In Dublin, bustling Grafton Street provided the urban setting for *Once* and historic Kilmainham Gaol put stars behind bars in *Michael Collins* and *The Italian Job*.

To see the location for *Educating Rita*, visit Trinity College, famous for the Book of Kells, but which also starred in a Bollywood blockbuster, *Ek The Tiger*.

Northern Ireland stars brightly on screen with TV shows like *The Fall* and *Line of Duty* and big-screen blockbusters like *Dracula Untold* shot there. But it is now known most worldwide for being the 'Home of Thrones'.

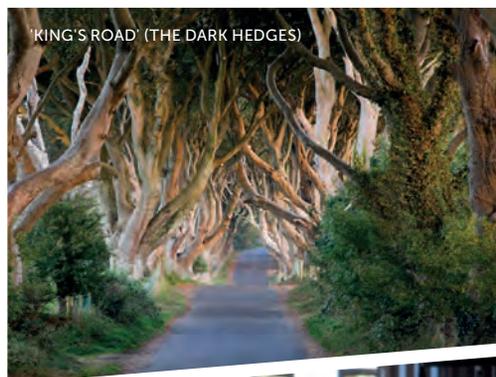
A number of tours visit beautiful *Game of Thrones* shoot locations, including Castle Ward (*Winterfell*) in County Down, the Dark Hedges (*Kingsroad*) and Ballintoy (*Pyke Harbour*) in County Antrim, and Downhill Strand (*Dragonstone*) in County Londonderry.

As well as grabbing a photo, fans can enjoy a taste of Westeros at a medieval banquet, meet the direwolves and shoot arrows where Robb Stark taught Bran archery.

Combining a tour of locations with an Irish film festival, which run throughout the year, is a good idea for film-lovers. Among the choices are the six-day Galway Film Fleadh (11–16 July) and the Oscar-affiliated Foyle Film Festival (17–26 November) in Derry/Londonderry.



TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN



'KING'S ROAD' (THE DARK HEDGES)



'ONCE', DUBLIN



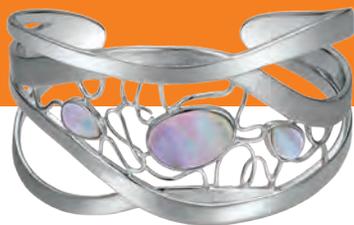
SKELLIG MICHAEL



# For that perfect island memento visit our showroom (next to the Little Chapel)

A visit to Martyn Guille's Floral Guernsey award-winning workshop enables visitors to relax among the beautiful floral displays and lovely rural setting before browsing the stunning gold and silver items on display.

Martyn's designs include Guernsey's very own ormer shell and a Guernsey granite collection, unique pieces that are much admired by visitors and locals alike.



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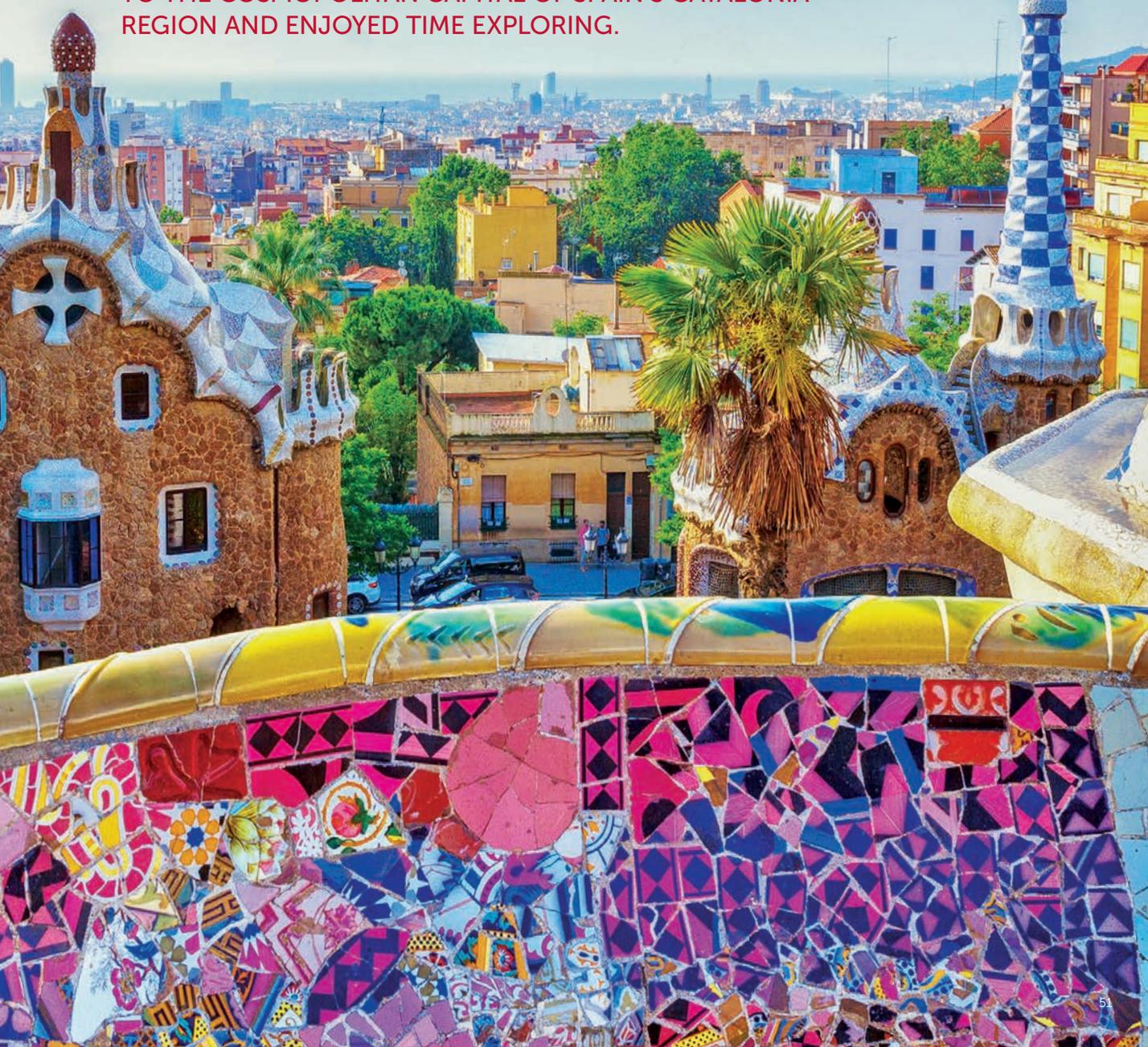
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VIEW FROM PARK GÜELL ©SHUTTERSTOCK

# BARÇA BARCELONA

NICK LE POIDEVIN TOOK AURIGNY'S DIRECT FLIGHT TO THE COSMOPOLITAN CAPITAL OF SPAIN'S CATALONIA REGION AND ENJOYED TIME EXPLORING.





ABOVE: LAS RAMBLAS, ABOVE RIGHT: THE OLD QUARTER. IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO

Within a matter of hours of Aurigny announcing its latest raft of direct European flights, I had secured a seat on one of their Barcelona flights. Two hours 30 minutes after departing Guernsey, we were landing at Barcelona–El Prat airport eagerly waiting to experience the delights of Barcelona. On arrival the formalities were dealt with quickly and efficiently, which included a scan of my Covid-19 status certificate.

The airport is located some nine miles by road from the city. Taxis are plentiful or, for around 10 Euros return, you can take the Aerobus, which departs every five to 10 minutes with various stops in the city, terminating at the Plaça de Catalunya. If electing to take the Aerobus, when returning to the airport you need to be aware that there are two airport terminals with a separate Aerobus operating to each one. If you prefer rail travel, there is a train which runs every 30 minutes.

I was fortunate enough to be staying close to the Plaça de Catalunya, which is the starting point for the open-top bus tours. There are two operators - I chose the red Barcelona City Tour bus which operates two routes around the city, each lasting around two hours (a two-day pass costs 40 Euros). This enabled me to explore all of the important sites thanks to the hop-on hop-off operation. In summertime you never have to wait more than five to 10 minutes for the next bus to arrive, so it

is a very convenient way to get around, plus it allows one to spend as little or as much time as you wish at any given attraction.

Plaça de Catalunya is located at the northern end of the most famous street in Barcelona, Las Ramblas, which runs southwards to the cruise port terminal. It is a large, action-packed boulevard which gets very busy, especially on Saturday evenings. Located alongside the Las Ramblas boulevard is the district known as Raval, as well as the area known as the Gothic Quarter. The latter is the cultural hub of the city and here you will find narrow streets packed with shops, boutiques, bars, cafés, art studios and the like. The narrow, winding streets create quite a labyrinth and means that it may take a while to get your bearings.

The most famous landmark in Barcelona has to be the large, unfinished minor basilica located in the Eixample district, known as the Basilica de la Sagrada Família. It is currently the largest unfinished Roman Catholic Church. Work commenced on its construction in 1882 and is expected to be completed in 2026, a period of some 144 years. It is a very popular tourist attraction and, at times, attracts large queues of people wishing to appreciate this remarkable building. Entry costs vary depending on whether you elect to climb the towers and/or have a guided tour. There is also the option to purchase a ticket in advance, allowing you to jump the

queues although, in my case, this would have been an unnecessary expense as there was only a handful of people in front of me. If, like me, you arrive without a ticket you can purchase one on the spot; however, you will need a smart phone as no physical tickets are issued.

The Basilica de la Sagrada Família was designed by the Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí (1852–1926) and his designs can be found at various other locations around the city, the most notable being at Parc Güell. I found this a stunning attraction, composed of a sprawling park and gardens where you will discover architectural elements that stand as a testament to the artistic and creative genius of Gaudí. These include a large stairway overlooked by a ceramic dragon, columns, viaducts and a square bordered by an undulating bench decorated with mosaics of broken pieces of ceramic. Parc Güell became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984 and, from here, you can enjoy splendid views of the city and the Mediterranean beyond.

Located at the summit of the mountain of Montjuïc, at 185 metres above sea level, is the 18th century castle known as Montjuïc Castle. It dominates the city and the sea and possesses some unique views over both, including the cruise port terminal. If you prefer to avoid the climb you can do as I did and take the Montjuïc Cable Car.



Another vantage point can be found just below the castle at the Mirador de l'Alcalde where, like me, you will be able to enjoy the attractive formal gardens. A visit to the Museu Nacional D'Art de Catalunya is worthwhile even if it is only to enjoy the gardens and admire the view towards the Plaça d'Espanya.

Port Barcelona is a bustling place where a number of superyachts are moored. Here you will find a number of waterfront restaurants from which to watch all the action.

If the sightseeing gets all too much, then you can always soak up the sun at Barcelona's most famous beach, Barceloneta Beach. Here tourists can enjoy a plethora of eateries and other facilities.

Flying direct is a great option with no connecting flights and no overnight stays in the UK. Furthermore, you avoid the stress of all those security queues at UK airports and cancelled flights that we hear about in the news every day. I am looking forward to more European flights with Aurigny so please watch out for more of my articles.

**LA SAGRADA FAMILIA WAS DESIGNED BY THE CATALAN ARCHITECT ANTONI GAUDI... HIS DESIGNS CAN BE FOUND AT VARIOUS OTHER LOCATIONS AROUND THE CITY.**



ABOVE LEFT: MONTJUÏC CABLE CAR ©PETER WILSON, ABOVE RIGHT: MUSEU NACIONAL D'ART DE CATALUNYA. RIGHT: LA SAGRADA FAMILIA. BOTH IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO

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ABOVE: BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER AIRE, RIGHT: LEEDS TOWN HALL  
 FAR RIGHT: COUNTY ARCADE, VICTORIA QUARTER. ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO

# LEEDS – YORKSHIRE TO A TEA

SAYS TRAVEL BLOGGER RUPERT DIGGINS

It may be that the city of Leeds in the north of England has not been at the forefront of your mind for a UK short break, but with a direct Aurigny Airlines flight from Guernsey straight into Leeds Bradford Airport, maybe now is the time to visit the largest and most vibrant city in 'God's Own County', Yorkshire.

But what is the Leeds of today known for? Football, rugby, textiles, railways, canals, the first Marks & Spencer in the UK, gravy on everything, or simply that good old cup of Yorkshire tea. Well, all of those of course, but today there seems to be a whole lot more brewing than just that legendary cuppa!

Considered to be one of the jewels of the north, Leeds delivers a blend of both old and new. Its Victorian Quarter with its delightful markets and shopping arcades is now accompanied by modern contemporary buildings and a trendy cool vibe. A variety

of historical and family-friendly museums welcome visitors, while world-class stadium and event venues attract the cream of sport, music, and entertainment. This industrial powerhouse is now a champion of the arts, and is a city revitalized through retail, digital, commerce, and its university.

The friendly, welcoming Leeds folk are known as 'Loiners' or 'Leodensians', which comes from the term 'Old Leodensians' for those who attended the Boys' Grammar School. Straight talking and no messing is how I have always found them and do you know what, in this day and age, that's exactly how I like it!

Let's now discover just some of the places, attractions, and events that make Leeds and the surrounding area worth visiting.

## ACCOMMODATION

I was staying at the centrally located Doubletree Hilton in Granary Wharf. Located next to Leeds city centre railway station, this stylish hotel with a choice of high-quality rooms and a superb

service caters perfectly to both business and leisure travellers. The Lock Kitchen and Bar ([www.thelockleeds.co.uk](http://www.thelockleeds.co.uk)) on the ground level delivers a lovely relaxed outside seating area overlooking the canal. The hotel Skybar on the 13th floor provides not only great cocktails, wines, and spirits, but also fine food, all with spectacular views across the city.

Many other well-known hotel brands are in this central area, including Jurys, Hilton, Marriott, and Malmaison.

## GETTING AROUND

Leeds City Centre is surprisingly small, with all the key sites easily accessible in a day. This surprised me, and on reflection, I feel it is one of the major attractions of the city that everywhere is so easy to reach on foot. Leeds Bradford Airport ([www.leedsbradfordairport.co.uk](http://www.leedsbradfordairport.co.uk)) is just a 30-minute bus or taxi ride away. Bus services are frequent and great value for money, while for those driving, there are plenty of car parks in the city centre.



## KEY CITY CENTRE SIGHTS

### The Old Post Office

Located in City Square, just a stone's throw from the main Leeds railway station is The Old Post Office, which is one of the most impressive Victorian-era buildings in the city. Today it comprises two busy stylish restaurants – the Restaurant Bar & Grill ([www.therestaurantbarandgrill.com](http://www.therestaurantbarandgrill.com)) and The Banyan ([www.banyanbar.co.uk](http://www.banyanbar.co.uk)). Both attract business and leisure customers who can enjoy not only the atmosphere and location but also a quality alfresco meal in classy and sophisticated surroundings.

### Leeds Town Hall

On 'The Headrow' street you will find several attractions close together. Leeds Town Hall ([www.leadstownhall.co.uk](http://www.leadstownhall.co.uk)), where many of the city's most important concerts and events take place, is currently undergoing major refurbishment and is set to re-open in 2024. Alongside the Hall are the Central Library, The Art Gallery, and the Henry Moore Institute. Also located here is the Leeds Visitor Centre, where you can pick up all the latest news as to what is taking place in the city during your stay.

### Leeds Civic Hall

Just five minutes from the Town Hall, past the Mandela Gardens, and, overlooking Millennium Square, is the Civic Hall. With its two towers and Roman Portico styling, this imposing building hosts many ceremonies and events including weddings if you want to tie the knot in style.

### Leeds City Museum

This free museum offers a range of different exhibitions to attract visitors. Discover The Leeds Story, where you can immerse yourself in the city's inventions, sporting accolades, and textile heritage. The Life on Earth Gallery showcases our natural world. The Collectors' Cabinet tells the story of collecting in Leeds from 1700 onwards. The World View – Voices of Asia highlights Leeds connections with its Asian culture. Finally, in the Ancient Worlds Exhibition, learn the history of the Egyptians, Romans, and Greeks.

### Leeds Minster

The beautiful grade 1 listed Leeds Minster ([www.leedsminster.org](http://www.leedsminster.org)), is an early Victorian church, and the oldest in the city, dating back to the 7th century. Situated on the north bank of the River Aire and surrounded by a delightful park, it is a centre for music and worship.

