



En Voyage
Aurigny's Magazine

GUERNSEY'S AIRLINE
aurigny

FREE
TO TAKE AWAY

En Voyage

Aurigny's leisure and business magazine

ISSUE 46

ISSUE 46



Expert guidance on your Guernsey relocation

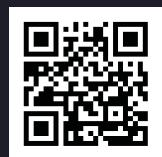
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IMAGE: LEEDS TOWN HALL. FLIGHTS TO LEEDS BRADFORD TAKE-OFF 23 MAY.

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CATHERINE BEST

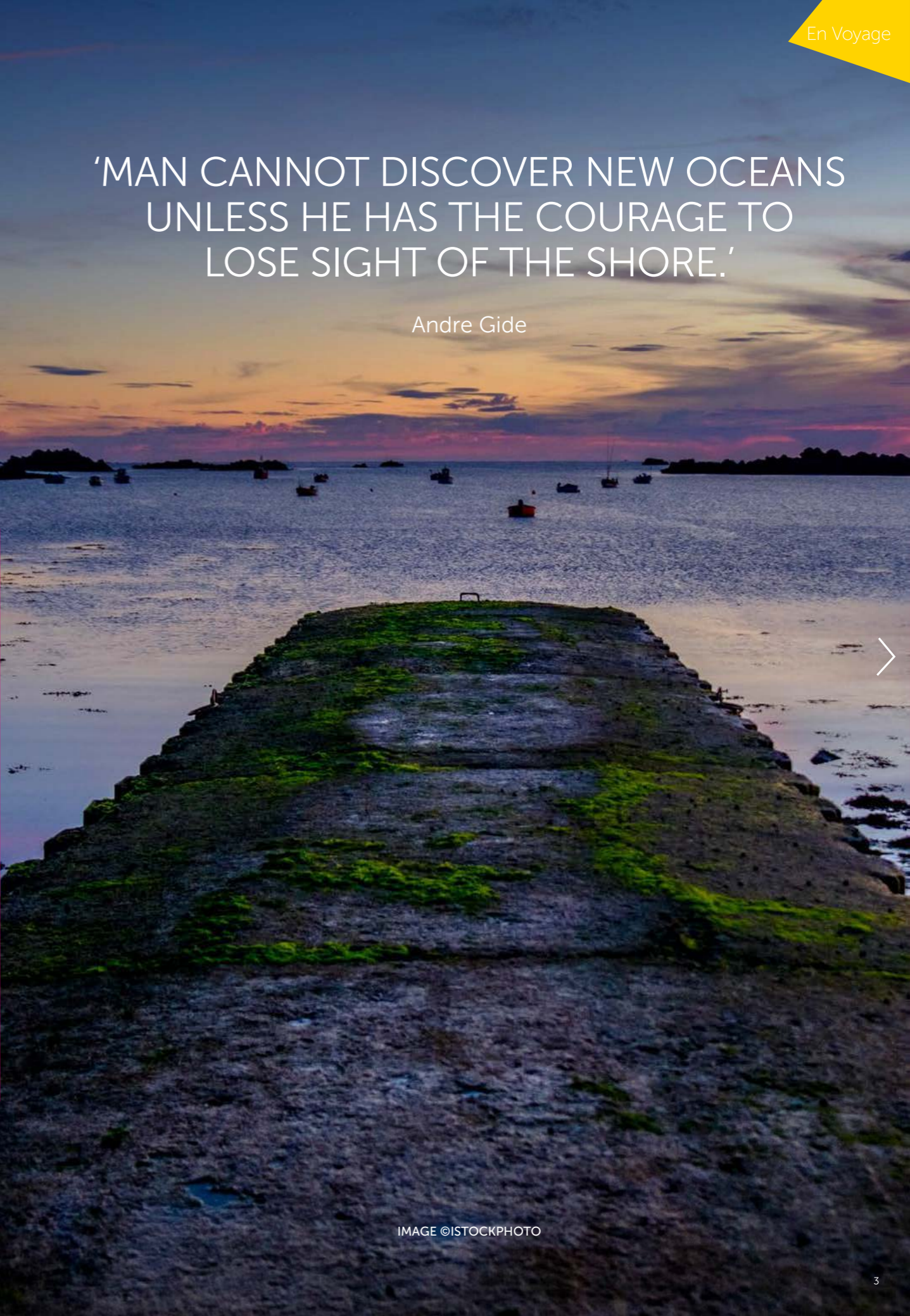
AWARD WINNING JEWELLERY DESIGN



Jewellery to Last a Lifetime

At Catherine Best, we specialise in bespoke, one-of-a-kind designs. Capture special moments with a meaningful piece of jewellery, a family-founded heritage brand. Visit our showrooms for an unforgettable experience.





'MAN CANNOT DISCOVER NEW OCEANS UNLESS HE HAS THE COURAGE TO LOSE SIGHT OF THE SHORE.'

Andre Gide

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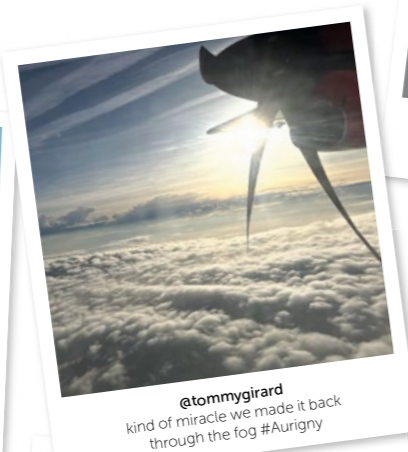
IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO

#Aurigny SEND US YOUR SHOTS!

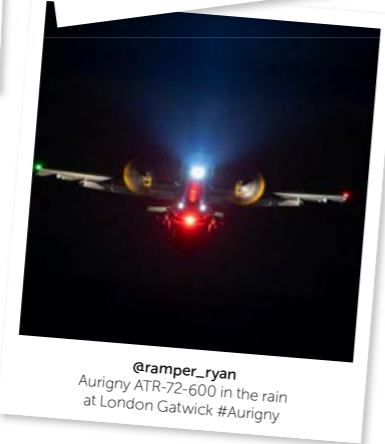
We want to see your photos, perhaps a colourful sunset at 12,000 feet, a runway panoramic or an on-board abstract. Upload your best photo to any social media platform and tag using #Aurigny. It could be featured in the next issue of En Voyage. Please remember to make sure your device is switched to the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



@kaviation
Aurigny ATR72 departing Manchester for Guernsey in some golden winter sun! #Aurigny



@tommygirard
kind of miracle we made it back through the fog #Aurigny



@ramper_ryan
Aurigny ATR-72-600 in the rain at London Gatwick #Aurigny



@tom_planes350
This week unfortunately we said farewell to some of the regular visitors #Aurigny

By submitting your image you agree to allow Aurigny to use the image in print and on social media.



@ethansphotography82
ATR72 G-PBOT taxis into Jersey #Aurigny

TPA Don't chase, lead.

tpagency.com

Produced six times a year visit aurignymedia.com

COVER PHOTO
Leeds Town Hall ©Carl Milner Photography
Flights to Leeds Bradford take-off 23 May!

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

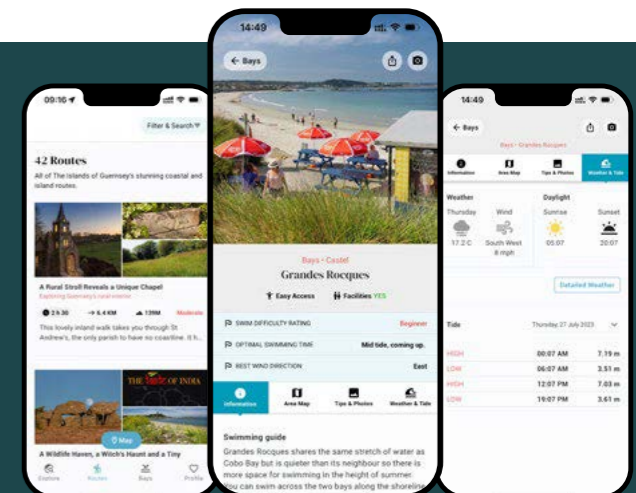
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ISLANDS of GUERNSEY

Download our App

Explore our dramatic coastline. Uncover our rich history and dive into our swim spots with the VisitGuernsey app.





CUCINE

KITCHENS, BEDROOMS & INTERIORS

Crafting interiors with purpose

Shaping some of Guernsey's most considered interiors, Cucine has built a reputation for thoughtful design, refined craftsmanship and a warm approach. As Cucine enters its next chapter, with a new hire and a new showroom, owner Nadine Gavey's vision has never been clearer.

Beautifully shaped design-led interiors

At its core, Cucine designs and develops bespoke kitchens, bedrooms, and utility spaces. Every room is created to be high-quality, stylish and built to last well beyond trends. What distinguishes Cucine is not just the finished result, but the experience of getting there. The team guides clients through every stage of the journey, managing the details with care and clarity.



A foundation rooted in craftsmanship

Founded in 2009, Cucine began with the ambition to bring Italian craftsmanship and timeless design to homes in Guernsey. Since then, it's completed more than 300 kitchen and interior projects, each underpinned by a commitment to quality. In 2024, the business entered a new era under Nadine's ownership, marking a renewed focus on creative direction.

Today, Cucine is evolving into a full-service, design-led interiors company. From initial concept through to final installation, the team creates spaces that reflect the people who live in them.

Cucine is also proud to be an approved KBSA member, offering artisan kitchens, and working to the highest industry standards. It's the only kitchen and bedroom supplier in Guernsey to hold this accreditation.

What's next

Cucine's next chapter begins with the appointment of Jim Harratt as lead designer. Bringing nearly a decade of experience from the London design scene, and a background in construction, he blends technical expertise with a refined aesthetic sensibility, ensuring projects are seamless from concept to completion.

Alongside this, Cucine has recently invested in a new showroom, welcoming clients to its space at 27 Glategny Esplanade. It's a place to discuss upcoming projects and experience Cucine's design philosophy first-hand.

If you're looking to upgrade your space, contact Cucine on **01481 763900** or email **info@cucine.gg** to book an appointment.



A warm spring welcome from Aurigny

DAVE COX, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

On behalf of everyone at Aurigny, I'm delighted to welcome you on board.

As spring arrives in the Channel Islands, it's an exciting time for our islands as longer days and brighter weather bring new opportunities to travel, connect and explore. We've been particularly pleased to see strong demand across our inter-island services, with travel between Guernsey and Jersey growing by more than 30% in February. It's wonderful to see the social and economic ties between our two Bailiwicks strengthening once again, and we're proud to play our part in reconnecting our communities.

As always, we remain committed to continually improving your experience with us and to acting on your feedback. Our new mobile app is helping to make travelling with Aurigny simpler than ever, and we're pleased to say that Apple Pay and Google Pay are now available within the app, making booking your flights quicker and more convenient.

Looking ahead to the summer season, we're also excited to see the return of our Dublin service and increased frequencies to Paris.

Onward connectivity via our major hub airports continues to grow as well. Our principal London airport partner, Gatwick, is welcoming eight new airlines in 2026. This creates more opportunities than ever to connect with destinations around the world, including a significant expansion from Jet2.

As always, our dedicated people, from those working behind the scenes to the cabin crew looking after you today, are at the heart of everything we do. If there's anything our crew can do to make your journey more comfortable, please don't hesitate to ask.

Thank you for choosing to fly with Aurigny. We're delighted to have you with us this spring.

Safe travels and bon voyage.

WHY THE PROFITS NEVER BOARD A PLANE

KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

In this era of global corporations and faceless shareholders, often profits can be sent a few thousand airmiles away to line the pockets of investors. But when it comes to the power that lights up your island life, the story gets far more personal.

This is about keeping it in the family.

WHAT DOES A TARIFF DO FOR ME?

When you pay your bill, it's easy to think of it as just a cost. In reality, it's a contribution to Guernsey's modern life, as our electricity 'infrastructure' is the physical backbone to all island life – a cup of tea, super-fast WiFi, and treating patients in the hospital.

- The subsea cable imports clean energy from Europe
- The Vale Power Station gives us a secure backup and top-up
- Hundreds of substations and transformers convert our power
- Over 1,000 km of underground cabling quietly shuttle power to our homes

This invisible ecosystem and skilled people, from hands-on technicians to those overseeing the full picture, makes sure that when a local business opens its doors in Castel or a kettle boils in St Martins, power gets there – unfailing, secure and safe.

YOU'RE PAYING FOR A 24/7, UNINTERRUPTED SERVICE

The true hallmark of what your tariff pays for is the network's silence. You've heard that life happens when you're busy doing other things. And that means you're also paying for a 24/7 service on a daily grind in the background, quietly making sure you've got what you need to keep your busy life flowing.

In fact, electricity is one of the only manmade services we 'see' when it stops (same goes for Wi-Fi – which

is powered by electricity too). Those rare moments of darkness reveal the scale behind what we take as normal – and 'normality' equals the dedication of 200+ local staff working around the clock to make sure those offline moments are few and far between.

Your tariff is the subscription that keeps this silent magic happening every second of every day.

THE PROFIT MYSTERY

Maybe you've seen headlines around Guernsey Electricity's profits. In most places, that money would be wired to distant shareholders and investors.

In a different world, we might be answering to a private equity firm in London, or a global investment group in New York. We'd need to ship a slice of the money you pay – also known as dividends – off island each quarter to keep those far off voices happy.

But not here.

Because our shareholder is the States of Guernsey*, we collectively own our energy company. 100% of the profits stay in Guernsey, and get reinvested back into the system that brings life to our island.

No offshore investors take a cut. Instead all the income that we generate is "composted" back into the electricity meter in your home, the cables linking your property to the wider grid, the substation at the end of your road, the transformer lowering the voltage for you, the underground network connecting you to the European grid, and topping up your electricity from the Vale Power Station. In fact, in 2024 we spent around £12 million on upgrading this infrastructure to help keep our grid on track.

*managed by the States Trading Supervisory Board ("STSB")

SUPPORTING OUR OWN

"Keeping it in the family" also means supporting the people who live next door.

Every time you pay an electricity bill, you're also helping provide high-skilled employment for many islanders. These are the engineers, technicians, project managers, electricians, support staff, and a mix of other skills and personalities who are all part of the community bringing life to life.

These aren't faceless offshore executives; these are over 200 real people who help keep the lights on. When they get paid, much of that money also goes straight back into our local shops, restaurants, trades and charities, helping circulate more of your electricity bill back into our island community.



WHEN DO ELECTRICITY TARIFFS CHANGE?

Any tariff changes happen on 1st July. We send an application to the States Trading Supervisory Board (STSB) and once this has been reviewed, we'll communicate what the new tariffs will be.

HOW CAN I HELP CUT COSTS?

Would you be interested in helping reduce future tariff increases by several million?

Current predictions say we're on track to hit a 'maximum demand' of 157MW by 2050. At the moment, our maximum demand peak was 94MW back in January 2024.

Our aim is to try and keep that maximum demand at 125MW, which is predicted to save over £100 million on future tariff increases.

It's a difficult task as we need the community to come together to help keep the costs down. But the easy part is it means moving some of your electricity use where possible off-peak.

To stay in the know. Sign up for our e-newsletter or follow us on social media.

www.electricity.gg/subscribe

Best time:

11PM-5AM

100% low-carbon electricity imported from Europe

- ✓ Cheapest
- ✓ Cleanest

Second best time:

10AM-4PM

less appliances rely on the grid

*If you run your electricals during your two-hour cheap rate times. Check the back of your bill to see when your time bands are.

- ✓ Cheap*
- ✓ Clean



Powering Life, Today & Tomorrow



AURIGNY NEWS

ET VOILÀ! PARIS... THREE TIMES PER WEEK!

Aurigny is expanding its popular route to Paris's premier hub airport, Charles de Gaulle, during the 2026 summer season.

The new service operates on Wednesdays and commenced on 1 April.