### River Aire

The Leeds & Liverpool Canal is the longest canal built as a single waterway (127 miles) in Britain. The canal runs from Liverpool, passing through East Lancashire, the Pennine countryside, and the Yorkshire Dales before arriving in Leeds. The days when it was used for transporting coal, stone, and textiles are long gone. However today you can take a 15-minute trip on the canal costing just £1 when taking the journey from Leeds Dock up to Granary Wharf, on one of two funky yellow boats – the Twee and the Drie.

## CITY CENTRE SHOPPING

Leeds is the perfect city if you are looking to enjoy some serious retail therapy. Within the heart of the city are various areas all offering something a little different from each other.

The showpiece centre is the Victoria Leeds area which comprises both Victoria Gate and the Victoria Quarter. High-quality well known retail brands include Harvey Nichols, Louis Vuitton, John Lewis, The White Company, and Molton Brown. Alongside Victoria Leeds are the cast iron and marbled arcades which are worth visiting, if only to admire their beauty, although you are bound to be distracted by the choice of classy shops that lie within. The main Briggate pedestrian walkway that passes each arcade is full of market stalls, musicians, and people all going about their daily business.

The Leeds Corn Exchange is situated in one of the city's finest Victorian structures. This architecturally stunning building is full of unusual retail stores from independent music shops to some beautiful hand-crafted jewellers.

Leeds Kirkgate Market needs to be seen to be believed given its sheer scale! There are simply hundreds of stalls selling everything and anything. The Merrion Centre is home to several value for money brands while The Trinity Centre ([www.trinityleeds.com](http://www.trinityleeds.com)) provides over 120 well-known shops like Marks & Spencer, Next, and Primark.



ABOVE: THE CORN EXCHANGE @SHUTTERSTOCK  
ABOVE RIGHT: LEEDS CITY MARKETS @ISTOCKPHOTO

## ON THE FRINGE OF THE CITY CENTRE

### The Royal Armouries

The Royal Armouries Museum displays the National Collection of Arms and Armour. Spread over six themed galleries, visitors, who enter for free, can explore arms and armour from across the world with over 8,500 objects, including pieces dedicated to hunting, peace, war, tournaments, as well as oriental pieces.

### Abbey House Museum & Kirkstall Abbey

One of the most complete medieval Cistercian abbeys in Britain today is the Kirkstall Abbey. This Grade 1 listed building attracts historians, artists, and visitors to the city. There is an interactive visitor centre that invites you to learn about life as a monk and discover the history of the abbey.

The Abbey House museum explores social history and childhood growing up in Victorian-era Leeds. The sets and displays showcase the streets, houses, and shops from days of old. Throughout the year the museum hosts exhibitions so do check out their website for what's on while you are visiting the city.

### Thackray Medical Museum

Following a recent multimillion pound redevelopment, the Thackray Medical Museum invites you to discover the story of medicine through the grimy streets of Leeds back in the 1800s. You can step into a 19th-century operating theatre, visit a

'70s-style sexual health clinic, and discover the medical innovations that have changed the world. For younger visitors there is a Life Zone, providing a fun and interactive learning environment where children can 'step inside' the human body.

### Leeds Industrial Museum

Formerly one of the world's largest woollen mills, this industrial museum allows you to learn more about the rich industrial history of Leeds. Displays and collections include textile machinery, railway equipment, printing, cinematography, and heavy engineering.

### The Tetley

The Tetley is a contemporary art gallery in the art deco headquarters of the former Tetley Brewery. Since 1822 the Tetley name represented the brewing industry in Leeds. From the 1960s the business changed through takeovers and mergers before finally in 2011, having been under the ownership of Carlsberg since 1998, it was closed. In 2013 the building was transformed with the addition of unique gallery spaces, learning and art studios, offices, a busy bar and kitchen, and a space for meetings and events.

## OUT 'N' ABOUT

### Roundhay Park & Tropical World

Roundhay Park is situated just three miles north of Leeds city centre and is one of the biggest city parks in Europe. With over 700 acres of parkland, lakes, woodland, and gardens, the area provides a haven for those seeking peace and

relaxation from daily life. Along with the flora and fauna, there are several formal gardens, as well as playgrounds and spaces to keep the kids entertained.

Tropical World is located within Roundhay Park. This is a family attraction where the kids will love each of the different themed areas. Amongst many, there is a hot and humid tropical butterfly house, a rainforest with colourful parrots, the Australian outback, a desert with Meerkats, and a nocturnal zone. At the end of the tour is a gift and coffee shop to relax and cool down. The admission fee is £5 for adults and £2.50 for children.

### Middleton Railway

Often referred to as the world's oldest railway, the Middleton Railway dates back to 1758. For the train enthusiast, you can discover steam and diesel locomotives while for children during the cold winter months they can enjoy the excitement of the Santa service.

### Temple Newsam House & Park

Known as one of the UK's finest country houses, this restored Tudor-Jacobean estate allows visitors to view not only the enormous house with its priceless antiques and art, but also enjoy the walled gardens, park and lake. The stables area provides visitors with the chance to grab refreshments. For the young and energetic there is a 'Go Ape' on the grounds where you can learn a variety of outdoor and aerial skills. Every year Temple Newsam also plays host to Let's Rock Leeds – a fun and retro music festival.



ABOVE LEFT: KIRKSTALL ABBEY ©ISTOCKPHOTO, ABOVE: THE AIRE BAR IN THE CALLS ©SHUTTERSTOCK

### Harewood House

Harewood House is a historic Georgian estate house and gardens, showcasing royal memorabilia, grand master paintings, and award-winning gardens. For the children, there is an adventure playground, plus its famous Bird Garden is home to penguins, flamingos, and parrots. Buses run directly to and from Leeds City Centre every 15 minutes.

### Emmerdale Village Tour

For those of you who love one of the UK's longest-running soaps, how about a tour of Emmerdale Village. Set within the Harewood Estate, you can enjoy a fully guided walking tour where you will discover the village, the sets of *The Woolpack*, *Café Mainstreet*, and *David's Shop*. There is also a chance to visit the studio, view costumes and props, and learn some of the secrets behind the special effects.

### RSPB St Aidan's Nature Park

A little further afield is the RSPB St Aidan's Nature Park. This peaceful nature reserve covers 400 hectares and is home to 12kms of walking trails, woodlands, and open pastures. There is an excellent visitor centre on-site.

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Grand Theatre

Leeds Grand Theatre & Opera House opened in November 1878 and has a capacity of 1,500. Today it prides itself on the variety of shows, comedy, drama, and West End musicals it puts on. What's more, the Theatre also plays host to opera and ballet so it's well worth

you checking out what's going on during your visit to the city.

### City Varieties Music Hall

This is Leeds' oldest working theatre. The City Varieties Music Hall has existed for three centuries and is today famed for pantomimes, and stand-up comedy, and is the nation's longest-running music hall.

### Leeds Festival

The Leeds Festival is a huge UK rock music event that takes place every summer. Known for attracting some of the finest musical artists from across the globe, the festival has grown significantly in recent years.

## BARS & RESTAURANTS

One thing you will not be short of in Leeds is bars and restaurants. Throughout the city, there is a choice of modern dining establishments to the more traditional pubs and boozers.

For quality restaurants, you have in the Victorian Quarter 'The Ivy' which incidentally is a great place to go and enjoy an afternoon tea. There is Issho, a popular Japanese Rooftop bar ([www.issho-restaurant.com](http://www.issho-restaurant.com)). For Argentinian cuisine, Gaucho's is perfect for lovers of meat. With recognizable brands dotted around the city such as Browns, Miller & Carter, Turtle Bay, and Tiger Tiger you will never be short of choice when it comes to dining out.

Three particularly enjoyable and very old pubs worth visiting are located in the Trinity area of town. Check out The Pack Horse,

The Scarborough Hotel, and Whitelocks, which dates from 1715.

### The Calls Area

Alongside the River Aire was my favourite place for an afternoon chill - the Calls area. The Aire Bar has an outside seating terrace where you can sit on a sunny afternoon overlooking the canal and just relax. Home to several quirky, cool independent bars was Call Lane, where some of the establishments provide sports viewing, while others regularly host live music, which all adds to the area's easy-going and fun vibe.

### The Brewery Wharf

Situated on the south bank of the River Aire opposite The Calls, the lovely Brewery Wharf offers a vibrant mix of offices, bars, restaurants, residential apartments, and hotels. I loved wandering around this cool mix of old and new including a stroll along the cobbled stones of Dock Street before ending up with a pint at the traditional Adelphi Pub on Hunslet Road.

### The Otley Run

Ask any young university student where to go on a pub crawl and more often than not they will send you down to the Woodies Craft Ale House on Otley Road, Headingley. This is the starting point of the famous Otley Run. From there you are tasked with visiting a further 14 pubs as you work your way downhill (thankfully) to the finishing line of The Dry Dock - a ship-turned pub close to the city centre. Otley is also well known for its folk festival, which takes place in September at a variety of pub locations.



ABOVE LEFT: CASTLE IN ROUNDHAY PARK, ABOVE: LEEDS MINSTER. ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO

## SPORT

Love them or hate them, Leeds Utd is an iconic name in the history of British football. Back in the Premiership after several years away, the city is once again proud of its football team. While Elland Road is their spiritual home, you will see murals of current and past players throughout the city. The stadium also plays host to major Rugby League fixtures, with this area a hotbed for this version of the game.

The world-class stadium of Headingley hosts both rugby and cricket matches. Leeds Rhinos play here in the Rugby Super League, while this is perhaps best known as the home of Yorkshire County Cricket Club. With regular major sporting events, the area around Headingley is full of bars and pubs.

## IN THE VICINITY

### Hebden Bridge

Located in West Yorkshire's Upper Calder Valley, Hebden Bridge is a small yet beautiful market town with its York stone houses, independent shops, traditional cotton mills, cafes, pubs, and tea rooms. The town is also known for its diversity, attracting a thriving LGBTQ+ community.

### Skipton

Skipton is the gateway to the Yorkshire Dales National Park and has in the past been voted the best place to live in the UK. Dissected by the Leeds and Liverpool canal passing through its centre, Skipton is a beautiful historic market town

set amongst the most magnificent countryside. There is the 900-year-old medieval Skipton Castle, an open-air market, the incredible limestone cliffs at Malham and then there is the Bolton Abbey.

### Halifax

The Metropolitan Borough of Calderdale takes its name from the River Calder, and dale, a word for valley. Halifax is Calderdale's largest town, with Victorian architecture and a strong industrial heritage. Halifax Minster, the National Children's Museum, and the many markets, shops, and restaurants make Halifax a great place to visit. Visit in August and you may be lucky to catch the Summer Makers' Market at the Piece Hall, which is an event hosting dozens of local food and craft stalls. There is also the Halifax Show which is primarily an agricultural show held in Savile Park every summer.

### Harrogate

The spa town of Harrogate in the heart of the Harrogate district is an extremely popular place for tourists to visit. Be sure to visit the Montpellier Quarter with the Royal Pump Room Museum as well as the Moorish-style Turkish Baths & Health Spa. The area around Harrogate features so many attractive towns and villages, historic houses, castles, abbeys, and some of the most spectacular countryside in the UK. In September the Harrogate Food and Drink Festival draws visitors from across the country.

## York

The medieval cobbled streets and history of York are world-renowned. This compact cathedral city is home to a multitude of museums, galleries, shopping, fine dining, street food cafes, and tea rooms. Visit in September and you could discover the wonderful York Balloon Fiesta.

## SUMMARY

I thoroughly enjoyed my three days exploring the city of Leeds and its surroundings. That mix of old and new, the cobbled streets and atmosphere around the Calls area. The tranquillity of the River Aire and the world-class shopping plus all of the historical and cultural sights will not disappoint.

Leeds is well worth a long weekend as there is heaps to do both in and around the city centre. Then, if you want, you can hire a car and visit some of the UK's most popular tourist locations in the gorgeous Yorkshire countryside.

It turned out, much to my surprise, that Leeds was very much my cup of tea ... I hope it will be yours, too!

*Rupert Diggins enjoyed a 35-year career in the travel industry. In 2020, following redundancy due to the devastating effects of Covid-19, he started to put down his memories in a collection of informative and amusing stories. Follow his popular, uplifting website and blog at [www.justonefortheroad.com](http://www.justonefortheroad.com)*

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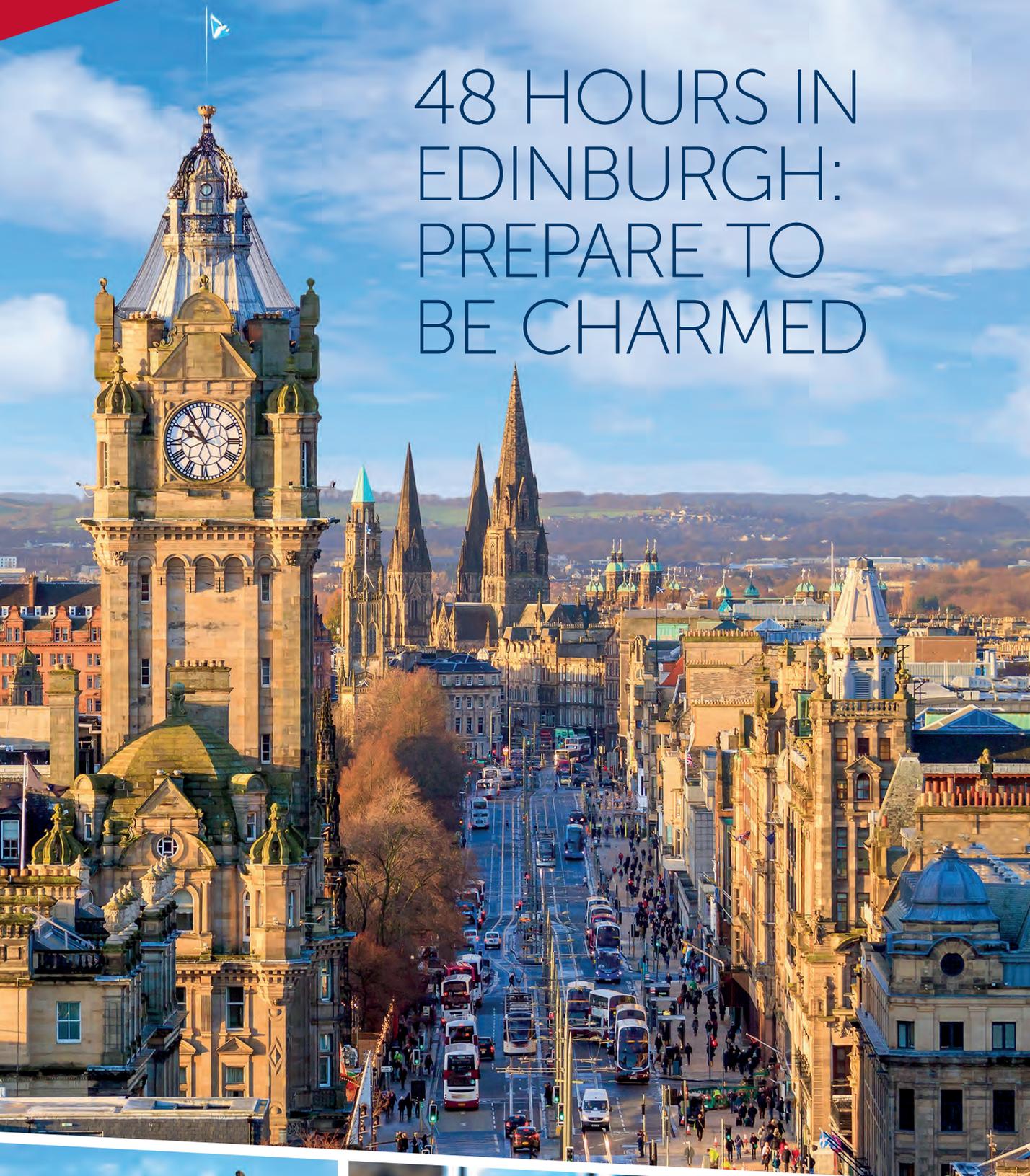
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# 48 HOURS IN EDINBURGH: PREPARE TO BE CHARMED





LEFT: VIEW FROM THE CALTON HILL ON PRINCES STREET ©SHUTTERSTOCK, ABOVE: SALISBURY CRAGS IN HOLYROOD PARK ©ISTOCKPHOTO ABOVE RIGHT: THE ROYAL EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO ©SHUTTERSTOCK

## Jessamy Baldwin explores Scotland's capital city.

On the hunt for your next 48 hr getaway? Look no further than the historically rich city of Edinburgh. Here you'll find cultural gems around each cobbled corner in the form of bagpipe players, shortbread shops, candlelit restaurants and views for miles.