This will bring our total number of weekly return flights between Guernsey and Paris CDG to three every week and will add a great deal of flexibility and convenience for passengers wanting to enjoy all the sights, sounds and tastes of Paris.

The new service will complement the existing Monday and Friday flights, offering travellers more flexibility in the length of stay, particularly for those with tight business schedules requiring a shorter turnaround during the week.

This development is expected to help sustain the recent growth in French visitor numbers to the Bailiwick. Connections into and out of Jersey offer further attractive choices for customers based in Jersey and France.

Increased frequencies also make long-haul connectivity via the major European hub more accessible and attractive than ever, with Paris CDG serving over 300 destinations worldwide, more than any UK airport currently offers.



The move has been enabled, in part, by the earlier news that Aurigny also secured Southampton and Jersey routes, which has facilitated the lease of a further ATR72 in Aurigny's fleet. The additional aircraft will provide the capacity necessary to reliably serve the lifeline routes and enable these targeted connectivity enhancements for Guernsey.

Direct summer seasonal services to European sun destinations, however, will not feature this year in Aurigny's schedule as it primarily focuses on bedding in its new lifeline services. The airline is making this public now to ensure holidaymakers have the information

they need to start firming up their broader summer plans.

Philip Saunders, Chief Commercial Officer at Aurigny, said: 'Adding a Wednesday service to Paris CDG represents another positive step forward for Guernsey. It gives travellers more choice to visit Paris, the most popular tourist city in Europe, strengthens the island's global connectivity through one of Europe's biggest hubs, and further supports our fantastic hospitality sector this summer.'

Deputy Lee Van Katwyk, Tourism Lead for the Committee for Economic Development, added: 'It is encouraging to see growth on the Paris route, with the announcement of an additional rotation, further enhancing our connectivity into France. This expansion marks an exciting step forward, supporting the additional marketing VisitGuernsey is doing to promote the Islands of Guernsey to our closest mainland neighbour. We look forward to continuing our close collaboration with Aurigny to promote this more frequent timetable which offers greater travel options for our visitors.'

Fares from Guernsey to Paris Charles De Gaulle start at £49.99 one way.

MORE EXETER. MORE OFTEN

This summer, we're turning up the frequency with up to five flights a week to Exeter.

Flights will be available from Thursdays through to Mondays.

This boost in connectivity will make it easier for islanders to reach the Southwest, whether planning a long weekend getaway or a mid-week return.



THE END OF AN ERA

Honouring the Dornier 228NG.

February 12, 2026, marked a poignant milestone in Channel Islands aviation as Aurigny's last scheduled Dornier 228NG flight, GR215, landed at Guernsey Airport.

The arrival of aircraft G-OAUR signalled the end of an era, as it and its twin, G-ETAC, had concluded over 9,500 flight hours and 32,000 take-offs and landings since 2015.

To commemorate the aircraft's retirement, the airline celebrated the passion of the next generation by welcoming seven-year-old Stefan, a talented young artist from Alderney. After Stefan shared his remarkably detailed aircraft drawings on social media, Aurigny invited him to Guernsey for a unique artistic experience. Stefan, dubbed 'The Apprentice', worked alongside professional artist Rob Sweeney to refine his skills and create a special tribute to the iconic Dornier.

'When we saw Stefan's drawings, we were amazed by his talent,' said Samuel Talbot, Head of Marketing. 'His enthusiasm is a wonderful reminder of how aviation can spark imagination.'

The final flight – which was piloted by Captain John Morris and First Officer Harry Bell – received a traditional water cannon salute upon arrival. While the day was



filled with emotion, the transition represented a practical step forward. Due to global supply chain pressures, the airline shifted its focus to the Twin Otter – a more widely supported aircraft that had already been in active service for Aurigny since November 2025.

Philip Saunders, Chief Commercial Officer, noted that while it was right to honour the Dornier's history, the airline looked toward the future with confidence. With the Twin Otter now fully taking the reins, Aurigny reaffirmed its commitment to connecting the islands and to supporting young enthusiasts like Stefan who share a passion for the skies.

APPLE PAY AND GOOGLE PAY



After receiving some valuable passenger feedback, Aurigny has implemented a key improvement to make the booking process even smoother by introducing Apple Pay and Google Pay as integrated payment options for all bookings made via the mobile app.

This update means faster checkouts, enhanced security, and one less thing for travellers to worry about when planning their next getaway.



BIRTHDAY FLIGHT

The first of March marked a very special milestone for Aurigny as the airline celebrated its 58th anniversary.

The festivities took to the skies on a commemorative birthday flight, where the crew was joined by two particularly special guests: Colin,

who shared his birthday with the airline, and Jim, who was born in the very same year that Aurigny was founded.

It was a perfect connection for such a historic occasion. The airline extended a huge thank you to all the wonderful passengers who brought the birthday spirit on board, to Sarah the violinist for providing the soundtrack to the day, and to the incredible crew who made the entire celebration so memorable.

Aurigny in Focus: How we're Performing

We're back to keep you informed of our operations and our performance. Winter brings its own challenges for travel, and in this issue, we share how we performed in January.

January in Context

In January, we welcomed 41,984 travellers across our network.

Weather conditions in January were unfortunately unfavourable, with high winds and fog frequently disrupting schedules - particularly on services to and from Alderney, as well as across the wider Channel Islands. Storm Goretti had a significant impact across the southern parts of the British Isles, bringing wind gusts of nearly 100 mph to the Isles of Scilly. We are grateful to our passengers for their patience and understanding during this challenging winter period, which caused cancellations and delays as we prioritised everyone's safety.

As always, we encourage customers to share feedback through our post-flight survey, which plays a vital role in helping us continually improve our service for the island community.

41.9K
TRAVELLERS CARRIED

IN FOCUS REPORT - JANUARY

Our On-Time Performance

As is industry standard, we measure on-time performance by the percentage of flights arriving within 15 minutes of their scheduled time.

1. During January, 81% of flights arrived within 15 minutes of schedule, excluding weather and Air Traffic Control (ATC) restrictions.
2. Including weather and ATC impacts, 72% of flights arrived within 15 minutes of schedule.

By comparison, all airlines at London Gatwick achieved 72% on-time performance (arrived within 15 minutes of schedule). Furthermore, Aurigny's performance was broadly in line with the wider industry. Aurigny's on-time performance for the month of January also represents a 2-percentage-point improvement on December. While there is still progress to be made, the month-on-month improvement demonstrates the positive impact of the operational measures we are implementing to strengthen reliability.

*Source: Eurocontrol.

Our Completion Rates

Flight completion rate measures the percentage of flights operated compared to the number planned.

1. In January, our flight completion rate was 97% when excluding weather, ATC restrictions and medevac requirements.
2. Including the impact of weather and ATC restrictions, our completion rate was 88%.

By comparison, all airlines at Gatwick achieved a 94% flight completion rate in January.

January's completion rate was significantly impacted by weather, with the majority of weather-related cancellations occurring during Storm Goretti. As the storm moved across the region, safety remained our absolute priority, and some services were unable to operate as planned. Once conditions improved, our teams worked quickly to recover the schedule, putting on additional flights where possible to help.

*Source: Eurocontrol.

What We're Doing

In times of disruption, clear communication is more important than ever. We understand how crucial it is for our passengers to be able to reach us when they need support, which is why we are making some positive changes to our contact centre opening hours.

Our contact centre will now be open from 06:00 to 17:00 for phone calls and 06:00 to 20:00 for WhatsApp, helping ensure you can connect with us more easily.

So you can be assured that a friendly voice is there when you need it, as part of our ongoing commitment to supporting our passengers.

Our Call Centre

Calls connected: 3,986
(December: 3,511)

Average wait time: 1 minute 25 seconds
(December: 2 minutes 4 seconds)

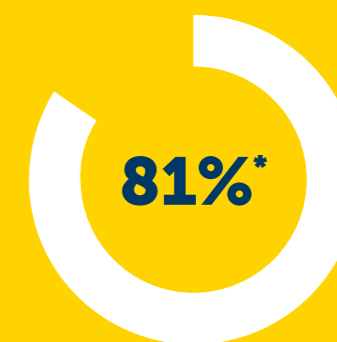
Despite the increase in call volumes, we significantly improved our response times, reducing average wait times by nearly 40 seconds compared to December. This reflects the continued focus of our customer service teams on delivering timely and effective support, particularly during periods of disruption.

In Summary

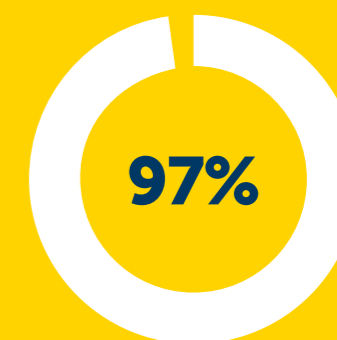
January was notable for its weather-related disruption, and we thank all our customers for their patience and understanding during the period.

Nevertheless, we improved on-time performance month-on-month, and we are pleased to have been readily available via our Contact Centre to provide the necessary help.

Thank you to our island community and all our passengers for your continued support.



FLIGHTS ARRIVING WITHIN
15 MINUTES OF SCHEDULE



FLIGHT COMPLETION
RATE

3.9K
SUPPORT CALLS
ANSWERED





OUR FLEET

Aurigny has a fleet of six fuel-efficient ATR aircraft and two Twin Otter DHC6-300s.

The aircraft are suited to our regional network.

Did you know? Some of our aircraft registrations have a special meaning to us; for example, G-PEMB is named after Pembroke Bay in Guernsey.



ATR 72-600
NUMBER IN FLEET 6
BUILT Toulouse, France
ENGINES 2 x Pratt & Whitney PW-127 M Turboprops
MAXIMUM SPEED 276 knots (318 mph)
SEAT CAPACITY 72
RANGE 1,023 miles (1,646 km)




Twin Otter DHC6-300
NUMBER IN FLEET 2
BUILT Canada
ENGINES 2 Pratt & Whitney PT6A-27s
MAXIMUM SPEED 140 knots (161 mph)
SEAT CAPACITY 17 + Dog
RANGE 982 miles (1,581 km)


1968
 Founded



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


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


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


1
 FA Cup
 Flown to Guernsey on 19th August 2016


8
 Aircraft


1
 Birth on board
 Between Alderney and Guernsey


1
 In-flight marriage


300
 Staff



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 **FROM ALDERNEY**

- ALDERNEY
- BIRMINGHAM
- BRISTOL
- DUBLIN*
- EDINBURGH
- EXETER
- GRENOBLE*
- JERSEY
- LEEDS BRADFORD*
- LONDON CITY
- LONDON GATWICK
- MANCHESTER
- SOUTHAMPTON
- PARIS CDG

- GUERNSEY
- SOUTHAMPTON

Our 2026 summer schedule is out now.
 Book flights until October 2026.
 Visit Aurigny.com for more details.

*Denotes seasonal route

SAFETY FIRST

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 the 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.

TRAVELLING WITH INFANTS AND CHILDREN

Infants under the age of 2 need to be secured whenever the seatbelt sign is on, this can be achieved through the use of a seatbelt loop provided by the airline to secure the infant on an adult's lap. A child

over the age of 2 must be secured in their own seat to ensure their safety in the event of an emergency landing or turbulence.

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, ULTRABOOKS 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. Bluetooth can only be used throughout the flight on the ATR.

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 ATR.

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 seatbelt 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 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:



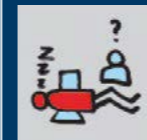
Assaulting, intimidating, threatening a crew member or passenger.



Refusing to follow instructions from the crew.



Intoxicated or disorderly conduct or consuming alcohol which was not provided by crew members. You are not permitted to consume your duty free purchases on board.



Engaging in or displaying any indecent or lewd behaviour.



Smoking anywhere on board, including in the lavatories.



Tampering with the smoke detectors.



Using a portable electronic device when not permitted to do so.



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

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GUERNSEY

Beach Guide



Guernsey has a beach and a bay for everyone. Here we discover Port Soif.

PORT SOIF

With its memorable horseshoe shape, Port Soif is possibly Guernsey's most distinctive beach. It's undoubtedly one of the most charming. Ploughing a furrow down from the north, the coastline arcs sharply round in a crescent here, giving the bay an unusual form, especially compared to the rest of the somewhat homogenous (though lovely) West Coast.

The sight of that semi-circle at high tide – water shimmering in the sunlight, lapping onto the powdery sand – is quite breathtaking. Port Soif is one of Guernsey's most popular beaches, and it's not hard to work out why. As a result, at the height of summer it can get quite crowded, but even at its most densely packed, it's rarely uncomfortable.

Set up camp somewhere in the middle, near to the rolling sand dunes and swaying marram grass, and very quickly lose hours of your life sunbathing or reading a book on sand as soft as a mattress. At low tide there's no water at all in the bay (hence the name 'Port Soif' – 'thirsty port'), but as the tide creeps up it becomes fantastic for swimming. The shape of the bay creates a natural lagoon, meaning

that it's virtually never rough, and the water is always clear, crisp, and smooth. It's also surprisingly deep – try running in and you'll find you fall over only a few steps beyond the edge. But fear not: the protective shape of the bay, and the stillness of the water, mean that while you might go out of your depth fairly quickly, you never feel far from dry land.

And as if all that wasn't enough, Port Soif also boasts a superb

kiosk, Surfside, where you can relax on deck chairs in a leafy garden, drinking tea and hot chocolate and feeling the warmth of the sun on your face.

Taken from Guernsey Beach Guide

Optimum Tide: High

Best Feature: Port Soif's unique shape makes swimming at high tide a joy



IMAGES ©VISITGUERNSEY



WHAT'S THERE ?

-  **CAFÉ**
-  **SWIM**
-  **TOILETS**



DOGS ON BEACHES

See gov.gg/dogsonbeaches for up-to-date information.

STUDIO

ARCHITECTURE INTERIORS LANDSCAPES



StuDiO is an award-winning architecture and design practice working on residential, commercial and community projects across Guernsey and beyond. Our considered, contextual designs create beautiful, functional and sustainable structures and spaces that will be enjoyed for generations. We offer interior design and landscape design as part of broader architectural commissions, or as standalone services. We take pride in tailoring each design to meet the precise needs of each client and site, and in working closely with trusted contractors and consultants to deliver exceptional results. Planning a project? Get in touch to find out how we can work together.

01 *The West Coast Farmhouse (Winner, Internal Domestic, Gsy Property & Construction Awards 2025)*

Our bold yet sensitive extension of this traditional farmhouse creates a delicate dialogue between granite, glass and garden.

02 *The Manor House*

A comprehensive reworking of this 18th-century house and its setting, restoring a strong architectural identity while sensitively upgrading for contemporary, multi-generational living.

03 *Health Connections (community project)*

We're proud to have served as designers and project managers for this vital local charity, creating a warm and elegant new office and drop-in centre.

04 *Alba*

A new restaurant in the Market Buildings, achieved through sensitivity, precision and collaboration.

05 *Fukku (Winner, Internal Commercial, Gsy Property & Construction Awards 2025)*

A richly detailed, award-winning space in which bespoke joinery, sculptural steelwork, atmospheric lighting, custom furniture and eye-catching graphics create a unique dining experience.

06 *Clifftop House 1 (on site)*

Replacing a dated, drab dwelling with a new, modern design, nestled in the clifftop landscape.

07 *The Georgian Villa (on site)*

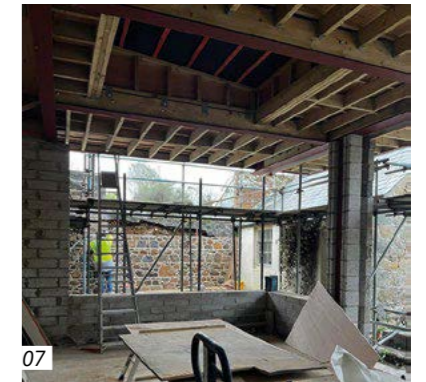
Extending and comprehensively updating this Georgian gem, our design enhances the existing building and complements it with new, contemporary additions.