With its unique blend of time-spanning architecture, foodie hot spots, green parks, famed medieval castle, beautiful hotels, quaint cafes, picturesque walks, boutique shops, world-class museums, cosy pubs and the famous Royal Mile to keep you entertained, Edinburgh is the ideal escape spot.

Accommodation: For style and central location, the Edinburgh Grand, Hotel Indigo or Balmoral Hotel stand out. However, there are plenty of cheaper options such as The Grassmarket Hotel, Castle Rock Hostel or the many AirBnb rentals.

Getting into the city: Hop on the tram which runs every seven minutes from the airport between 7am and 7pm, and every 10 minutes outside these hours.

### DAY ONE:

Pick a breakfast spot before heading straight to tour Edinburgh Castle (pre-book), which sits on Castle Rock, a 350-million-year-old extinct volcano.

Then, meander down the famous Royal Mile - one of the city's oldest and most famous streets. People watch, admire the impressive buildings, dive into boutiques and explore quirky pubs, all while

keeping an eye out for street performers and market stalls.

Some of the city's prettiest streets veer off from here, including Cockburn Street and Victoria Street with their scattering of antique shops, bars and cafés. Take a few steps across to Grassmarket if you have time. Grab lunch along the way - whisky lovers, don't miss one of the five Scotch Whisky Experience tasting tours.

From here, head to Candlemaker Row to peruse the National Museum of Scotland. Next, it's time to check out the impressive Palace of Holyroodhouse, the Queen's official residence in Scotland.

After supper, head to one of the many theatres in town (pre-book), including the Edinburgh Playhouse, Festival Theatre, Bedlam Theatre, New Town Theatre, and C cubed.

### DAY TWO:

Begin with a 45-minute walk up the notorious city-centre hill, Arthur's Seat, where you'll experience spectacular views of the castle, the Pentland Hills and East Lothian. If you're up there early enough, the sunrise is out of this world. It's worth getting an Uber to the start of the walk (Holyrood Park Road Entrance) to save time.

Fuel up on brunch before taking a leisurely stroll through Princes Street Gardens. Sample some culture by spending an hour or so gazing at the works of Da Vinci, Monet and Constable at The Scottish National Portrait Gallery. Next up it's the magical Botanical Gardens.

Now head back down through the cobbled streets of nearby

Stockbridge, not forgetting to check out Instagram-famous Circus Lane and hunt for charity shop treasures. If you're visiting on the weekend, Stockbridge Market is open every Sunday. Or, if you're after some more traditional retail therapy, hit up St James Quarter.

Finish the day off with one final view of the city. Take a walk up the North Bridge, where you'll see the twinkling lights of the city all around.

## FOOD AND DRINK HOT SPOTS TO CHECK OUT

L'escargot bleu, Lookout by Gardener's Cottage, Scran & Scallie, Good Brothers Wine Bar, Forth Floor Brasserie at Harvey Nichols, The Kitchen, Bramble Bar & Lounge, The Pantry, Dishoom, Leo's Beanery, Whiski Bar & Restaurant, Hula Juice Bar, Noto, Honeycomb, Little Chartroomm, Spitaki, Pizzeria 1926, Twelve Triangles, Babka, Mary's Milk Bar, Fortitude coffee.

## WHAT'S ON AUGUST

5 - 27 August: The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

5 - 29 August: Edinburgh Fringe Festival

13 - 29 August: Edinburgh International Book Festival

## HOW TO GET THERE

Aurigny has flights to Edinburgh for the August bank holiday weekend. For other dates, fly to Southampton or Gatwick airports and catch an onward service; or how about taking the train?

LEFT: EDINBURGH CASTLE FROM PRINCES STREET GARDENS, SCOTCH WHISKY TASTING, THE ROYAL MILE. ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

# CASTLE CORNET – THE LAST ROYALIST STRONGHOLD

Editor Amanda Eulenkamp takes a look at this magnificent castle – also known as Cornet Rock or Castle Rock – first fortified in the 13th century.

From my old office in Town, I had a perfect, bird's-eye view of Castle Cornet. I've always been fascinated by castles. Dover Castle (near to where my grandparents lived) and Warwick Castle (near my parents) were places I loved to visit and explore as a child, my imagination conjuring up scenes of the past.

Overdue a visit to my now local castle, my son and I headed out past the model yacht pond to enjoy a day soaking up the sun and the history...

First stop was the noon day gun (even though it was after that time!), simply to see the huge cannon in situ. Then, we climbed up and down numerous steps as we took in the breath-taking views of the other islands from the battlements. We visited a couple of the military museums. Tip: allow longer than you think, as there is certainly plenty to absorb as you walk around.

I love the gardens (although I'm not green-fingered!), finding the Governor's Garden particularly restful. Take some time out of your day to enjoy it.

## A BRIEF HISTORY

The castle has guarded the harbour for 800 years. In 1066 when William Duke of Normandy became William I, King of England, the Channel Islands became possessions of the English Crown. In 1204, King John lost control of Normandy but the islands remained in the possession of the English Crown. As a result there was the need to defend the Channel Islands against the French. The construction of Castle Cornet commenced shortly after this date.

During the reigns of Henry VIII (1509-1547) and Elizabeth I (1558-1603) successive island governors supervised the building of new outer walls and fortifications around the medieval fortress, creating the basic outline of the castle still seen today.



FIRING THE NOON DAY GUN ©ISTOCKPHOTO



ABOVE LEFT: CASTLE CORNET ©ISTOCKPHOTO  
ABOVE: SUNRISE OVER CASTLE CORNET ©VISITGUERNSEY

At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1642 Guernsey declared for Parliament. Castle Cornet, under Governor Sir Peter Osborne, remained loyal to King Charles I. The Castle was under siege throughout this period. There were regular skirmishes, with both the castle and St Peter Port suffering damage from each other's guns. Castle Cornet was the last Royalist stronghold to surrender in 1651.

After the Restoration of 1660 the castle was fully maintained as a fortress.

During the German Occupation of the Channel Islands the castle was known as Stuzpunkt Hafenschloss (Strongpoint Harbour Castle). Through the Second World War it housed Luftwaffe flak (anti-aircraft) units. Many modifications were made to the castle during this period as the defences once again had to be brought up to date for modern warfare. Many structures from this period including personnel shelters and gun emplacements can still be seen today.

In 1947, HM King George VI handed Castle Cornet as a gift to the people of Guernsey.

## PRESENT DAY

Four museums, four period gardens, the refectory and a shop are all there to discover. Museums include:

**Royal Guernsey Light Infantry Regimental Museum** - see how the grim reality of the Great War affected the island community.

## Discovery Pass

A Discovery Pass card costs only £20 and is issued for 12 months from the date of purchase to a named individual over 18 years old. It allows unlimited visits (during seasonal opening hours) to Castle Cornet, Guernsey Museum at Candie Gardens, Fort Grey, and the German Naval Signals Headquarters. Additionally, there is free entry for all accompanying children (under 18 years), 10% discount in the museum gift shops and Guernsey Information Centre (card must be shown when paying), and free entry to Jersey Museum and Alderney Museum (named pass holder only).

For families, each adult simply purchases a pass and all children coming in with them will be free. This ensures excellent value and is more inclusive for families of all sizes.

Please note, the passes are for the named individual only and cannot be transferred between people.

The cards are issued at time of purchase and are available from:

- Guernsey Museum at Candie
- Castle Cornet
- Beau Sejour Leisure Centre
- Guernsey Information Centre
- The German Naval Signals HQ
- Guernsey Pearl

For further information see [www.museums.gov.gg/DiscoveryPass](http://www.museums.gov.gg/DiscoveryPass)



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**Royal Guernsey Militia Regimental Museum** - follow the story of how the islanders helped defend their home against invaders.

**201 Squadron Museum** - the 201 Squadron was the oldest in the RAF and was the last to retain a local affiliation. Until it was disbanded in 2011, it carried the soubriquet 'Guernsey's Own'. Links have since been revived.

## ACTIVITIES

The noon-day gun is one of most popular and impressive sights. It is fired daily throughout the season by keepers clad in scarlet costumes who will stay and pose for photos with you after every firing.

Every day from Easter to September there are Living History performances from the Guernsey History in Action Company. They last about 20-30 minutes and start most days at 12.10pm (subject to change and occasional cancellation on the day) so check at the shop when you arrive. Visit their website at [www.ghiac.org](http://www.ghiac.org) to learn more.

## INFORMATION

Open daily 10am – 5pm from now until 30 October. Please note the castle café will be closed on Tuesdays.

Assistance dogs are welcome. Regrettably, the castle is not accessible to wheelchairs beyond the shop. The castle has steps, steep staircases and uneven surfaces which those with restricted mobility or impaired vision might find difficult.

There are sheer drops and children should be closely supervised at all times.

See [museums.gov.gg/article/101089/Castle-Cornet](http://museums.gov.gg/article/101089/Castle-Cornet) for further information.

TOP RIGHT: CASTLE CORNET AT NIGHT @ISTOCKPHOTO  
ABOVE RIGHT: 'GUERNSEY WITH KIDS' WITH THE CASTLE CORNET GUARDS. BELOW: FIRING OF THE CASTLE CORNET CANNON FOR THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE @GUERNSEY PRESS



## Castle Cornet for Kids

Castle Cornet is up there amongst our favourite places to visit in Guernsey thanks to the number of things on offer to keep kids entertained.

When entering the castle, make sure to pick up a children's Trail Sheet, these add lots of fun for kids when looking around the castle and grounds as they contain images to look out for. My girls always love the spotter sheets and it leads to squeals of delight when images are spotted and ticked off.

Another highlight for kids is the dressing up room, located at the base of the clock tower. This little gem is home to a selection of medieval costumes for both boys and girls to unleash their inner knight, princess or dragon. One of my fondest memories is exploring the castle with my girls both dressed as knights ready for battle!

Picnics are encouraged at Castle Cornet and the lawned area in the inner ward is the perfect spot. This lovely grassed area (with a few benches dotted around the edge if you prefer) is a really nice relaxing space and if my girls are anything to go by, great for cartwheels!

For a full guide to enjoying Castle Cornet with kids visit [guernseywithkids.com](http://guernseywithkids.com)

**Antonia Rainbow** is mum to nine-year-old twin girls and has a passion for writing and a real love of Guernsey. She founded [guernseywithkids.com](http://guernseywithkids.com) to help families get the best out of the island.

# BUSINESS NEWS

## 70 NEWS BULLETIN

The latest business news from the Channel Islands

## 73 GENDER PAY GAP

Ogier report underlines need for forward thinking

## 77 SWOFFERS

Guernsey's open market housing sector

## 83 POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE

The importance of customer feedback

## 85 ELECTRIC LIVING

Are electric vehicles the future for Guernsey?

## FINANCIAL INTEGRITY 88

The rise of financial services regulation and enforcement

## GUERNSEY'S FUNDS SECTOR 90

How sustainability and technology will help drive the post-pandemic recovery

## WHAT'S IN A NAME? 99

The legal importance of choosing the right name for your child

## GOOD FINANCIAL HABITS 102

Paul McCormick of Gower outlines five 'good habits' for all ages

## HIGH-FLYING 104

The latest appointments at leading Channel Island businesses




# OAK'S UN GLOBAL COMPACT JOURNEY

BY JAMES TRACEY, MANAGING DIRECTOR – GUERNSEY FUNDS, OAK GROUP

In the last issue of *En Voyage*, our CEO Graham McCormack set out Oak's ambition to integrate ESG into the heart of our business. We've since delivered an initial wave of sustainable business and finance training to all our people and commenced work on calculating our carbon footprint. We are also developing a suite of client-facing resources to help our clients manage their own carbon emissions.

But this work isn't just tactical nor is it happening in silos. From the outset, we've understood the need to have a solid and transparent sustainability governance structure, applicable across our global business. A structure we can align our progress with and monitor our performance from. We believe the best structure for Oak is the UN Global Compact and are in the process of becoming a formal signatory to this world's largest corporate sustainability initiative.

The UN Global Compact (GC) offers a principles-based framework through which to achieve greater good. In becoming a signatory, Oak will be committing to the 10 UN GC principles and advancement of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The 10 principles set out best business practice in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption. Following initial mapping, we know Oak is already operating in line with the spirit of all 10 principles but there will always be more we can do.

## The 10 Principles of the UN Global Compact

Our UN GC journey is relatively simple to start. First, we send a Letter of Commitment to the UN Secretary-General, to be signed our CEO. This letter commits us to implementing the 10 principles and taking action to support the UN SDGs. It also commits us to submitting an annual Communication of Progress. Embracing transparency, the letter and the annual communication will be published on the UN GC website. In the

background, we will prioritise and implement better sustainability practice, tracking our progress against the UN GC framework.

One example of work we already prioritise is the wellbeing, diversity and inclusion of our people, which directly supports UN SDG 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing), UN SDG 5 (Gender Equality), UN SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities). This work also underpins UN GC Principles 1 – 6 on human rights and labour. Ensuring a fantastic workplace and team culture for our people is a key element of practicing the 'S' of 'ESG' while also contributing to talent attraction and retention.

We chose the UN GC framework because of its global reach. Jurisdiction-specific sustainable business schemes exist but these come with the burden of administering and tracking multiple schemes across a global business. Our UN GC signatory status will also give us access to a free, leading-edge suite of resources that will act as education, food for thought and best practice templates for our sustainability activities. It enables us to create one global KPI dashboard on which we can start tracking and monitoring our sustainability performance in line with the UN SDGs.

As governance experts, Oak recognises that solid sustainability governance will be a key foundation to our success. Alongside our UN GC signatory status, we will be implementing a formal sustainability governance structure within our organisation. Unfortunately, 'ESG Committees' are still seen by many as voluntary 'nice to haves'. But in Oak's view, sustainability is a business-critical mission to be woven into our long term corporate strategy; and we will approach it with the same formal governance as our client delivery, financial performance and wider risk management practices.



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Nick Riggott.

## MITEL REWARDS JT'S CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO BUSINESS EXCELLENCE

JT has retained the highest level of accreditation from a global leader in business communications. First awarded Mitel Platinum status in 2020, JT remains the only telecoms company in the Channel Islands to have reached that level. Earlier this year, JT was chosen as Mitel's Innovation Partner of the Year.

'We are really thrilled that Mitel continues to recognise JT as one of its key partners, rewarding our commitment and the team's genuine hard work,' said Strategic Partnership Manager James Singleton.

Mitel services are found in businesses and organisations all over the world, providing solutions from simple business communications to sophisticated unified and collaborative communications, whether onsite or in the cloud.

'We demand high standards from the channel partners we work with in our partnership programme and JT has shown its continued commitment to providing a service that surpasses most,' said Nick Riggott, UKISA Sales Director at Mitel.

## WALKERS SPONSORS CHANNEL ISLANDS LAUNCH OF ILITA

The launch event of the Guernsey branch of the International Ladies in Trust Association (ILITA) was sponsored by Walkers. The event was held at Local & Wild at St James.

ILITA is a networking organisation that promotes and supports women working in the trust industry at all stages of their careers and is open to women in trusts in any capacity - in legal, trust administration or accountancy roles. It was originally set up in the Cayman Islands by Walkers Partner Shelley White in 2014.

Citywealth CEO Karen Jones was the speaker at the inaugural event and there are plans to run regular events.

'Events such as these can make a real difference for networking and exchanging ideas and views - we are very grateful to our guest speakers and to everyone who attended for making the launch events a success and we hope to be able to confirm arrangements for future events shortly,' said Walkers Associate Nitriha Doorasamy, who organised the Guernsey event alongside Associate Kathryn Macken.

A Jersey branch has also been launched.



Tanzy Cherry.

## PURCHASE OF SHAREHOLDING BRINGS ENTIRE GROUP OWNERSHIP BACK INTO FAMILY

Cherry Godfrey's Chief Operating Officer, Tanzy Cherry, has purchased a substantial shareholding in the company her parents set up. The purchase brings the entire group ownership back into the family for the first time in 17 years.

'Succession planning is the key to ensuring the future growth and success of a company,' said CEO David Cherry.

'Ensuring Cherry Godfrey's next generation of leadership has the right skills and experience to take up the reins is paramount. This is a true mark of Tanzy's commitment and confidence in Cherry Godfrey and its role within the islands.'

The company has branches in Guernsey, Jersey, the Isle of Man and the Isle of Wight.

'Working at the heart of local communities has always been at the forefront of what we do and we are looking at a number of exciting initiatives to increase our product offering and service levels across the four jurisdictions,' said Ms Cherry.