08 *Villa House (planning approved)*

A bold, two-storey extension, echoing the existing form while achieving a clear distinction through the Purbeck stone and floor-to-ceiling glazing.

09 *Les Bardeaux Extension (planning approved)*

The simple render and glass of the new additions sit in respectful dialogue with the rich, resonant tones and textures of the existing cedar shingles and tumbled granite cobbles.





WHAT'S ON IN THE BAILIWICK?

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR
IMAGE ©SIMONE BAUMEISTER

GUERNSEY MUSEUM AT CANDIE	CASTLE CORNET AND MUSEUMS
FORT GREY - SHIPWRECK - MUSEUM	GERMAN NAVAL SIGNALS HQ

Four great attractions for all the family to enjoy in 2026

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at Café Victoria & Café Maeva.

Scan QR code for all the latest information
on opening times, events and exhibitions.

Like us on Facebook & Instagram @guernseymuseums

www.museums.gov.gg

Until 13 April WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Candie Museum, St Peter Port

Wildlife Photographer of the Year is the most prestigious photography event of its kind, providing a global platform that showcases the natural world's most astonishing and challenging sights for over 50 years.

Until 19 May ART & CRAFT SHOWCASE, THE GUERNSEY ARTS

George Crossan Gallery,
St Peter Port

A showcase of paintings, crafts and textile creations all created by members of Sarnia Arts & Crafts Club. All the items on display represent the artists' own favourite pieces of work and will not be on sale. 9am – 5pm daily.



1 May ART AT THE PARK – PINK GRANITE, WILD FLOWER

The National Trust of Guernsey's
Art at the Park Gallery, The Folk
and Costume Museum,
Saumarez Park

A study of Port Soif by two local artists. Bozena Pollock's semi abstract style juxtaposed against Sally Cokeley's botanical detail presents a unique view of the Bay and its environs.

Runs daily from 10am until 5pm
(will close at 2pm on the final day).

1 - 30 April THE BIG EAT

The islands of Guernsey's
food festival

Throughout April, the festival showcases four themed experiences – The Great Outdoors, Meet the Locals, Foraging and Fine Dining, and the French Connection.

Further details can be found
at thebigeatguernsey.com

3 - 8 April BRETON MARKET

Browse a range of stalls, with artisan traders offering cheeses, breads, cider, crafts, clothing, and more. Taste, shop, and soak up the lively atmosphere.

Check out visitguernsey.com for more information.



12 April SPRING ARTISAN MARKET

The Folk and Costume
Museum, Saumarez Park

Browse a range of artisan stalls in the beautiful courtyard of the Guernsey Folk & Costume Museum, and enjoy homemade cakes and bakes, teas and coffees, throughout the day. There will also be courtyard games for children. Free entry for everyone.

24 April - 7 May GUERNSEY LITERARY FESTIVAL

Celebrating great writing
and big ideas.

See guernseyliteraryfestival.com for further information.



LIBERATION DAY CAVALCADE ©GUERNSEY PRESS.

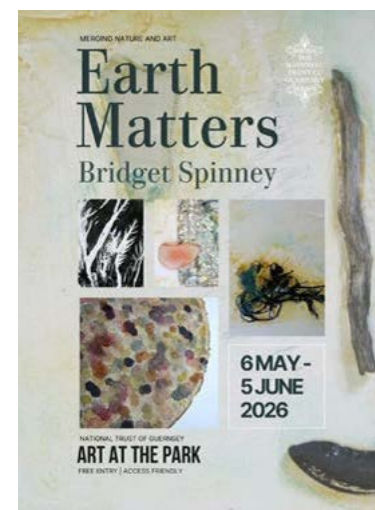


BASTILLE DAY CELEBRATIONS. BELOW L-R: ROLAND-GARROS STADIUM, THE MUSÉE D'ORSAY. ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO

2 May
LA BELTANE: SARK MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS

Supported by Guernsey Arts, this festival is a modern-day re-creation and celebration of an ancient Iron Age Celtic ritual and is the only one of its kind in the Channel Islands.

Ticket information at tickettailor.com/events/labeltane/1841370



6 MAY UNTIL 5 JUNE
ART AT THE PARK – EARTH MATTERS

An art exhibition by Bridget Spinney, who delights in using the earth, sea and plant matter to experiment with shapes and forms from the landscape. She is a strong believer in protecting the environment. *10am – 5pm daily.*

9 May
LIBERATION DAY

2026 is the 81st anniversary of Guernsey's Liberation, commemorating the islands' freedom from German Occupation during World War II. Events will take place in St Peter Port and around the island, including the 100+ military vehicles, vintage cars and motorbikes that form the Liberation Day Cavalcade.

See liberationday.gg for more information.

6 June
SAFFERY ROTARY WALK

One of the island's biggest annual charity events, the 39-mile route follows the coastline of Guernsey starting and ending in St Peter Port. Walkers can take on the full distance or join as part of a relay team.

See safferyrotarywalk.org for more information.

7 - 13 June
BLOOMIN' ALDERNEY

Step through the garden gates of Alderney and discover a world of colour, creativity and community. The blooming Alderney Garden Festival is back for its 17th year, offering a rare chance to explore beautiful private gardens across the island. Come and wander, be inspired and celebrate the joy of plants, flowers and island life in full bloom.

See visitalderney.com/explore/events/bloomin-alderney/

Various dates
SEAFRONT SUNDAY

St Peter Port's picturesque seafront becomes a busy market filled with local arts and crafts, produce, drinks & food on certain Sundays in the summer. Stroll along the seafront and enjoy the casual, friendly atmosphere.

26 April, 21 June, 2 August, 30 August
EDABL - Eat, Drink And Be Local!
A celebration of local produce

3 May
GSPCA Animal Welfare

17 May
Association of Guernsey Charities

7 June
Arts Guernsey
A day to celebrate our local crafters, musicians, performers and artists' talents.



SEAFRONT SUNDAYS ©GUERNSEY PRESS.

WHAT'S ON IN PARIS

Until 25 May
FOIRE DU TRÔNE, PELOUSE DE REUILLY

Porte Dorée, Paris
One of Europe's oldest and most festive fairs, the Foire du Trône features hundreds of attractions, rides, and games, including the most illuminated Ferris wheel in Europe.

9 – 12 April
ART PARIS AT THE GRAND PALAIS

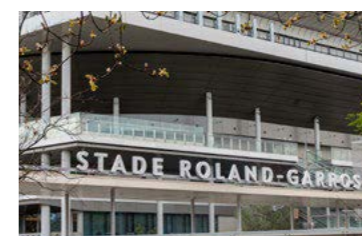
The leading spring fair for modern and contemporary art.

12 April
PARIS MARATHON

Starting on the Champs-Élysées and finishing near the Arc de Triomphe, this 42.19 km race covers seven districts, attracting 60,000 participants and featuring iconic sights like the Louvre and Bois de Vincennes.

17 – 19 April
THE PARIS BOOK FESTIVAL

This three-day event features more than 1,200 publishers and 4,500 authors, covering genres from children's literature to comics and art books. Highlights include author signings, panel discussions, and the 'Librairie du Monde' global pavilion.



18 May – 7 June
ROLAND-GARROS (FRENCH OPEN)

Tennis fans can enjoy one of the four annual Grand Slams, known for its physically demanding clay surface.
Check out rolandgarros.com/en-us/ for information.

14 July
BASTILLE DAY

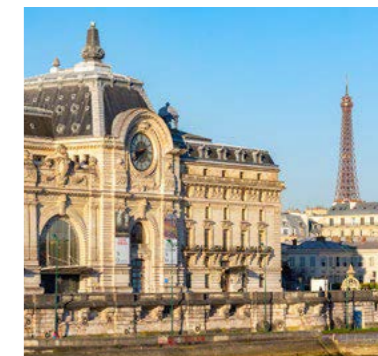
Bastille Day celebrations in Paris mark the anniversary of the storming of the infamous Bastille prison in 1789 – a turning point for the success of the French Revolution and the end of absolute rule by monarchs – and a mostly forgotten event which took place a year later, the Fête Nationale Française, a celebration of France's short-lived constitutional monarchy.

It's the biggest summer celebration in the city, and kicks off with a military ceremony and parade down the Champs Élysées, finishing (or maybe not!) with the spectacular fireworks show at the Eiffel Tower at 11pm.

Until 19 July
RENOIR AND LOVE: A JOYFUL MODERNITY EXHIBITION

The Musée d'Orsay

This exhibition, co-organised with the National Gallery in London and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, re-examines Renoir's fundamental contributions to impressionism and 19th-century art history through the complex, universal notion of love, the central driving force of his work. It provides a new perspective on paintings that are so well-known that it has become difficult to perceive how radical they are. For the first time since 1985 (the year the last Renoir retrospective was held in Paris, at the Grand Palais), some of the artist's and impressionism's greatest masterpieces will be brought together in France. This event is organised as part of the 40th anniversary celebrations of the Musée d'Orsay.



WHAT'S ON
IN SOUTHAMPTON



SOUTHAMPTON INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW.
BELOW L-R: THE BARGATE; SEACITY MUSEUM. ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO



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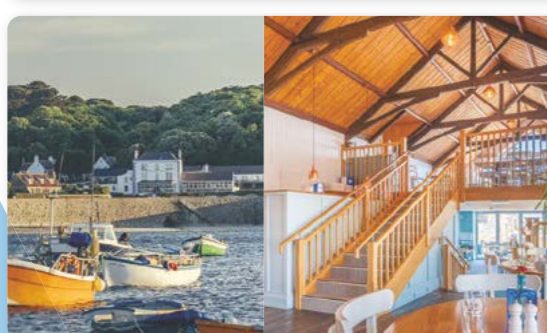


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29 April – 17 May

**MATILDA
THE MUSICAL**

Mayflower Theatre

For information about this show and others, visit mayflower.org.uk.

1 – 3 May

**BBC GARDENERS'
WORLD SPRING FAIR**

Beaulieu

Soak up seasonal advice with multiple drop-in stages, hands-on workshops and informative garden tours. Plus enjoy more than 100 exhibitors and over 30 specialist nurseries.

Information about the show, plus plan your visit to Beaulieu, at beaulieu.co.uk.

23 – 25 May

THE BIG EAT

Royal Victoria Country Park

Born from the Hampshire Street Food Awards, this vibrant festival – with live music and children's entertainment – celebrates the county's best street food, and is perfect for all ages to enjoy.

Check out thebigeatfestival.co.uk.

Until 28 June

**OVERGROUND AND
UNDERGROUND**

The Bargate

Discover the rich history of Southampton as you journey through open air and underground into some of the town vaults and discover a hidden world shaped by merchants, defence, and centuries of change. Tours last approx. 90 minutes.

See southamptontouristguides.co.uk/tours for booking information.



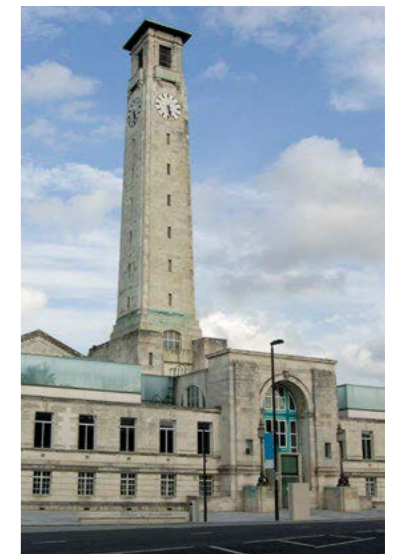
18 – 27 September

**SOUTHAMPTON
INTERNATIONAL
BOAT SHOW**

Mayflower Park

The UK's flagship boating and watersports festival.

Visitor information at southamptonboatshow.com.



Various

**WALK THE SECRETS
OF THE TITANIC**

Dive into the heart of maritime history and uncover the tales and mysteries of the Titanic, alongside iconic ships like the Mayflower and the QE2.

Maximum of 10 per group. More information at visitsouthampton.co.uk.



ANIMAL HOUSE

CONVALESCING WILDLIFE CAN NOW ENJOY A NEW SANCTUARY IN GUERNSEY'S CASTEL PARISH, AFTER A RESIDENT COUPLE MADE THEIR GARDEN AVAILABLE TO THE GUERNSEY SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (GSPCA) AS A RELEASE POINT FOR RECOVERED ANIMALS. ANDY BROWN REPORTS.

Mark and Penny Martin moved to the island in 2024 and, while others in their position may have prioritised finding a milkman, one of the first steps they took was to contact the animal charity.

'I think they were a bit dubious when we first rang them,' said Mark. 'But then they came to have a look and went, 'Wow, we've never seen somewhere that's got so much land and away from roads that's just safe for animals.'

The couple had a similar arrangement with the RSPCA and other animal charities at their former home in Gloucestershire, where their 52-acre grounds at Foscombe House saw a host of fauna released, including deer, badgers, foxes, owls and buzzards.

'It is just something we have always done,' explained Penny. 'We are just essentially mad animal lovers.'

'It's a realisation that most of our wildlife lives in a man-made environment and if they're injured or sick or they need a better habitat, just give them a bit of help,' added Mark.

'A lot of wildlife charities don't have much land. They'll get something that's injured, save its life, and then it'll be in a small pen. If you then release it immediately the animals aren't in peak condition. It's a bit like someone coming straight out of hospital and having to run a marathon.

So the best solution is to have a sort of halfway house,

where they can grow strong and then they gradually wander further and further until they leave.'

The couple arrived in Guernsey with their dog Rita, one duck and a few chickens of their own.

'But in the last year we have had 133 ducks, 11 rabbits, four hedgehogs, three crows, six hand-reared mice, a few chickens, a silver pheasant and a frog called Frank all released here,' said Penny. 'My favourite is a bald bantam called Gloria. She looked like she had been blown up, but she's regrown her feathers and is so friendly. She will sometimes wander into the house and sit by the fire.'



Despite having one of the largest private gardens in Guernsey, their new home, called Le Groignet, is not well known and is hidden from view at the end of Talbot Valley, which runs from near the centre of the island toward the west coast.

The gardens run to more than 19 acres and include woodland, grassland, streams and ponds – perfect for almost any wildlife in need of a home. However, the gardens had been largely left to themselves over the past decade and had become clogged with self-seeded saplings and bramble.

The Martins have spent the last year putting the gardens on the path to recovery.

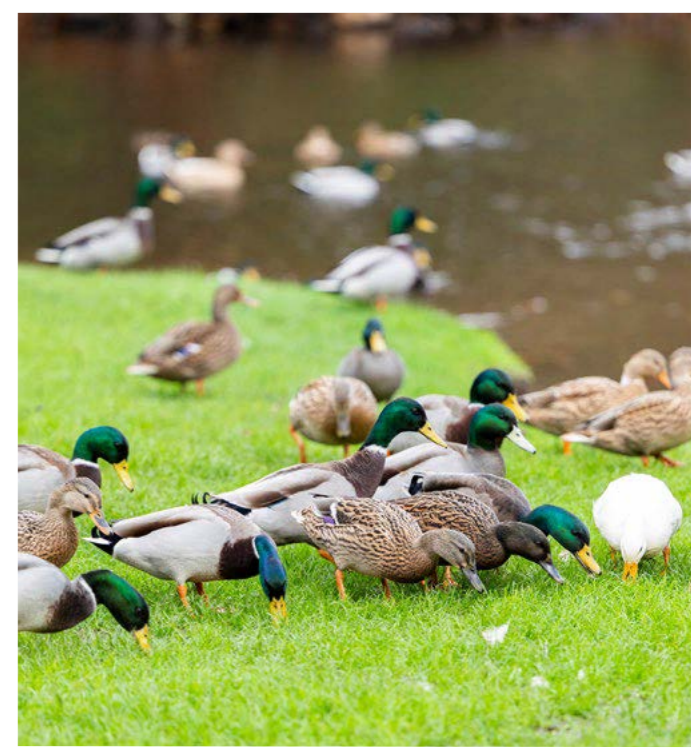
'We couldn't actually see the douit when we moved in,' said Mark, using the word for 'stream' in Guernsey's native language of Guernesiais, 'nor could we see the valley floor, and the pond had basically filled itself in. We have spent a lot of time re-establishing the douit, digging out the pond – to eight feet deep in places – and re-establishing the island in the middle of it.'