'Our relationship with our customers is integral to our business. Indeed, we work with people and businesses that we trust and endorse and, with an exciting pipeline of opportunities, are looking forward to the future with optimism.'

## JACKSONS SALES SET TO BENEFIT LES BOURGS HOSPICE

Jacksons Group, incorporating Motor Mall, has committed to support Les Bourgs Hospice by making a donation for every vehicle they sell from July 2022 onwards. The donation is expected to exceed £50,000 per annum. There is a further opportunity for each donation to be value matched by the customer. All monies will go directly towards the provision of specialist support for those with life-limiting illness in the local community. 'The work that Les Bourgs Hospice do is incredible,' said General Manager of Jacksons Channel Islands Andrew Searle.

'I had never fully understood just how much funding was required, year on year, to maintain the astonishing levels of care they provide, in often the most challenging circumstances for local families. The support they

provide and the dedication of the amazing team is truly exceptional and deeply humbling. Rather than a one-off donation, we wanted to do something that was sustainable, to help in their annual challenge to raise the significant funds to maintain their essential service.'

Hospice Director Jo Boyd said that Les Bourgs Hospice was 'incredibly grateful' to be chosen as Jacksons

Group's charity partner. 'As an independent charity who delivers 24-hour specialist care, 365 days a year, we are always facing the challenge of raising funds. It was therefore a pleasant surprise when Jacksons Group approached us with this new initiative which we will know will have such a positive impact for us, our patients, and their loved ones.'



Andrew Searle, Jo Boyd MBE, Les Bourgs Hospice Director, and Onno Termeulen, Jacksons Head of Business Guernsey.

## MERGER FOR IT PROVIDERS

Two local firms have agreed a merger to form a leading IT service provider in the Channel Islands.

Next Generation IT and Alternative Solutions will be coming together as Clarity Ltd, headquartered in Guernsey and with offices in Jersey and Romania. The business will support clients in the islands, the UK and further afield. Clarity Ltd will be run by the executive team of Jason Connolly, Matt Hale, Tom Heyworth and Matthew Neville, headed by

Chief Executive Officer Neil Jordan. Together they bring over 100 years of experience in IT service provision with extensive knowledge of cyber security, business transformation, cloud computing, IT support, hosting and project management.

Alternative Solutions was established in 1986 and Next Generation IT in 2003. The merged company, operating with revenues exceeding £13m., will employ more than 80 people.

'We are delighted to be taking the next step in our journey with this significant growth,' said Mr Connolly,

Chief Commercial Officer at Next Generation. 'Building on our great reputation, this merger will bring together two leading teams to create an unrivalled managed service provider covering the entire Channel Islands, with an enlarged skills base and strength in depth, which will benefit the clients of both companies.' Mr Jordan added: 'The directors and shareholders of both companies are pleased to be working together for the benefit of existing and new clients of both companies and have exciting plans to grow the business and services offered.'



Tom Heyworth, Matthew Neville, Chief Executive Officer Neil Jordan, Matt Hale and Jason Connolly.



# Hello amazing

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## OGIER EXPERTS UNDERLINE NEED FOR FORWARD THINKING AS GENDER PAY GAP REPORTING EVOLVES



HELEN RUELLE

RACHEL DESANGES

Employment law experts at Ogier have underlined how the potential for divergent gender pay gap legislation across the UK, Ireland and the Channel Islands could provide reputational and operational challenges for firms operating across those jurisdictions.

Speaking during a recent webinar held by the firm, lawyers at Ogier, including Helen Ruelle, Director of Local Legal Services, Rachel DeSanges, Head of Employment in Guernsey, Will Austin-Vautier, Senior Associate in Jersey, and Mary Gavin, Senior Associate at Ogier Leman in Dublin, explained how firms needed to think about future-proofing their employment procedures, with gender pay gap legislation still evolving in all locations.

They were joined by keynote speaker Daphne Romney QC of Cloisters, who highlighted that reporting gender pay gap information was a complex area that needed to be backed up by subsequent action if it was to be effective.

The gender pay gap is the difference between the average earnings of men and the average earnings of women across a workforce over a period of time. In the UK, since 2017 employers with a headcount of 250 employees or more have been required to report certain gender pay gap information and may publish a discretionary supporting narrative. However, legislation and requirements are not progressing at similar speeds in all locations.

Rachel DeSanges clarified that, although there is currently no equivalent legislation in Guernsey around obligatory gender pay gap reporting, sex discrimination legislation expressly prohibits discrimination in the way men and women are paid. She added, though, that changes could be on the horizon:

‘Even though Guernsey doesn’t have specific legislation to mandate gender pay gap reporting at the moment, the island is in the process of overhauling its discrimination laws. The changes could include a statutory right to equal pay for work of equal value and a requirement for gender pay gap reporting.’

‘Additionally, some employers, either because their counterparts in other jurisdictions are having to do so by law or because they wish to be more transparent, will consider pay gap reporting on a

voluntary basis. Those who don’t do it may then suffer reputationally. Voluntary reporting could also be a useful recruitment tool.’

Helen Ruelle, who chaired the event, concluded:

‘The situation is clearly still evolving and the important thing is for employers to begin to have serious discussions now about the key issues involved in voluntary and mandatory gender pay gap reporting and what that could mean for their employment procedures. That way, they can be ahead of the game and reap the benefits that transparency in this area can bring.’

During the course of the webinar, 68% of attendees said their firm would consider publishing gender pay gap data voluntarily, whilst 9% said they would not and 23% were undecided. In October last year, Ogier voluntarily published its pay gap data as part of the firm’s ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion.

**THE IMPORTANT THING IS FOR EMPLOYERS TO BEGIN TO HAVE SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS NOW ABOUT THE KEY ISSUES INVOLVED IN VOLUNTARY AND MANDATORY GENDER PAY GAP REPORTING AND WHAT THAT COULD MEAN FOR THEIR EMPLOYMENT PROCEDURES.**



©ISTOCKPHOTO

A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a dark jacket and leggings, is sitting on a large, mossy log in a lush green forest. A light-colored dog is sitting on the log next to her, looking towards her. The background is filled with tall trees and dense foliage, creating a serene and natural atmosphere.

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**Julius Bär**  
YOUR WEALTH MANAGER

# THE SPENDING HABITS OF THE WEALTHY ARE EVOLVING

BY JEAN-LUC LE TOCQ, HEAD OF PRIVATE BANKING, JULIUS BAER GUERNSEY

The pandemic has proven to many that health and happiness are more important than luxurious living. Wealthy Channel Island residents (and Europeans more broadly) have changed their spending habits to reflect a renewed focus on wellbeing as well as adjusting to increasing product and service prices and the evolving global economy.

Jean-Luc Le Tocq discusses key findings in Julius Baer's 2021 Global Wealth and Lifestyle Report and how they reflect the spending habits of the wealthy.

Our research shows that the pandemic has influenced spending habits, with some distinct regional differences. However, the consumption habits of the wealthy have, perhaps unsurprisingly, been less impacted than other consumers.

## A GREENER FUTURE FOR HIGH-NET-WORTH INDIVIDUALS (HNWIS)?

While many HNWIs still have considerable demand for petrol cars, they are increasingly interested in greener methods of transport like hybrid and electric vehicles. This is a good example of the HNWI green consumption dichotomy. As our survey reveals, the wealthy are more likely to use private vehicles but they are also likely to be environmentally conscious. With the UK planning to ban new petrol cars by 2030, it is likely that we will see Channel Island residents take a similar attitude towards environmental impact.

## SENTIMENT AND HEALTH HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY THE PANDEMIC

Wellbeing and health are both areas that have seen, and will continue to see, growth in expenditure for medical and fitness reasons as the pandemic further recedes. HNWIs place their physical wellbeing as a top priority, but we also expect to see mental health become an equally important facet. A study from Island Global Research found a 47% fall in mental wellbeing in Guernsey since the stay at home requirements were introduced during the pandemic.

Our research shows that HNW Europeans tend to be less optimistic about their financial and professional situations than other regions surveyed. This has led



them to invest more and spend less during the last year, reflecting a move from luxurious living to more future-conscious investments.

## WHAT MAKES THIS YEAR UNIQUE?

One of the biggest differences this year is that inflation is back. Over the period covered by the last report, the overall price of our Lifestyle Index (in US Dollar terms) rose 1%. This year, it rose almost 7.5%. Most goods and services surveyed have gone up in price, with interestingly technology, lawyers, and bicycles experiencing the biggest rises.

Some 75% of goods and 63% of services in our Lifestyle Index have experienced a price rise in the last year. The sharp rise in the cost of bicycles perhaps reflects the renewed interest in cleaner travel, environmental protection, and physical fitness.

HNWIs continue to alter their spending habits following the pandemic. The Channel Islands are no exception, as physical health, a consciousness of our impact on the environment, and caution in future investments are consistent themes throughout Europe. We expect these trends to continue.

And looking to the long term, problems such as global warming haven't gone away. Life will continue to be unpredictable and expensive for everyone, the wealthy included, while health and happiness increasingly become must-haves that money cannot buy.

*To discuss your wealth management needs, please contact Jean-Luc Le Tocq on +44 1481 702732 or [jeanluc.letocq@juliusbaer.com](mailto:jeanluc.letocq@juliusbaer.com).*

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**'THE SHARP RISE IN THE COST OF BICYCLES PERHAPS REFLECTS THE RENEWED INTEREST IN CLEANER TRAVEL, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AND PHYSICAL FITNESS.'**



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# THE INSIDE SCOOP ON GUERNSEY'S OPEN MARKET HOUSING SECTOR

IS IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE IT ALL? PERHAPS NOT, BUT WE THINK GUERNSEY COMES VERY CLOSE.

The island's greatest hits include stunning scenery, miles of coastline and beaches, winding country lanes, clean air, a bustling Town, fine dining, high-quality sports and leisure facilities, a rich heritage, a friendly population, very low crime, and a strong sense of community.

Guernsey doesn't just appeal because of its quality of life. From a business perspective it is extremely competitive with low taxes, a highly regulated finance centre, a well-educated and professionally qualified workforce, good air and sea links, independent government, and stability.

So while nowhere is 100% perfect, Guernsey represents the best of both worlds in terms of lifestyle and business.

Since the pandemic, the rise of remote working has meant that some people can live anywhere, and they're choosing Guernsey because of its less frenetic pace. The property market here is divided into two – open and local. The open market makes relocating to Guernsey straightforward, particularly for high net worth individuals.

Approximately 7% of Guernsey's homes (around 1,600) are on the open market register. They are generally more substantial dwellings that command higher prices than the local market.

Anyone with the right of abode in the UK can rent or buy an open market home. Non-UK passport holders who have been granted an entrepreneur visa may also live in an open market property.

One of the main attractions of moving to Guernsey is the island's favourable taxation system. We are a leading, well regulated, and stable jurisdiction and our tax rates are amongst the lowest in Europe.

The island has no capital gains, inheritance, wealth or sales taxes and neither does it have VAT. There is a flat standard rate of income tax for Guernsey-resident individuals of 20% with tax capping opportunities for higher earners in certain circumstances.

There are many attractive tax caps for UK non-doms. For instance, if a taxpayer is fully resident, a capping arrangement allows them to limit their liability to £130,000 per annum on non-Guernsey income.

Another option is the worldwide income tax cap of £260,000. This covers foreign and Guernsey source income.

A popular choice is the arrangement where new residents can take advantage of a temporary £50,000 tax cap. This provision is for four years and to qualify new residents must have bought an open market property and paid document duty of at least £50,000.

Over the last couple of years we've seen a surge of people from the UK and further afield who are keen to embrace what Guernsey has to offer. Despite the cost-of-living pressures, there is high demand across the board and confidence for the future.

Swoffers director Sophie Ephgrave explained the enduring appeal of the island.

'People are often initially interested in Guernsey because of the low tax rates and pro-business attitudes.

'However, what we find is that ultimately it's the quality of life that is the clincher, they want somewhere safe and peaceful for their family.

'Incomers are usually very keen to get involved with the community and they make valuable contributions.'

Swoffers consistently dominates property sales in the open market. At the end of May this year there had been 44 open market agency sales and Swoffers had negotiated 23 of them.

*Our open market team has a wealth of experience in helping individuals and families relocate to Guernsey. Get in touch to find out more.*



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James Burton,  
Operations Manager

**“Why didn't we move *sooner*?”**



Matt Godfrey,  
Owner / Director

**“You are moving us *forward*.”**



James Gouveia,  
Head of Operations

# ARE YOU SETTLING FOR LESS THAN THE BEST IT SUPPORT?



BY OLLY DUQUEMIN, CEO, RESOLUTION IT

The speed of technological change can be daunting - that's why it's vital for every organisation to have an IT infrastructure in place that's ahead of the digital curve.

Some of the most successful organisations already recognise the value an IT Managed Service Provider (MSP) can deliver, either supporting their in-house team or fulfilling the entire IT function. From improving digital infrastructures and reducing operational costs to providing a back-up when things don't go to plan and safeguarding against security risks, it's an investment that can pay dividends over time.

An effective MSP partnership can bring out the best in your employees and your organisation by improving workplace culture and boosting productivity so you can focus on driving your business forward. If you're not convinced that your current technical infrastructure is measuring up, here are a few questions to consider before making the switch.

## Does your current IT offering improve your business?

Partnering with a trusted MSP gives your organisation access to a professional team of highly qualified IT experts who are invested in improving your digital infrastructure. Operating at the cutting edge of the latest technology trends and innovations, they can help your business gain a competitive advantage by delivering the latest solutions straight to your door. In addition, you benefit from a team that's committed to safeguarding and improving your infrastructure while providing a quick and timely response to resolving issues.

## Is your technical investment delivering value?

Investing in IT staff can be time-consuming and expensive. With an MSP, you'll have a more transparent view of your IT budget and monthly expenditure, but your investment return should be much more. The best MSPs will be an integral part of your business, committed to delivering value through a proactive, trusted relationship. Available to you through both the good times and the bad, they will deal with problems as they arise while sharing regular digital insights to help your business strategy evolve. Successful organisations are always one step ahead of the competition, implementing new technologies to help them reach their goals - a good MSP should be strategically aligned to help you get there.

## Are you worried about the hassle of switching?

Most organisations are daunted by the idea of bringing in an IT provider or making the switch to a new one, but it's much easier than you think. The best MSPs work hard to understand every business' unique needs so they're primed to deliver tailored solutions seamlessly and efficiently. This transition can be completed quickly with little to no disruption to an organisation's clients and users. The extra in-house support and training that an MSP provides will complement your existing team, not compete with it, empowering staff to harness the latest IT innovations for maximum benefit. Once they make the move, clients are surprised by how easy the transition is.

## Do you have a safe pair of hands for your business 24/7?

No business is immune to the risk of a cyber attack, but partnering with a reliable MSP can help minimise the risk that data breaches, power outages or natural disasters can have on your business - saving you time and money. Everyone hopes the worst won't happen, but an MSP is your digital eyes and ears, helping you protect your data and ensuring a speedy recovery from a disruptive event. Cyber-crime is on the rise, so your MSP can help you identify potential risks, devise a strategy to safeguard against a breach and create recovery plans for business continuity, giving you peace of mind that you're always protected.

## Do you want to improve workplace culture and boost productivity?

It's been a tough time for employees across every sector, so there's never been a better time to harness technology to enable your staff to be the best. Creating an agile office culture that encourages collaboration and communication, anywhere and any time, is key to boosting productivity and workplace satisfaction - and technology is at the heart of that culture. Digital tools that streamline processes and encourage idea sharing are pivotal to nurturing a healthy workplace, ensuring that you attract and retain the best talent to grow your business successfully.

The best MSPs deliver value by supporting your business strategy to help you reach your goals in a simple, effective and secure way. Seeing and solving problems before, not after, they arise, they can positively boost your workplace productivity and, ultimately, your bottom line. If you're not sure that you're getting the most value from your IT partnership, then maybe it's time to consider making a move - can you really afford not to?



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# WHY BUSINESSES SHOULD ALWAYS SEEK CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

Did you know that just one negative review can lose a company as many as 22%\* of its potential customers? Just four such feedbacks can drive off 70%\* of potential customers — something any business would struggle to bounce back from.

Hence the importance of customer feedback. Businesses are in a never-ending quest to find out what customers need and effectively deliver it to meet or hopefully exceed their expectations.

The benefits of receiving feedback as a business cannot be underestimated. There are many plus points for organisations, including a better understanding of what customers really want, greater customer satisfaction, more referrals, and higher revenue. Additionally, customer-centric companies are up to 60% more profitable\* than product-centric ones, owing much of their success to actively receiving - and acting upon - feedback.

A business might have the best expertise in the industry in which it operates, but the professional knowledge will rarely be more valuable to business performance than customer insights. If a customer is taking the time to interact with you, whether satisfied or unsatisfied, they expect you to act. The importance of customer feedback is that it provides valuable insights into what is working well about your product or service and what should be done to make the customer experience better.

The opinions shared by customers will help ensure that the end product or service will actually meet their expectations, solve their problems, and fulfil their needs.

It is very important to know what suits customers well, what was their least favourite aspect, and why. Showing that you truly listen to your customers' opinions sells better than anything. After all, the product is made for them, so it should be as close to what they desire as possible.

Skipton International, the Guernsey-licensed bank with clients in over 100 countries worldwide, is a long-time advocate of seeking feedback from its customers, using the renowned independent feedback platform Feefo\*. Every grade and comment is carefully reviewed in order to hone a particular product, improve the service levels on offer, and consider new product offerings.



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Here are a few received earlier this year:

#### May 1 2022 - 18:25 Customer Service Review:



This rating is based on MANY years of exceptional service, nothing is too much trouble. Interest rates have improved and now some fixed rates are really competitive, add both good rates and wonderful service, that is why we have been satisfied customers for many years.

#### Apr 12 2022 - 10:29 Customer Service Review:



Great customer service from Guernsey branch. Staff are well informed and ready to help as required. Efficient services. Thank you.

#### Mar 7 2022 - 16:20 Customer Service Review:



Paul that I dealt with at Skipton was very knowledgeable, approachable and made what can be quite a daunting experience easy to navigate. In addition, his colleagues were also very happy and able to assist where needed. I would highly recommend Skipton, especially Paul, to friends and colleagues.

Another key importance of customer feedback is that it is a reliable source of tangible data in supporting business decisions.

Customer insights will help business leaders to understand clients and their needs more profoundly.

Taking customer suggestions into consideration will help organisations find out where to allocate resources to get the highest return. For example, instead of product development, feedback may lead a business to focus on promoting its brand to get bigger exposure. Customer feedback is a valuable source for such data, but it is imperative to learn how to listen to it and how to translate it into actionable takeaways for your business.

Tips to follow:

- Never ignore the customer's voice. They are the ones who use your products and services, so they know best what could be improved to make them even happier.
- Use customer feedback at all corporate levels and across all departments in your company. Insights will help you develop your products, improve customer service, and manage customer satisfaction.
- Positive feedback is a great way of counteracting the effects of negative comments and can help to increase your business' performance.

\*Feefo is an independent review platform, based upon customers' real life feedback. All statistics quoted courtesy of Feefo: [www.Feefo.com](http://www.Feefo.com)

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**ELECTRIC LIVING**

# ARE ELECTRIC VEHICLES REALLY PERFECT FOR GUERNSEY?



IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO

ADVERTISEMENT

In December 2021, electric vehicles (EVs) tipped the 1000 mark in Guernsey. But are they really right for our island? Here are some answers from Electric Living.

## IT'S GREENWASHING. EVS AREN'T CLEANER THAN PETROL OR DIESEL

At the moment, EV production does indeed have a higher carbon footprint.

But carbon impact must be a lifecycle assessment. Basing decisions on production stage alone while ignoring operation, maintenance and end-of-life impacts both cost and carbon savings.

Guernsey EVs are powered with over 90% imported hydro, wind and solar energy, meaning around 65% less lifecycle<sup>1</sup> carbon emissions compared to most petrol and diesel vehicles. **Charge between 11pm and 5am to use 100%-imported renewable energy to further reduce carbon.**

Lifecycle emissions include:

- lithium-ion battery production;
- charging with both imported renewable and on-island diesel-generated electricity
- vehicle and battery disposal

Legally manufacturers must take back and recycle EV propulsion batteries, according to Mike Hawes, Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT)<sup>2</sup>, which helps resupply raw materials.

## THEY'RE TOO EXPENSIVE TO BUY

Battery production advancements means prices are falling and likely on par with fossil-fuel vehicles soon.

It's in the car industry's interest to increase affordable electric models to secure a share of tomorrow's car market, helping balance supply and demand in buyers' favour. Global transition to cleaner transport means adapting to meet demand, especially following climate change agreements phasing out new fossil-fuel cars.

Nowadays manufacturers design EVs from scratch, rather than adapting existing design structures known as 'platforms'. And second-hand EVs will become normal; in 2019, many commercial fleets were bought

in the UK following tax breaks. These companies then sell to second-hand buyers after a few years.

## YOU CAN'T GET FAR ON THE RANGE

Guernsey's short commutes are perfect for the EV. 'Range anxiety' will die down with driving range improvements and charging stations are available on smartphone apps for long trips. 'Destination charging' - such as when you're at the supermarket or gym - means topping-up a few miles while you're busy. Like a phone (or a fuel tank), you don't always need a full 'tank'. And unlike fuel, you can use 'home-price' electricity if you do charge at home!

## I DON'T HAVE MY OWN CHARGING POINT

Nobody has a home-based fuel station either, but you can have a home-based charging unit. Smaller chargers of 3.6kW or less are simple to have installed in many properties. Drivers today also top up fuel at garages and the same applies to recharging an EV at public charging points. Little and often top-ups are perfect for Guernsey.

## WITH TARIFF INCREASES, THEY'RE TOO EXPENSIVE TO RUN

Electric vehicles can cost around 2p per mile, compared to petrol or diesel which usually exceeds 20p per mile. See: [electricliving.gg/calculator](https://electricliving.gg/calculator)

Electricity in Guernsey is far cheaper than the UK and no internal combustion engine means no engine parts to change or oil to replace.

## WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO CHARGE ELECTRIC TRANSPORT?

For customers on a Super Economy 12 Tariff, the cheapest and least carbon-intensive charge time is between 11pm and 5am.

**Find out why at [electricliving.gg/greenzone](https://electricliving.gg/greenzone)**

Sources

<sup>1</sup> Visit [electricity.gg/verification](https://electricity.gg/verification)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.smmmt.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/SMMT-Sustainability-Report-2021.pdf>

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L-R: TODD MCGUFFIN, HEAD DISPUTES & RISK; KIRTHI KALYAN, MANAGING ASSOCIATE; NICK ROBISON, MANAGING PARTNER, BABBE

# THE RISE AND RISE OF FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATION AND ITS ENFORCEMENT

For many years there have been suspicions, typically misconceived, about the integrity of Guernsey and other offshore international financial centres, particularly by the governments of onshore jurisdictions such as the United States and continental Europe. Together with the demand for increased transparency with respect to the financial affairs of the wealthy with a view of securing higher domestic tax revenues, especially post the global financial crisis, these suspicions have manifested in ever increasing layers of regulation upon the financial services Guernsey provides.

In response to the demands from the international community including the threat of economic sanctions by the G20 against non-cooperative jurisdictions, the States of Guernsey, the Guernsey Financial Services Commission, the Revenue Service and other domestic authorities have endeavoured to ensure implementation and compliance, with a robust legislative framework now expected of Guernsey, including the requirements of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

(OECD) with respect to the implementation of the internationally agreed tax standard.

While those of us who work in or advise the financial services sector appreciate that it continues to be important for 'Guernsey plc' (and indeed for the benefit of the wider local community) that the integrity of our financial services sector be stringently maintained, the counterweight is the acceptance of greater external scrutiny in the provision of our financial services by, for example, MONEYVAL (an expert committee of the Council of Europe concerning the evaluation of anti-money laundering measures and the financing of terrorism) and the implementation of appropriate domestic measures to satisfy onshore fiscal and political demands.

It is against this background that the sector has (and continues) to be subject to elevated expectations of compliance with new or enhanced legislation and rules. Significantly, in parallel, the market has seen an increase in activity from local regulatory authorities by the exercise of their various supervisory and enforcement powers.



IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO

Additionally, and in part as a consequence of the implementation in Guernsey of the OECD's Common Reporting Standard with respect to taxation, we have witnessed increased activity by foreign fiscal and regulatory bodies demanding the disclosure of information from local financial services business and financial institutions.

In the last 12 months (prior to the events in Ukraine and implementation of waves of additional, international economic sanctions arising from such), we have witnessed increased activity by the Guernsey Financial Services Commission not only with respect to the imposition of additional provisional restrictions on financial services licences and the imposition of far reaching risk mitigation programmes but the commencement of a number of investigations and enforcement actions, leading to more prohibition orders and financial penalties.

Combined with this local regulatory activity, the market continues to experience increases in the demand for the disclosure of otherwise confidential financial information, particularly through the Guernsey Revenue Service at the behest of foreign fiscal authorities pursuant to international tax information exchange agreements

The highly experienced Disputes & Risk team at Babbé regularly advises financial services businesses and their directors and officers as to their rights and obligations in the financial regulatory space including with respect to:

- The imposition of sanctions and risk mitigation programmes by the Guernsey Financial Services Commission;
- Advising on and appearing in Guernsey Financial Services Commission enforcement investigations and subsequent proceedings;
- Advising on the minimum criteria for licensing and requirements for the licensing of prescribed and non-prescribed financial services business under the Fiduciaries Law and related legislation;
- Notices for the disclosure of financial and other information served by the Guernsey Revenue Service including those arising from requests made by foreign tax authorities;
- The scope of and obligations arising under the OECD's Common Reporting Standard for the automatic exchange of financial information;
- The suspicious reporting regime and the imposition of information production orders under the Proceeds of Crime legislation;
- International economic sanctions and the requirement for licences under the Sanctions Law;
- Data subject access requests issued under the Data Protection Law and investigations by the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner;
- Disclosure notices issued by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs;

*It's an increasingly complex regulatory world out there and there's never a one size fits all approach. As an independent law firm, Babbé offers expert legal advice, tailored to each specific commercial situation.*



## 'ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES' FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND TECHNOLOGY IN GUERNSEY'S FUNDS SECTOR

Guernsey is consolidating its early wins in the environmental and governance space to make it a leading jurisdiction for sustainable and ESG investment.

'Endless opportunities' was the upbeat theme of WE ARE GUERNSEY'S 2022 Funds Forum, with two panels exploring how sustainability and technology will help drive the post-pandemic economic recovery globally.

Gillian Browning, Director of the Guernsey Financial Services Commission's Investment, Fiduciary and Pension Division, said in the first panel session, focusing on sustainability, that the island wanted to be at the leading edge of the sustainable and social investment agenda.

'To date, we have had more focus on the environmental space and we have always been strong on the governance, which has been the bread and butter of Guernsey's financial services for years,' she said.

Gillian was joined on the panel by Dylan Cox of Pitchbook, Lorraine Johnston of Ashurst, and Sona Stadtelmeyer-Petru of J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Transparency and trust were themes that permeated the first session, which explored the definition of sustainability, with Lorraine explaining the differing regulatory environments that exist in the UK and Europe. Sona highlighted the challenges presented by a lack of data, which makes it hard to be confident about the impact sustainable investment is having. Dylan spoke of the increased awareness of the pitfalls that exists since the first cleantech boom, when more than 50% of funds failed.

The second panel session focused on Endless Opportunities in Technology, with panellists Clara Durodie of Cognitive Finance, Deputy Sasha Kazantseva-Miller of the States of Guernsey, Jeet Singh of EY and Wim Ritz of ZEDRA. Their aim was to demystify some common misunderstandings about technologies such as artificial intelligence and explore the role technology can play in financial services.

Jeet described technology as an enabler to drive new processes, while on the other hand there were creations such as digital assets or purely cyber-related items.

Clara said AI was the basic enabler for emerging technologies and if its deployment can be understood, it will be possible to create more technological advances.

How do you give value to digital assets? Deputy Kazantseva-Miller said from a government perspective, if someone sees value in a digital asset: 'We want to look at it, and because we are an independent government, we can regulate and legislate and make sure the right controls are in place to protect investors and meet global standards, AML, anti-bribery, corruption and follow principles of good investment.'

Deputy Kazantseva-Miller discussed the direction of travel with regard to technological developments in Guernsey.

'We are tiny, but we are mighty,' she said. 'When you look at the regulatory approach, what government is doing and the close cooperation with industry, we can be nimble and agile. We need to continue providing innovative products. We have a healthy risk



LEFT: PANEL 1 - GILLIAN BROWNING, DYLAN COX, LORRAINE JOHNSTON AND SONA STADTELMAYER-PETRU.  
 ABOVE: PANEL 2 - CLARA DURODIE, SASHA KAZANTSEVAMILLER, JEET SINGH AND WIM RITZ.



appetite but we take it seriously and we do it well.'

The panel concluded that the intersection of ESG and technology requires focus because of the potential unintended consequences of technology. They agreed that further work in this area will pay dividends.

The scene was set for the afternoon by keynote speaker Dharshini David, renowned author, economist and broadcaster. She said that although times were particularly troubled, there were many opportunities. She referenced the pandemic, the war in Ukraine – which has exacerbated the energy crisis – and commodity price hikes as contributors to an unstable global picture.

While she pulled no punches in her assessment of our challenges, she was cautiously optimistic about the future.

'Out of crisis comes innovation – there is light at the end of the tunnel,' she said.

Dharshini asked whether inflation and rising costs of living across the world posed a threat to the progress toward a carbon-neutral future. She questioned whether net-zero had become a 'nice to have', acknowledging that sustainability is driven by customer choice, but must also make commercial sense for industry with a need for clear global political leadership.

While Dharshini took comfort in humankind's ability to innovate and adapt in order to find climate solutions, with these abilities evident during the pandemic, she added that without data to scrutinise, progress might be lost.

## Guernsey Finance appoints dedicated Business Development Representative for the United States

Guernsey has long been regarded as a valuable financial services market for the United States in investment funds, insurance and private wealth.

Although it has led regular roadshows to the country in the past for business development, Guernsey Finance has now appointed a dedicated representative whose sole focus is on the region.

Jonathan Gamble is an independent consultant and non-executive director who works with a number of firms in the wealth management and fiduciary industry.

He previously spent more than 20 years at Asset Risk Consultants in a number of director roles and has made a significant contribution to the company's growth and relationships with a wide number of intermediaries.

'The US market represents many great opportunities for Guernsey, which is well known for being a conduit for global capital flows,' he said. 'I am really excited to be joining Guernsey Finance at such an interesting time in the organisation's growth and being involved in Guernsey's continued development in the region.'

Director of International Business Development James Crawford said he was thrilled to welcome Jonathan on board: 'Jonathan has significant experience in investment banking from his time on the trading floors of Morgan Stanley International, and Société Générale Sydney and Singapore, where he was Chief Dealer and Regional Chief Dealer in Singapore respectively. The business relationships he has formed over the years will be valuable to us.'

'It is clear that Guernsey is gaining more visibility as a key jurisdiction for investment funds, insurance and private wealth in the United States. Jonathan will give the American market a more consistent Guernsey presence and ensure that Guernsey solutions remain front of mind for clients and their advisers.'

# Where were you at midnight?

Guernsey residents are lucky! We often enjoy sunny summer days, clear and crisp winter days, colourful autumn days and the beautiful days of spring on our lovely Island.

Despite this, we are often asked by our clients how many days they are able to spend in the UK visiting family, friends, attending sporting or cultural events, staying for extended periods in a “pied a terre” or indeed working in the UK.

A frequent and common misconception is that spending no more than 90 days in the UK, in a UK tax year, is all that is required to remain not UK tax resident. This may be correct for some but not all, as individuals have their own unique set of circumstances that need to be carefully considered when determining residence. A simple “one size fits all” 90-day approach is ill advised.

Falling foul of the rules and becoming UK tax resident can have material financial consequences, such as a significant exposure to UK income, capital gains and possibly inheritance tax, depending on individual circumstances.

A day therefore matters, and a day in these circumstances usually means “presence at midnight”. But that is not all, as the number of days you are able to spend in the UK is often determined by how many “ties” an individual has with the UK.

Ties with the UK are primarily based on family connections, accommodation, working in the UK, and spending 90 days in the UK in either of the last 2 years. Simply put, the more ties, the lower the number of days you are able to spend before triggering UK tax residence.

Therefore, counting the number of days spent in the UK and understanding what ties you have is critical to ensure you remain non-UK tax resident.

Determination and advising upon UK tax residence is highly complex. There are other factors contained in the UK Statutory Residence Test that may be applicable depending upon the circumstances involved, as well as potential interaction with the Guernsey/UK double taxation treaty.