The property can boast some very rare and old trees, including a redwood and ginkgo, and the Martins have allowed them more room and light by removing the self-seeded ones, which has also enabled the areas around them to dry out.

'Once a woodland has been managed in the past by man, you can never really go back,' said Mark.

The latest stray to join their menagerie was Gary the Goose.

'He arrived three days ago,' said Penny. 'They can be difficult to sex, so I was hoping it might be a girl and then we'd have some eggs, but I've just done a bit of research and the male has a thicker neck and does all the high-pitched honking. And Gary is definitely a boy.'



The Martins purchased Le Groignet in June 2024 after falling in love with the property on their first viewing.

Parts of the house date back to the 16th Century but after being empty for four years, it was – just like the garden – in desperate need of some TLC.

'It was the only house we looked at,' said Penny. 'We knew right away it was perfect for us.'

Mark sold a finance business in 2012 and had moved into property, so was not daunted by the age and condition of the buildings.

'I think that had put a lot of people off because it looked in disrepair,' added Mark. 'But actually the structure had been well maintained.'

I haven't had to replace a single sash window, which is pretty amazing.'

The couple decided to move to Guernsey after becoming disillusioned with life in the UK and through a desire to be closer to the sea. They originally considered Jersey, where Mark's father was born.

'But I didn't like how Jersey had changed and it just looked like anywhere else,' he said. 'We came to look here and just thought "Oh my God, it's beautiful". Guernsey reminds me of what Jersey used to be. It has that feeling of community.'

There is still a huge amount of work to do both in the house and garden and the Martins are doing as much as possible themselves, but a year of work has already made a huge difference.

'It is great to see the garden transformed from what it was,' said Mark. 'Once we have finished with some planting, it should be a riot of colour. Eventually we want to open the gardens up to the public – let people have a wander and see some of the wildlife and raise some money for the GSPCA.'



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'AN ISLAND LIKE THIS NEEDS TO BE FOR THE PEOPLE OF GUERNSEY.'



ABOVE LEFT: AERIAL VIEW OF THE ISLAND. ABOVE: STEVE SARRÉ (LEFT) AND RICHARD CURTIS HAVE BETWEEN THEM ENJOYED TWO DECADES OF WARDENING ON LIHOUS ISLAND. ALL IMAGES ©GUERNSEY PRESS.

A MAGICAL PLACE TO STAY

AS THE ONLY HOUSE ON LIHOUS ISLAND COMES TOWARDS THE END OF ITS CURRENT 21-YEAR LEASE, SIMON DE LA RUE MEETS THE WARDEN AND HIS ONLY PREDECESSOR TO GET AN INSIGHT INTO THE SOMEWHAT SOLITARY ROLE.

Two kayaks and a whisky bottle lie empty on the shoreline, as two men slowly awake from their rat-interrupted slumber and begin to take in the dawn.

A beautiful mauve light is bathing the rocks, turf and waters around Lihou Island, as Le Hanois Lighthouse pulses its two white beams every 13 seconds.

Conscious that the island's under-used house is about to go into private hands for a generation, they enjoy the unique view while they can, they begin to regret that others will be denied it and – neither knowing the other is awake – they each come to the same conclusion.

'This has got to be shared.'

Two decades and a few months later, I arrive at the car park on the Guernsey side of the millennium-old causeway, on my way to interview one of those men – Richard Curtis, the island's first warden – along with his only successor in the role, Steve Sarre.

I open my car door with both hands and a firm grip, for fear of losing it altogether, as Storm Ingrid whips in cold air from the east. Photographer Sophie and I allow ourselves to be blown across the causeway to the couple-of-hundred verges (38 acres) of remoteness poking out from Guernsey's west coast.

In so doing, we're taking advantage of an occasional visit by Richard to the island's only house – and to

Steve. Richard has been living in France for the last six years, where he runs a complex of gites with his wife Emma.

Comfortably ensconced in the book-lined lounge, Richard takes us all back to the impromptu trip that started it all.

'Dave Le Feuvre and I kayaked across with a bottle of whisky and camped just outside the house,' he says.

'We were both at the Youth Service and had an education and youth background.'

He tells of the dawning previously described and concludes that it was 'a light bulb moment'.

He and Dave knew, through the Guernsey grapevine, the 'well-

known secret' that the bidding process was about to begin for the 21-year lease of the house, its grounds and a three-metre zone outside of the property's walls.

'There were two or three private individuals who wanted to turn this place into a private dwelling,' says Richard.

'The States [Guernsey's government] were conducting the tendering and they were driving prospective tenants across the causeway in Land Rovers to show them the island. It was appalling because an island like this needs to be for the people of Guernsey.'

Richard, Dave and some like-minded islanders soon formed the Lihou Island Charitable Trust and by the time Guernsey's parliament came to debate the future of the house in December 2005, it had come down to a choice between leasing it to a private family – known as 'tenant A' at the time – or to that trust.

Leading the charge for the more lucrative private option was then Treasury & Resources minister Lyndon Trott, who pointed out that since buying the house for

£430,000 in 1995, it had brought in a mere £8,000 against an original estimate of £50,000. The £16,250 per year offered privately was therefore the right thing for the hard-pressed Guernsey taxpayer.

Deputy Martin Ozanne had other ideas and laid an amendment that would offer a nominal rent but would retain the house as a self-sustaining asset for islanders, especially for the young – a rare wilderness in an otherwise crowded community.

Richard says the to-and-fro of the lengthy and at times embittered debate was like a movie, with everything in the balance as it was carried over from the Thursday into the Friday. But in the end, it swung the way of the trust by 24 votes to 11.

Predictions in local media that the anticipated 1,500 bed nights per year would not materialise and that the trust would eventually require a bailout were wide of the mark. Thanks to a team of volunteers, the house has been a success. There has been no cap-in-hand moment and 1,800 bed nights per year have followed.

At the end of 2026, the original lease will be due for renewal, but Richard says there is an element of formality about this. There is a right to renew, he explains, as long as the trust fulfils the conditions on the original lease, which he clearly feels it has done in spades.

The trust has paid its peppercorn rent during these last 20 years but the two wardens have paid their own price in proverbial blood, sweat and tears.

At the time of our visit, there are still holes in the roofs of the house and outbuildings from Storm Goretti and while our time is strictly limited by the tide, Steve is destined to remain in the house for the whole week, patching up as well as he can until proper repairs are possible.

'I didn't expect to have Covid and two storms to deal with,' he says, more in amazement than dejection.

'That was not in the job description. Covid in particular was terrible. If it hadn't been for the support of the States and other charities, that would've killed us. The last storm [Ciaran] was devastating because



'I LOVE ALL THE DIFFERENT SEASONS – THIS TIME OF THE YEAR IS BRILLIANT FOR FISHING AND ENJOYING THE PEACE AND QUIET.'

ABOVE L-R: LIHOU'S 38 ACRES ARE PART OF A RAMSAR WETLAND SITE; STEVE AND RICHARD AGREE THAT THE JOB IS BOTH CHALLENGING AND ENORMOUSLY GRATIFYING; RICHARD (LEFT) AND FELLOW LIHOU CHARITABLE TRUST STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS DAVE LE FEUVRE AND DENISE FAWCETT CELEBRATE AFTER THE STATES GRANTED A 21-YEAR LEASE ON THE ISLAND IN DECEMBER 2005.