If you would like to discuss UK tax residence with us and determine the number of days you may be able to spend in the UK, please get in touch. We would be pleased to have an initial discussion without obligation.

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# THE BUSINESS OF RISK

BY BEX GOATER

ADVERTISEMENT

Investing carries risk. I think following the more recent dramatic market crashes (and all of the gory headlines that come with), most people know this now.

But what does this mean? Well, essentially, if you're investing your money, you're hoping it will provide positive returns and either increase in value, and/or perhaps provide you with an income. However, there is also a risk that the investment can provide negative returns, particularly in the short term, as a lot of investments will be subject to fluctuations as the markets go about their daily business.

We are used to managing risk in our normal life on a daily basis, and weighing up whether we should do something or not; based upon if the benefit outweighs the potential consequences. It is the same with investing, in that in order to achieve positive, real returns, there will always have to be a risk taken and so we need to work out if we want to take that risk.

## SCALE OF RISK

As with the risks we take in general life, with investing, there is also a scale of risk. Snoozing your alarm for 10 more minutes in bed: low risk, low return. Sky diving: higher risk, but I hear it is worth it! With investments, generally speaking, the more risk that is taken, the greater the potential for higher returns (over the long term). Conversely though, that means the downside risks are also higher.

It is therefore important that if you do invest, you are taking a suitable level of risk for you. A key (though not the sole) contributor of where on this scale may be suitable for an investor is the timescale of the investment; and how long before they will require access to the money again.

We generally recommend therefore that investments should be made with a long timescale in mind (ideally, minimum three years), in order that if the investment does go down one day, you don't have to get too worried about it. Instead, if planned well, you are in a position to just wait for it (hopefully) to go back up again in time without having to crystallise any losses – or exiting the market at a low point.

When the markets are falling, it can be scary, and the emotive response is to sell out of the financial markets and switch to cash. However, as the chart demonstrates, if an investor has sufficient timescale when investing, while there may be drops to the value at times, which can be disconcerting, we would still

expect a long-term investor to enjoy positive, above inflation growth if they can remain invested.

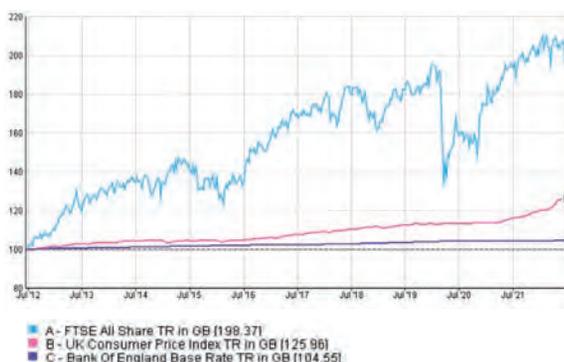
There is also another risk that someone electing to remain in cash and not investing needs to consider, and that is inflation risk. While presently, interest rates are higher than they have been in years (and potentially still rising), they remain significantly lower than current inflation levels. The chart below demonstrates how someone remaining in a basic cash savings account over the long term not only sees their funds lose out on the potential returns available with investing, but they will also see real loss in value of the money when taking into account inflation.

## SO, WHAT'S THE SOLUTION?

Well, there isn't just a one size fits all answer here and there are many factors to consider before investing funds, and not just your attitude toward risk, but also capacity for loss and ultimate investment objectives. It could be that for some, actually, funds are best just sitting in the bank account or it could be that there is a suitable investment out there with a suitable risk level that could offer real returns over time.

A holistic financial review can help ascertain a potential investor's risk profile, as well as offering an in-depth risk discussion so you can consider the potential risk and return of an investment before committing funds. This can help you work out whether you continue hitting the snooze button on your savings, or perhaps can start to invest for your future.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.feanalytcs.com](http://www.feanalytcs.com)



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# WHAT'S PAST IS PROLOGUE



BY MARK BOUSFIELD, GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR OF RAVENSCROFT

**THE LINE, IT IS DRAWN, THE CURSE, IT IS CAST  
THE SLOW ONE NOW WILL LATER BE FAST  
AS THE PRESENT NOW WILL LATER BE PAST  
THE ORDER IS RAPIDLY FADING**

**AND THE FIRST ONE NOW WILL LATER BE LAST**

*The Times They Are A-Changin', Bob Dylan, 1964*

Everyone's got an opinion as to the future now that it's clear that it won't necessarily, pace Eleanor Roosevelt, belong to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. In fact, many visions have been comprehensively shattered by the first major land war in Europe for 80-odd years.

Not so very long ago, tank battles in Ukraine were the premise of seemingly anachronistic wargaming at military academies and wonky research institutes, not daily reality for 40 million people. Of course, dig a little deeper and take the blindfold off and you might have noticed that much of eastern Ukraine had actually been at war since 2014. But, let's be clear, polite Europeans chose not to notice that in favour of keeping their lights on, their industry functioning and their petrol tanks full. But now it's all come home to roost in a frighteningly real way – just at the point where the western world seems to have run out of (metaphorical) gas.

Many years ago, when we first started writing this column, we highlighted a book by economic historian Niall Ferguson called *Colossus*. In very simple terms, the book introduced a view of the world where the US retreated from its perceived global responsibilities. Or, put another way, it detailed the void at the heart of global leadership created by the US refusal to take up the 'empire in all but name' formed by it taking over as guarantor of global peace from Britain following World War II. While many celebrated a retreat of military presence around the world, Ferguson provided an element of 'careful what you wish for' as the void is likely to be filled by someone. This idea has been taken further by Ray Dalio, multi-billionaire US investor, in his book *The Changing World Order*, who has asserted that the US empire is already in its final stages of decline.

After all these years it was interesting to note that Twitter has recently been host to a discussion between Niall Ferguson and Vuk Vuković, a fellow Oxford PhD and (much younger) economist who runs a big data consultancy in the UK. Vuković has issued a 30-tweet-thread rebuttal of what he terms Dalio's 'Malthusian argument' that fails to take account of continuing US leadership and domination of technology, its unmatched

military power and spending and, interestingly, China's peaceful intentions and historical inward focus.

It is perhaps characteristic of the intergenerational divide (Dalio is a proper Boomer and Ferguson scrapes in, while Vuković is a Millennial) that the younger man is more idealistic in his staunch defence of the US as a 'politically inclusive open-access society.' He bemoans crony capitalism which ultimately exacerbates inequality, but thinks that democracies persist precisely because of the discord and instability. And while we would agree with much of the substance of Vuković's rebuttal – the thread is fascinating and, as you would expect, there are persuasive arguments on both sides – one does not have to look back very far in history to see where civic discord and instability can lead. It ain't always peace, love and understanding. Quite often, someone more sinister appears with a solution that the people can rally behind.

It is not a given that democracy and capitalism should be the default model; indeed, only two in 10 people, according to think tank Freedom House, live in free countries and it's regressing. As usual, the Scandinavians lead the pack, but it is noticeable that even they now realise that their previous neutral stances no longer function in the modern security environment and have applied to join NATO. As the old bumper stickers used to say: Freedom isn't free!

So what's the point?! It might have been almost 20 years since Ferguson wrote *Colossus* but the essence of the book remains valid today and it feels very much like some very large changes are afoot – could we be living through a changing world order? The intricacies of global diplomacy and the issues of a multi-polar world split between two hegemonies may not, at first glance, seem that important to an investment manager. And it is certainly true that we repeatedly advocate 'sticking to our knitting' to avoid being distracted by the macro 'noise.' But sometimes the outside world intrudes into ours in a way that demands attention. This feels like just such an inflection point and we feel the need to act or at the very least consider acting accordingly.





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# WHAT'S IN A NAME?

BY SARAH MILLAR, SENIOR ASSOCIATE, COLLAS CRILL

There are many reasons why a person may wish to change their name. Upon the breakdown of a marriage, people often wish to revert to their previous name prior to the marriage. This can be either to revert to their maiden name or to remove a surname that was previously double-barrelled.

Some people also wish to change their names to accurately reflect their gender identity, if their name given at birth does not.

In general, an adult can be known by any name they like. There is no legal requirement to formally change your name on marriage, and increasingly people are using their 'married' name for certain circumstances and their 'maiden' name for other situations, for example professionally. It is important however to ensure that all official documentation, such as passports, driving licences and bank accounts all match up with each other.

In the event an adult wishes to change their name, this is a straightforward process by way of what is known as a deed poll. This is a formal document which is put before the court and provides proof of a formal name change.

Sometimes however issues can arise where one parent wishes to change the forename or surname of a child and the other parent does not agree.

If two parents each share parental responsibility for a child, then the consent of both parents is needed to change their name. The importance of a name was discussed in a leading case on this topic, *Dawson v Wearmouth* [1999] UKHL 18, by the then-House of Lords in the UK, which said:

'A surname which is given to a child at birth is not simply a name plucked out of the air. Where the parents are married the child will normally be given the surname or patronymic of the father thereby demonstrating its relationship to him...To suggest that a surname is unimportant because it may be changed at any time by deed poll when the child has obtained more mature years ignores the importance of initially applying an appropriate label to that child.'

While the tradition of a child automatically taking its father's surname is changing somewhat, the case emphasises that a child's name is important and changing it is not to be taken lightly.



If parents cannot agree between themselves that a child's name should be changed, an application can be made to the court seeking permission. In these cases, the court will first and foremost have regard to the welfare of the child. It will consider the competing arguments put forward by the parents and decide which option is in the child's best interests.

It is unusual for such cases to end up before the court, as it is rarely in a child's interests for parents to bring proceedings against one another unless absolutely necessary. However, the court does have the power to decide the matter.

Changing a child's name was more recently considered in the context of the government stepping in of its own accord. In *Re C (Children)* [2016] EWCA Civ 374. In this case, a mother of twins, a boy and a girl, sought to name them Preacher (for the boy) and Cyanide (for the girl). The father was unknown and there were other concerns in relation to the mother's parenting. The local authority in this case stepped in and brought court proceedings seeking to bar the mother from registering the names.

The mother argued that 'Preacher is a strong spiritual name ... I also consider that Preacher is a rather cool name which will stand my son well for the future.' She went on to say that 'I can confirm that I have chosen the name Cyanide as I believe that it is a lovely pretty name' and made reference to the fact that it was a poison.

In this case the court decided that neither child should keep the birth name their mother wanted, as whilst 'Preacher' was arguably not objectionable, 'Cyanide' was found to be capable of causing harm to the child and it was not fair on her to have her brother keep his birth name and have hers removed.

Overall the choice of a name for a person is of great



importance, whether they choose that name themselves or are choosing it for a child. In relation to children, parents should always seek to agree but if not, should seek legal advice at an early stage to ensure the welfare of the child.



Record-breaking yachtsman Alex Thomson

# Competitors make waves for Savills Inter-Island Yacht Race

**From football’s Muratti Vase and rugby’s Siam Cup, to the popular hockey and cricket inter-insulars – Guernsey and Jersey have a long history of friendly sporting rivalry.**

The same spirit of competition was in evidence for the return of the popular Inter-Island Yacht Race, which took place on Saturday, 25 June and for the first time was sponsored by property agents Savills.

Organised by Guernsey Yacht Club and St Helier Yacht Club and sailed annually since 1964, the race remains one of the premier sailing events in the Channel Islands.

Savills – which has offices across both islands and specialises in local and open market residential sales, lettings and commercial property – has signed up as sponsor until 2024.

More than 50 yachts of all types and sizes took part in this year’s event, which followed a course starting at Castle Cornet in Guernsey and finished west of La Collette Marina in St Helier Harbour.

Race day dawned bright and sunny, with force 5 winds from the South/South West ensuring the leading yachts enjoyed a fast, wet passage.

With a handicap racing system the first competitor to cross the finish line is not necessarily the overall winner – but that was not the case this year with J122 Majic, sailed by Guernsey’s Mick Holland and his crew, crowned champions in a time of a little under three and a half hours.

Crews from Guernsey did particularly well – finishing first, second and third overall and winning the coveted Sir James Knott Trophy, given to the island with the highest finishing position.

In addition there were also lots of prizes for different categories of yachts, including family crewed and young helm.

Multiple world record-breaking yachtsman and Jersey resident Alex Thomson was on hand to welcome competitors and award the prizes.

Keith Enevoldsen, head of residential sales at Savills Guernsey, said: “Lifestyle is one of the key motivations for buyers who want to move to Guernsey – and a big part of that is our stunning coastline and wonderful beaches.

“Sailing is a favourite past time of many islanders and when the opportunity arose to sponsor the yacht race we were only too happy to lend our support.

“Many in the office are keen sailors and have taken part in the race, so we know first-hand just what a great day it is – bringing people of all ages and abilities together and celebrating everything that is so special about our two islands.

“Congratulations to all those who took part. The weather for the most part was kind and there were some particularly good times. It was a great day and there was a fantastic atmosphere.

“We’re looking forward to a long and successful partnership and can’t wait to welcome everyone again in 2023.”

Anna Rivers, Commodore of the Guernsey Yacht Club, added: “I’d like to thank Savills for their support. We are very pleased to have found a sponsor so enthusiastic about the race and the inclusive forum it provides for friendly inter-island rivalry.”



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IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO

# BDO AND MICROSOFT: THE PERFECT PARTNERSHIP FOR FACILITATING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

RICHARD SEARLE, MANAGING DIRECTOR, BDO GUERNSEY

**BDO has expanded its strategic alliance with tech giant Microsoft, offering clients an increasing range of innovative digital services and solutions. Richard Searle, managing director at BDO, explains the essence of the collaboration and what it means for clients of the accounting and advisory firm.**

BDO announced its global strategy partnership with Microsoft in June and this partnership between our brands is one that we are very excited about because of what it means for our people and our clients.

Whether we're looking at a small start-up organisation in Guernsey or a multi-jurisdictional major business, the context in which organisations are operating is increasingly complex. We've all seen over the past years the extent to which geopolitical and environmental changes necessitate new and innovative approaches to meet the needs of organisations of every scale.

The Tech Revolution, just like the Agricultural and Industrial Revolutions of the past, is heralding significant change and innovation. The rapid pace alone is transforming living and working practices.

As a global organisation, BDO has a set purpose: helping people and businesses to succeed. For the vast majority of businesses, technology is the enabler to this success. With Microsoft's support we're adding huge value to our client experience overall.

Through this partnership with Microsoft, BDO is innovating its advisory deployment and digitally

managed service offerings, further driving our digital excellence and transforming how we run our business.

Leveraging Microsoft technologies to power BDO's services will add value and enable growth for our clients and BDO. It's exciting times ahead.

**THE TECH REVOLUTION, JUST LIKE THE AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTIONS OF THE PAST, IS HERALDING SIGNIFICANT CHANGE AND INNOVATION.**





# GOOD FINANCIAL HABITS

**PAUL MCCORMICK, FINANCIAL ADVISER AT GOWER FINANCIAL SERVICES, COACHES 'GOOD FINANCIAL HABITS' TO OLDER SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS, BUT FINDS THAT THE MESSAGE APPLIES TO PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND LIFE STAGES.**

ADVERTORIAL

For the last two years I have been presenting in schools to students in the 16 – 18 age range about adopting 'good financial habits' as early as possible.

Most of this age group already have a bank account, hold down part-time jobs and are starting to get a feel for spending and saving. The message of the talk is that if you can establish good financial habits now, then you can maintain them for life and benefit from them.

It has been interesting to hear comments from students and teachers alike, but the most common feedback comes from the teachers and other adults present. This is along the lines of 'I wish we had this when I was at school' and, 'I really need to do this myself'. I have also made these presentations to groups of young adults in their 20s and 30s, who by that stage have utilised a variety of financial products and services. The typical comments are once again the same; wishing they had learned about financial planning sooner.

So, at any age, it is important to put a financial plan in place, although this is rarely a skill that we are all taught from a young age. If you don't already have one, here are my thoughts to get you started.

## THE PLAN

Start five 'Good Financial Habits' as soon as you can

1. Repay debts
2. Plan a budget
3. Build an emergency fund (Pot 1)
4. Save for medium-term goals (Pot 2)
5. Save for retirement (Pot 3)

## REPAY DEBTS

Many of us need to borrow money to help achieve our goals. However, credit cards and overdrafts can cost between 20 - 40% p.a. in fees. Most of us will use these at some point, but the important thing to do is to make sure you repay this debt and not let it linger and escalate. **Tip: Set up a standing order for whatever you can afford so you are repaying money off the amount you owe, not just paying interest.**

## CREATE A BUDGET

There are plenty of ways of budgeting these days with an app, a spreadsheet or a good old piece of paper and pen! The important thing is to record (a) what you earn (b) what you spend and (c) the difference between the two, known as your disposable income. **Tip: Use whatever system works best for you. Knowing what you have left over each month is crucial to allocating money for the rest of your plan.**

Once you have debt under control and a budget in place, you can create three separate 'pots' for your money, where each will have a different goal. Pots 1 and 3 will have the same objective as you go through life, while the purpose for pot 2 will change as your life evolves, although the overall structure will remain the same.

## POT 1 – EMERGENCY FUND

This is for unforeseen circumstances and is essential to avoid dipping into longer-term savings. To name but a few expenditures: the boiler might breakdown, the exhaust may fall off the car, or perhaps you wish to take that last-minute weekend break. The goal would be to build a cushion of between three to six months' net (after tax) income in this fund but for most people they will need to start small and work up to this.



**Tip: Set up a regular standing order to a savings account at your main bank for this.**

**POT 2 – MEDIUM-TERM SAVINGS**

Whatever stage of life you find yourself at, you will likely be saving up for something! At a younger age it might be to go travelling or saving for a house deposit. As you get a little older it might be for school or university fees for the kids. Later in life it could be to go on a long trip when you retire! **Tip: Put this out of reach, in a separate bank or perhaps an investment account.**

**POT 3 – SAVE FOR RETIREMENT**

It is important to give yourself as much time as you can to save for retirement. The younger you start, the more likely you will be able to retire at a reasonable

age. The state pension age has already moved to 70 for anyone who is aged under 43 now. **Tip: Increase your contributions annually to allow for inflation.**

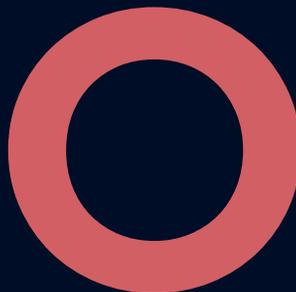
It is important that we all enjoy the money we have as we go through life and to help with this, I would recommend you put the above plan into place. While it is essential to save something, you should not overstretch yourself to do so. Start small and build the amount you save up over time.

Above all, starting your plan is the first step in the journey... and remember, it is never too late to do that.

*For more information on 'Good Financial Habits' and starting a financial plan, please contact Paul McCormick on 700155 or email paul.mccormick@gower.gg*

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HAVING



OPTIONS IS ALWAYS PREFERABLE

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## NEW CHAIRMAN OF GUERNSEY ELECTRICITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Peter Shaefer has been appointed chairman of Guernsey Electricity's board of directors, following the retirement of Ian Hardman, who has been part of the executive team for 11 years.

The company continues to be led by Alan Bates, Chief Executive Officer. Outgoing Chairman Mr Hardman said that it had been a privilege to serve the people of Guernsey over the past decade.

'We have ensured that we "kept the lights on" through many challenges including sub-sea cable breakages that were repaired in record time and, of course, more recently, by providing a critical service for the island during the pandemic. I have worked alongside some superb and talented people at Guernsey Electricity, benefiting from their wealth of expertise and industry experience, so am confident I am leaving the company under the excellent leadership of Alan, Peter and the Board of Directors.'

Mr Shaefer joined Guernsey Electricity as a non-executive director in 2018. A chartered accountant with an honours degree in geology, he has substantial business and commercial experience, having held a number of senior positions in both energy and consumer products industries, including as a member of the executive committee of the US-listed company Coty Inc.

'I am really looking forward to the challenge,' he said. 'As an island, and as a company, we are at a pivotal time as we set out to deliver on the energy policy and ensure we pursue the right electricity strategy in a fair and equitable way.'



Ian Hardman, left, retiring Chairman at Guernsey Electricity, and Peter Shaefer.

## SKIPTON ANNOUNCES SENIOR APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

Following increased demand for its services and for future growth of the business, Skipton has made a number of senior appointments and promotions at its St Peter Port headquarters.

Jenna Kok-Shun has joined as Finance Manager, while Vinodh Vivekanandhan has joined as Business Applications Developer. Aaron Walden has been promoted to Senior Commercial Manager.

Other new starters in the past few months include Levi Norman-Gavey, Customer Services Adviser, Abbie Farrell and Angela Lamont, both Mortgage Administrators.

'These are exciting times to be working for Skipton as we welcome these new joiners into our fold and recognise our leaders,' said

Managing Director Jim Coupe. 'As we continue the long-term expansion of our business and continue to implement an infrastructure that will better support our customers and their banking needs, there are increasing opportunities for talented individuals.

'Expanding our team demonstrates our ongoing commitment to becoming the bank of choice for both mortgages and offshore savings.'





Emily Chapman.

## ORCHARD GROWS WITH NEW HIRING AND PROMOTION

Communication agency Orchard has seen recent significant growth as it promoted from within and hired a new starter. Emily Chapman was promoted from Senior Account Executive to Account Manager, and Kita Smith joined the team as Junior Account Executive.

Ms Chapman has been with the company for three years, having previously worked in influencer engagement for Estee Lauder. Hard work, excellent feedback from clients, and delivering numerous campaigns effectively and efficiently has driven her promotion. She has also played an integral part in delivering Orchard's social media offering.



Kita Smith.

'Growth and development are what we're all about at Orchard and Emily is a prime example of why investing in our people yields results,' said Brooke Kenyon, Managing Director (Client Relations). 'It has been a pleasure to watch her career develop and the value she has added to our social offering cannot be overstated. I am pleased to reward this hard work with her promotion to account manager.'

New recruit Ms Smith has joined straight from the Guernsey Grammar School and Sixth Form Centre. 'Kita's employment reflects Orchard's need to grow to meet the demand of our ever-expanding pool of clients and our commitment to training the next generation of communications professionals,' said Chris Chilton, Managing Director (Operations). 'We look forward to seeing how her excellent attitude and clear passion for crafting interesting content translates into delivering the high-quality client work we are known for.'



Alison Antill.

## PROMOTION AT FERBRACHE & FARRELL

Alison Antill has been promoted to the role of Senior Associate within Ferbrache & Farrell LLP's dispute resolution team. She joined the firm in October 2018 and has since been recognised as a rising star in the 2020 and 2021 editions of the Legal 500 United Kingdom directory.

Admitted as an Advocate of the Royal Court of Guernsey in December 2021, her practice focuses on trust and commercial litigation and she also deals with insolvency and regulatory matters.

'We're delighted with Alison's progress and her promotion to senior associate is very well deserved,' said Managing Partner Alastair Hargreaves. 'Alison has a very bright future ahead of her and we look forward to supporting her continued development.'



Carly Parrott.

## COUNSEL PROMOTED TO CI HEAD OF EMPLOYMENT

Bedell Cristin has promoted employment law specialist Carly Parrott to the role of Head of Employment in the Channel Islands. Based in Guernsey, she joined the firm last year as Counsel, and will lead the employment team across the Guernsey and Jersey offices. Qualified in both New South Wales, Australia, and in England and Wales, she is also a qualified workplace mediator, an accredited coach and has completed her IOD diploma in company direction. She began her legal career in Australia in 2004 and moved to Guernsey in 2009.

'Having cemented her role within the firm since her appointment as Counsel in this specialist area early last year, I'm delighted that Carly has now been appointed to head the pan-Channel Islands team and to drive forward our capabilities as a leading employment law practice,' said Tim Pearce, Global Managing Partner. 'Carly was recruited because of her extensive experience advising local, international and multi-national clients on the full spectrum of both contentious and non-contentious employment law matters and I look forward to her leading our team as we continue to build our employment law practice to support our clients' requirements both in the local market and globally.'

Ms Parrott said that she was 'delighted to have the responsibility to lead our experienced and highly capable team across the Channel Islands practice, where our focus is not just on advising on the black letter of the law, but working as a trusted advisor strategising with our clients and helping them resolve situations, which enables them to get the best out of their most valuable asset – their employees'.

## LEADERSHIP TEAM EXPANSION AT EY

EY has grown its local leadership team with partner promotions. Leo Boessenkool has been promoted to Partner in the technology risk team and Adam Knight has been promoted to Partner in assurance.

Since joining the firm in 2014, Mr Boessenkool has led the technology risk team on numerous engagements providing intelligent automation, IT audit support and data analytics for audit clients. 'I am delighted to be promoted to Partner within the technology risk team at EY,' he said

Mr Knight joined EY in Guernsey in 2009. During this time he has taken advantage of EY's secondment opportunities, spending time in Southampton where he gained exposure to large trading companies. Since becoming a director in 2021 he has focused on providing audit services to wealth and asset management clients, with a particular focus on listed and unlisted investment funds, gaining invaluable experience supporting US investment managers through transactions and restructurings. 'I am delighted to make this step into the next stage of my career,' he said.

Andrew Dann, EY's managing partner in the Channel Islands, congratulated the duo. 'These promotions are a reflection of their hard work and dedication to providing exceptional client service, as well as our commitment to supporting our people and continuing to grow our local business,' he said. 'Both Leo's and Adam's extensive knowledge of the local industry will bring invaluable insights to our local leadership team. I wish them both every success in their new roles.'



Leo Boessenkool.



Adam Knight.

## SOUTH AFRICAN LAWYER JOINS BABBE

Babbe has strengthened its corporate team with the appointment of South African lawyer Amy Parker, who joins as an Associate. Prior to joining Babbe, she was part of the team of lead attorneys for the divestment of a wholly owned subsidiary by a South African Johannesburg Stock Exchange-listed public company. She has a bachelor of commerce and law degree from the University of Stellenbosch and has been admitted as an attorney of the High Court of South Africa.

With more than six years of practising post-qualification experience, Ms Parker has extensive knowledge of mergers and acquisitions, private equity transactions, securities transactions and corporate advisory, shareholder activism and litigation and corporate governance.

'As an independent law firm, we are widely recognised at Babbe for the depth of experience of our lawyers and I am delighted someone of Amy's calibre has joined us,' said Managing Partner Nick Robinson. 'She will add real value to our corporate offering and to our client relationships, which we value highly.'

## CAREY OLSEN LAWYERS PROMOTED

Carey Olsen has promoted a raft of lawyers across its Channel Islands practices. Guernsey promotions include Tim Bamford, a specialist in corporate and commercial litigation, and John Le Tissier, an expert in residential and commercial property transactions, who have both been promoted to Counsel. Commercial litigation and restructuring lawyer Steven Balmer, employment law specialist Lois Madden, trusts and private wealth lawyer Kirsty McGeough, corporate and investment funds lawyer Jamie Oldfield and commercial property law specialist Kieran Ogilvie have all been promoted to Senior Associates.

# BUOYANT GUERNSEY



NSM Funds Limited is a new Guernsey-based fund administration company set up in January 2022 and is the latest addition to the NSM group's multi-service offering. The group is celebrating 10 years since inception in 2012 and has grown from an initial three founders to the current level of 70 employees. Assets under management are in excess of £5.5bn and the Group works with clients in more than 90 jurisdictions.

## Why has NSM branched out into fund administration?

The Guernsey fund sector continues to see robust growth, with the number of investment funds domiciled in Guernsey at its highest level in almost a decade. Total net asset values have increased by £45.9bn over the past 12 months, and with the consolidation of companies in the fund industry, the time is right to be a new start-up in the funds sector. Guernsey is a world-class international finance centre, well-regulated, and with a large support network of highly skilled providers in the background.

With the recent updates to the Private Investment Funds Regime ('PIF'), which expanded the available routes to market, NSM has seen an increase in enquiries to launch PIFs from existing and new clients, due to the flexible and faster track to market.

## How is NSM embracing technology?

NSM is an independently owned and managed entrepreneurial business. As such, it sees the benefit of working with other like-minded providers and has embraced the use of a new fund administration system, written and built by a team with a wealth of experience in the funds industry, enabling it to provide bespoke solutions for its clients.

It operates a paperless office utilising secure cloud-based solutions for dealing with client data and communicating with Investors and Non-Executive Directors.

## What is it like to work at NSM?

NSM is a dynamic and nimble business, decision makers are always accessible and on the main floor. The wellbeing of employees is a front and centre focus for NSM and utilising flexible working practices allows the team to have a good work/life balance, which is important. If the team is happy, then they will deliver the excellent, quality service that clients expect.

NSM endeavours to integrate ESG into the very heart of its business and the services that it provides to its clients.

## What are the industry challenges faced by NSM?

Recruitment - despite the current recruitment challenges in Guernsey industry-wide, NSM Funds has been able to attract eight senior staff members who have a combined experience and proven track record of more than 50 years within the fund administration industry, over a wide range of fund structures and asset classes, from private equity to London-listed investment companies.

The team has a proven track record across several jurisdictions with large fund managers in the UK, USA and Europe, plus NSM has its own in-house funds lawyer with more than 21 years' experience in fund structuring.

NSM is always open to speaking with other like-minded individuals who may be interested in joining the company as it continues to grow.

If you would like to find out more please visit our website, [www.nsmfunds.com](http://www.nsmfunds.com), or contact one of the funds team, who would be very happy to discuss your requirements. With no products to sell or external shareholders to answer to, our engagements with clients will be truly driven by the client's requirements.

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# A TASTE OF LONDON IN GUERNSEY'S CAPITAL

There is a luxury gym in London that was recently voted by Men's Journal Magazine as one of the best in the world.

A gym, health club and lifestyle venue that boasts such luminaries as David Beckham, Guy Ritchie and Prince Harry as members. ThirdSpace has a number of venues across the capital and memberships come at an eye-watering monthly fee and by appointment. But what makes this such a star attraction?

This super health club offers a variety of fitness classes and personal training options from boxercise to cycle fit. Members can enjoy world-class PT instruction and facilities and truly unique venues located in the finest City enclaves such as Canary Wharf and Mayfair.

For those of us Channel Islanders dreaming of living the city lifestyle, you may be surprised to learn that in the humble outskirts of our Guernsey capital lies our very own star-studded health club, which over recent years has seen a multi-million pound investment taking it towards the levels found in the very brightest lights of London.

The investment at Kings Premier Health Club, according to club manager Sean Mills, is an ongoing programme of upgrades with the intention to make this iconic venue as good as anything you'll find in the capital.

'Over recent years we have developed a function and hospitality venue called 1857 which we are very proud of, our immersive iMax style spinning studio is as good as you'll find anywhere on the planet and our continued investment in upskilling our fitness team means we have the island's best in personal training and class instruction,' said Mr Mills.

New hospitality venue 1857 includes a sports bar complete with 12 ft HD screen which features all the latest sporting events such as Premier League matches, Rugby Internationals and sporting occasions such as Formula 1 and Wimbledon.

1857 is located adjacent to the outdoor pool so 'Dip&Dine' is very much on the menu at Kings and has proved to be a huge success, with non-members welcome too throughout the summer months.

'Our menu is varied and we pride ourselves on serving good value bistro-style dishes with a sense of flair and served in sumptuous surroundings with a very warm welcome,' said Mr Mills.

'1857 comes to life at night and has state-of-the-art lighting features with a modern high-quality audio system, which makes it a great venue for private parties and events.'

As part of the future investment, Kings is bringing brand new next generation fitness equipment to the club which is an ecosystem of smart technology.

The equipment will be introduced towards the end of this year and

according to Fitness Manager and Lead Personal Trainer Claire Luvin, it is game changing for the island.

'There will be nothing like it in Guernsey. I believe we already have the finest gym in the Channel Islands but the next investment will make us one of the finest in the country,' said Ms Luvin, who is a level three personal trainer and has completed triathlons and the London marathon.

Kings has been a part of island life for more than 165 years and continues to drive innovation in everything it does.

'We were one of the very first clubs to introduce the Les Mills fitness concepts, with their most recently released programme, The Trip, exclusive to Guernsey at Kings,' said Mr Mills.

'We regularly bring leading instructors to the island as part of this initiative, our gym is two levels of the best equipment available, which is why we attract the best athletes in Guernsey, and the facility is still at heart about serving up the perfect Guernsey lifestyle.

'Whether you want to relax by our pools, entertain your children at Kids@Kings, take in a fitness class, meet friends and family at 1857, play a game of tennis or be coached by the 10-time island champion Rob West, or enjoy the island's best gym, then I believe Kings is up there with anything you would find on the mainland for a much better price.'

*To find out more about Guernsey's Premier Health Club contact our Reception Team on 01481 723366 or email [info@kings.gg](mailto:info@kings.gg) to book a visit and see the fabulous facilities yourself.*

*We're also delighted to be able to offer Aurigny passengers the opportunity to benefit from 50% off a One Day Guest Pass between now and the end of September 2022. All you have to do is bring your used boarding pass with you and show it to our reception team on arrival. Full Terms and Conditions apply.*



ABOVE: ELLIE JONES ©GUERNSEY PRESS  
RIGHT: PRIDE PAINTS THE TOWN RAINBOW ©CHRIS GEORGE

# CHANNEL ISLANDS PRIDE RETURNS – SOUNDS GAY. I'M IN!

2022 marks the 50th year since the first UK Pride parade in 1972, and this year Channel Islands Pride is celebrating big with a variety of free activities for all the family to enjoy. We caught up with Ellie Jones, CEO of Liberate.

According to Ellie, Pride is the 'one day of the year that people can feel comfortable walking down High

Street holding hands, or just being out and open'.

It is, she says, without doubt, a celebration of 'just how far we've come and for people to be proud of who they are'.

'We've come a long way since the first Pride, so we're getting our 'Pride fever' on and marking our progress with a party. However, it's important to remember that there is still more to be done and, while we love the glitter and rainbows, there is a serious

message about the importance of inclusion and providing a safe environment for islanders to express their true selves without discrimination.'

Back-track half a century, and the first Pride march in the UK was far more of a protest, as are many marches worldwide.

'Even in Jersey, same sex couples can't be named on their children's birth certificates,' she explains. 'A lot of legislation still needs to be updated.'

'In the West, the parades are much more of a celebration. But there are still more than 70 countries where it's still illegal to be LGBTQ. And in 11 of those, you can be sentenced to death.

'To me, we're sending a big message to the people who live in those countries, saying that actually the whole world is not like this, there is acceptance; things will change, we just have to keep pushing.'

## EDUCATE

Ellie's role at Liberate is focused around education, to increase acceptance for LGBTQ people in Guernsey. 'We just want people to be treated equally and fairly and be accepted,' she says. 'We work within schools, covering everything from "what does LGBTQ mean" to how not to bully people.

'Unfortunately, we have not yet had a generation of young gay or trans people come through the school system without being bullied for who they are. It's my hope before I retire to see that happen at least once.'

## CELEBRATE!

In the Channel Islands, celebrations will be marked with a '70s theme. Liberate in Guernsey and Liberate in Jersey have coordinated the events to span the Channel Islands in September. The CI Pride Parade itself is sponsored by law firm-led professional services business Mourant and it is the only dual-centred Pride event in the British Isles.

'At Mourant, equity, diversity, and inclusion is a key business and people priority for us and we're proud to offer our continued support for this well-loved community event,' said Thomas Barnes, Principal and Managing Director of Mourant Governance Services in Guernsey. 'CI Pride is always a great way to celebrate islanders' authentic selves and raise awareness of steps we can all take towards achieving meaningful change.

'This year Liberate in both islands have outdone themselves in planning a pan-island Pride celebration and we're looking forward to joining the parade and supporting inclusion across our whole community.'



The image is a promotional poster for the Channel Islands Pride event in Guernsey. At the top, it says 'CI PRIDE' in large, stylized letters, with 'GUERNSEY SATURDAY 3RD SEPT.' below it. The main text lists the featured acts: 'THE FREEMASONS WITH AMANDA WILSON & KATHERINE ELLIS', 'LAWRENCE CHANEY WINNER OF RU PAUL'S DRAG RACE', 'TIA KOFI STAR OF RU PAUL'S DRAG RACE', and 'ALECIA KARR THE OFFICIAL TRIBUTE TO P!NK'. Below this, it says 'PACKAGE DEALS • MORE INFO: VISITGUERNSEY.COM/PRIDE FLIGHTS ONLY: AURIGNY.COM'. At the bottom, there is a graphic for 'CHANNEL ISLANDS PRIDE CELEBRATING 50 YEARS 1972-2022' with illustrations of a unicorn, a donkey, and a frog.

Confirmed acts for Guernsey's main event on 3 September include headliners 'The Freemasons' with vocalists from their biggest hits Katherine Ellis and Amanda Wilson, and Lawrence Chaney, RuPaul's Drag Race UK winner. Day acts will perform from 5pm to 9pm and will be followed by an afterparty with Radio 1 DJ Dean McCoulogh.

Liberate Guernsey's LGBTQ+ choir Rainbow Chorus will be performing in the afternoon as well as local cover band Element 6, and Ru Paul Drag Race star Tia Kofi. A family favourite, the Unicorn Races will also return for another year, which sees decorated unicorns and their owners compete in different challenges: dressage, show jumping and steeplechase.

For those off-island, an official Guernsey Pride package holiday is available to book for people to come to the event in Guernsey with ease. This includes flights, accommodation, and tickets to CI Pride. Details of Pride, travel information and the package offers can all be found at [www.visitguernsey.com/Pride](http://www.visitguernsey.com/Pride).

Tickets to CI Pride's surrounding events, including the Pride afterparty on Saturday 3 September and the official post-Pride pool party on Sunday 4 September, can be purchased through Liberate's website – [www.liberate.gg](http://www.liberate.gg).



THE

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# ON YOUR MARKS, GET SET, GO!



PE and Sport Development Officer Dave Harfield leads Guernsey Sports Commission's holiday club *On Your Marks*. He tells *En Voyage* why it is important to offer the opportunity for children to take part in sport.

'On Your Marks is an opportunity to just let kids explore some sort of physical activity, without the labels that are sometimes associated with other holiday clubs,' says Dave. 'It's about offering a variety of activities that children can access regardless of any previous experience. It's about enjoyment, about coming along with friends, meeting more people.'

The club runs for the whole school holidays and provides a range of fun sporting activities for school-age children.

With PE and sport development officers going into schools during term time, there is already an association for the children with the coaches, which Dave says helps those who may be a little more afraid or anxious with new people.

'We offer stability,' he says.

Ultimately the holiday club, as well as being fun, is about increasing participation in sports and developing skills. 'It is also about hopefully creating pathways to sport,' he says. With a variety of activities included, children can try a number of different sports. 'If they enjoy table tennis, or netball, for example, and want to know how they can get more involved, then the sports development officers who come in can provide a pathway, as well as a degree of familiarity.'

**GUERNSEY SPORTS COMMISSION DELIBERATELY KEEPS THE COST OF THE CLUB LOW, AT £5 FOR THREE HOURS. 'OUR ETHOS IS TO KEEP IT COST EFFECTIVE FOR FAMILIES,' HE SAYS.**

As a father of two young boys, Dave has a further understanding of what the children need. As well as offering an opportunity for younger children to try sports, it is also about realising their capabilities and meeting their needs, as well as making it fun and enjoyable and not turning any child off sport.

This summer, the club, based at St Sampson's High School, has been able to increase capacity, taking around 20 early years children per day, and around 50 – 70 older primary school children, as well as offering sessions to secondary school-age children.



'If I have enough staff and the facilities are available, we could potentially look at taking up to 100 children,' he says.

The club is a chance to support the sports development officers, as the programme is used to upskill staff. On Your Marks also offers young people interested in a career in sport or working with children the chance to gain some experience while earning some money.

**DAVE ADDS THAT THERE ARE SO MANY CAREER PATHWAYS WITHIN SPORTS – COACHING, PHYSIOTHERAPY, MANAGEMENT AS EXAMPLES – THAT RECOGNISING YOUNG PEOPLE'S SKILLS AND KEEPING THEM INVOLVED IS IMPORTANT.**

And, of course, the next Guernsey sporting star could be spotted at an On Your Marks session!



The Guernsey Sports Commission is a charitable organisation set up in 2004 that aims to promote physical activity and sport in Guernsey, Channel Islands. It runs a number of programmes throughout the year that provide participants of all ages the chance to take part in sport and physical activity and is always looking to grow the sessions it can offer children. Sponsorship opportunities are available – please see [guernseysports.com](http://guernseysports.com) for contact details and further information.





# LEARN FIRST AID FOR YOUR WORKPLACE AND BE THE DIFFERENCE

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# LIKE A DUCK TO WATER

Guernsey's first Outdoor & Adventure Sports Development Officer, Alan Jenner, has been in post for just a few months. Amanda Eulenkamp caught up with him to find out what the job entails and how he's enjoying it so far.

Alan, AKA AJ (his preferred moniker), meets me down at the newly refurbished La Vallette Bathing Pools. Sitting there, sipping a coffee out in the sunshine, overlooking the bathing pools, it's obvious that AJ has taken to his new role like a proverbial duck to water.

'The other day, we took 70 girls out on the open water – previously, that would have been a headache for the teachers from the safety perspective. But with the training we've recently received, and with my background (he is a qualified stand-up paddle board instructor), we can take that headache away,' he says.

'Outdoor adventure is not new to Guernsey; there are a lot of great providers here. Safety will be my primary role and I will be hoping to provide a central point for water safety training on the island. I will be coordinating logistics and having an oversight of activities, making sure that there are some decent standards in place and that there remains a pathway to accessibility for all.'

The role is brand-new and has been jointly funded by a private benefactor and the Guernsey Sports Commission. A key part of the role will be coordinating training and providing support to teachers, coaches, and volunteers to ensure that the delivery of adventure sports is safe and follows appropriate risk management practices.

Breaking down some of the barriers that have prevented parts of the community from getting into adventure sports, such as the cost and need to access kit and equipment, is another focus of the job.

'I will also be working with all the existing service providers and outdoor and adventure sports community and developing a water safety strategy, which is something the island has been lacking for some time,' he says.

As well as safety – both on and off the water – AJ says that he has been delivering life skills in a practical environment on the beach. 'It's something that parents would have done years ago, but we've lost that identity to the water, knowing about winds and tides, knowing how to decide when it's safe to go out on the water,' he says.

According to AJ, the water temperature in Guernsey is 'pretty decent' until October. 'You can do some lovely, open water swimming in the bathing pools if you don't want to go in the sea,' he says. 'If you wear the right clothing, you can do whatever you want. Going out on the cliffs and watching the power of Mother Nature is just stunning.'

Guernsey has some world-class facilities and it's all about encouraging people to use them. 'Whether that adventure entails swimming or snorkelling, paddle-boarding or surfing, I want to support and help children, encourage them, give them water confidence, and show them the pathway forward so that they can continue with their sport.'

He sees part of his role as complementary to the swimming lessons that all primary school children have in Guernsey. 'Their target is maybe 25 metres. What we're trying to encourage is to move them from the pool environment and get them into the open water.'

'We've done some research with the children as well to work out what their fears of open water are. They've identified jellyfish as a major fear, so I teach them that, if you wear a wetsuit, the wetsuit protects you from jellyfish stings. If you do happen to get stung then 99% of the time, it's like just a stinging nettle. I'm trying to dilute any fears to encourage them to visit our wonderful coastline and to have adventures in and around Guernsey waters.'

Knowledge of the environment is another key message, and AJ says that when he takes children on the beach they go jellyfish spotting, as well as doing a beach clean. So far, he says, they've picked up around 15kgs of waste from the beach, of which around 25% is recyclable. 'Even the most disengaged pupil enjoys a beach clean – it's like a treasure hunt! And we are trying to encourage their friends and families to do it as well, to respect our coastline – it's a never-ending battle.'

In close proximity to La Vallette Bathing Pools is Havelet Bay, where the Sailing Trust is based, and he says that his ambition is to make the area a centre of excellence. Local company Boatworks+ is sponsoring a vehicle to enable him to get down on the beach and travel between venues, for which he is very grateful.

'My aim is to establish a friendly and welcoming environment open to all people at all levels, helping them to achieve their own ambitions,' he says, as he drives off.

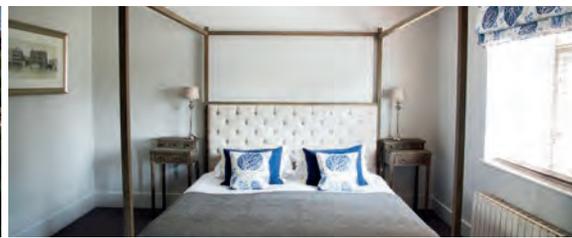






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£2 EACH

£2 EACH

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£6.50 200ml
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2 FOR £8

2 FOR £8

2 FOR £11



2 FOR £8

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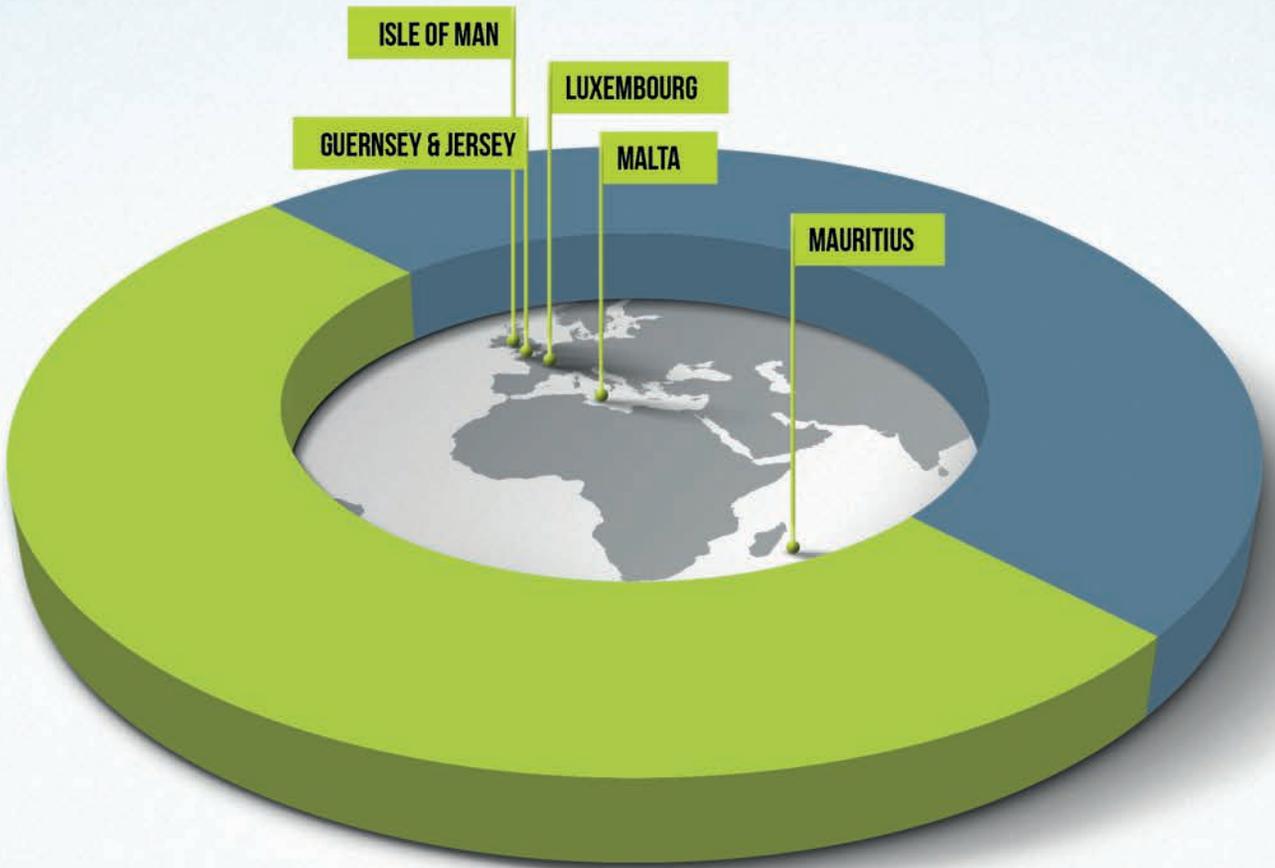
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▶ Marlboro Gold	£49	£79
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▶ Silk Cut Purple	£43	£59
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▶ Golden Virginia Tobacco	5 x 50g	£49

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# Focus on the Channel Islands



Local businesses are the engine room of the Channel Islands' economy. With 12 offices around the globe and a diverse practice, we're known for our work with international organisations. But our heart is in the Channel Islands and we've never taken our focus away from the local market.

Ogier's local legal services team covers property, employment and regulatory law. We work with clients who are buying or selling a business, entering into a joint venture or restructuring, as well as advising on day to day issues from financing and corporate governance to contracts.

## Local legal services in Guernsey and Jersey

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- Dispute resolution
- Employment and immigration law
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- Private wealth and family offices
- Regulatory law
- Wills, probate and estate planning

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