RIGHT TOP - BOTTOM: STEVE WAS APPOINTED LIHOU WARDEN IN 2019; STEVE REPAIRS SOME OF THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY STORM CIARAN IN 2023; TAKING A BREAK FROM REPAIRS AFTER STORM CIARAN. ALL IMAGES ©GUERNSEY PRESS.



the window was gone and I had no idea what I was doing. This time round, I'm feeling a lot more confident because I've got the contacts and I know what to do.' Richard isn't having any of this 'no idea' narrative and quickly affirms that when choosing his successor – out of 16 applicants – seven years ago, 'I really wanted Steve because of his practical knowledge and the support of his family.' 'I think he's better than he thinks he is,' he says. 'No disrespect to caretakers but it's much more than being a caretaker of Lihou. You have to be a water engineer, an electrician, a teacher and there's safeguarding, repair work, preventative maintenance and so on.' Steve hopes to open up the house to visitors by the time the school bookings begin in the spring, but this is weather dependent. There was certainly no roof work possible on the day of our visit. 'It's a bit sad really,' says Richard, who points out that if you were building a house there now, you'd build something 'low-slung, turf-roofed and built into the hillside.'

Instead, there it sits, with its slate roof exposed to the enthusiastic elements. Steve's challenges are many but he seems to approach them with alacrity. And when I ask if there are some days when he feels like he has the best job in the world, he emits an 'absolutely' before I can finish the question. 'Working with the schools is fantastic,' he says. 'Come April, we get really busy with school groups, so we'll be doing lots of walks and talks around the island – looking at the flora and fauna – and we'll be doing some rock-pooling and we'll go and look at the stars. And then there's the more adventurous stuff like archery, team games and swimming. But I love all the different seasons – this time of the year is brilliant for fishing and enjoying the peace and quiet.' Steve takes particular pride in having facilitated a visit last year by a student who uses a wheelchair. This required some accompanying carers but it meant that the magic of an overnight stay on an island cut off from 'mainland' Guernsey

had become feasible for someone who may previously have thought it was out of reach. When I ask if there have been any 'hairy moments', he quickly reels off some of the assistance he's had to provide to people trying to wade back to Guernsey through the onrushing tide, after leaving it late. The island is only accessible at a low spring tide, which means that the water is always rising quickly as the closing time approaches – and Guernsey's 10-metre tidal range can easily surprise the unfamiliar visitor. Richard chimes in with his own memorable moment of jeopardy. 'There was one time when 101 Squadron, Royal Engineers came over to clear the island of unexploded ordnance and they magically found exactly 101 pieces,' he recalls. 'They gridded off the whole island with barrier tape and then searched each grid with ground-penetrating radar. It was a big operation – it took two weeks. The squadron didn't have time to blow up everything they'd found, so they left about 10 tank shells

buried behind the house and I was the only person other than them – for security reasons – who knew where they were.' Understandably nervous, he contacted Guernsey's Environment Department, who sent someone over in a boat with a bomb disposal expert. 'He said to me "have you got any electric cable? I've forgotten the detonation wires". Well, I only had 50 metres, so there we were, lying face down on the grass as it went off. I was in the Royal Artillery, so I'm used to big bangs but my body literally left the ground. My kids were in the house and heard bits hitting the roof.' We all agree Richard has won the 'hairy moment' contest. Sophie and I are grateful to Emma for chivvying us out of there when we were all for continuing our chat. With such a low-pressure system over us, we knew the water would be higher than advertised and the causeway inundated that bit earlier. So it was straight back on with the wellies and out into the teeth of a rain-encumbered easterly.

As we made our way up the slipway to the car park, Richard shared a few parting thoughts. 'Steve has had it really hard over these last two years – harder than I ever had it. And there he is, alone there tonight. It's really a lot to deal with. It's absolutely fantastic that the community gets behind events like the duck race [at Easter] and the mulled wine and mince pie day [between Christmas and New Year], and they come in such large numbers to help out after a storm like Goretti. But what's really important is that the trust doesn't just need that help, it needs continued help. The boring support, if you like. We need to bolster our numbers with people willing to do the day-to-day work, people who come over perhaps twice a month and get to know where the paintbrushes are.'

The Lihou causeway is open for a limited time on each of the following days in 2026: 30 March-7 April, 14-22 April, 28 April-6 May, 13-21 May, 29 May- 4 June, 12-20 June. Visit lihouisland.org.gg for specific times.

HOLIDAY SEASON ON THE HORIZON

By Amanda Eulenkamp

INTRODUCING THE WRITERS



Philip Saunders



Ian Child



Rupert Diggins

JUST ONE FOR THE ROAD

Spring is definitely in the air, which usually means that holidaymakers are gearing up for the all-important main UK holiday season.

But where to go? Paris is proving popular again (I have two trips booked in May, which might be a tad greedy, but I'm hooked) and the additional rotation will certainly help those looking for an extended minibreak or to head off further afield.

Or closer to home? With Edinburgh flights throughout the summer, the Scottish capital is tantalisingly close. Whether you pick a city break (thanks to new writer Ian Child for his contribution) or look to explore the beautiful Scottish Highlands, with their myriad lochs and waterfalls, villages and towns, we have some top tips of where to go.

Southampton is also on our doorstep, and there is plenty to do in the area. I love the New Forest but am equally as happy shopping in the city! I think the versatility of what there is to do is a key reason to hop over.

Gardener Chris Ellwood Jesson highlights some beautiful gardens to visit that are close to airports on Aurigny's network. Visit in spring and summer to catch the best blooms.

Travel blogger Rupert Diggins shares a tantalising road trip through Bulgaria, including beaches and purpose-built resorts through to older towns, sightseeing, and even golf courses. Lots to digest from his excellent article.

And we're joined in this issue by travel vlogger – and Aurigny's Chief Commercial Officer, Philip Saunders – who shares the pivotal moment that saw him start his own YouTube channel journey. This could be the first of a regular series (yes, Philip, I read your note in the article!).

Whether you're travelling for business or pleasure, looking for a destination for your next blog/vlog, I hope you enjoy our selection of destinations.



NESSEBAR, BULGARIA ©ISTOCKPHOTO

BULGARIA:

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE



NESSEBAR, BULGARIA ©ISTOCKPHOTO



THE CATHEDRAL OF ASSUMPTION, VARNA.
IMAGE ©GETTYIMAGES

TRAVEL BLOGGER RUPERT DIGGINS RETRACES A ROAD TRIP

For many, Bulgaria still equates to budget breaks in Sunny Beach, British stag parties and outdated tales of organised crime. One lively resort in July and August seems to define the entire country. It is rather like judging Spain purely on Benidorm in high season, and to be fair, I have a bit of a soft spot for Benidorm!

The Bulgarian Lev has historically stretched far, although from this year the Euro has been adopted. Yes, there are bargain hotels and generous measures of beer and rakia, but step beyond the most commercial strips and you will find Blue Flag beaches, peaceful bays, family-friendly resorts and genuine hospitality.

Being more affordable than its Mediterranean rivals makes it ideal for families and couples watching the purse strings. Safe bathing, wide sandy beaches, watersports and warm seas draw visitors back year after year. Quieter resorts cater for young families, while larger centres offer nightlife for those who want it.

Bulgaria is not 'one size fits all'. It is a patchwork of experiences. I wanted to retrace a road trip I

took along the country's Black Sea Coast, travelling from the quieter north to the lively south and discovering just how varied this often misunderstood destination can be.

POTHOLES AND DREAMS

I flew from the UK into Varna on the northern coast of the country. I knew little of this part of Bulgaria, aside from the fact that a friend had fulfilled his dream to buy abroad and had purchased an apartment in Varna. He always insisted this region was quieter, with smaller, safer resorts and even world-class golf. That alone challenged the stereotypes.

My driver was Maria, a warm, fresh-faced, witty Bulgarian lady whose pride in her country was infectious. We bumped along in a dented, sand-filled car with questionable suspension and no air conditioning, dodging potholes in searing heat. It was chaotic, uncomfortable, and utterly brilliant. For me, a part of any travel experience has always included some slightly hair-raising adventures.

VARNA

Often seen purely as a gateway, Varna is Bulgaria's third-largest city

and far more than an airport hub. It serves the northern resorts of Albena, St Konstantin and Golden Sands and the golf developments around Cape Kaliakra.

Varna itself offers history, museums, galleries and a lively promenade. This is one of those cities where you need to wander and explore. The more you do, the more you will discover and enjoy. I loved the Cathedral of the Assumption, the colourful houses with wrought-iron balconies and the bustling flower market.

ALBENA

Just 30km north of Varna lies Albena, a purpose-built resort set on one of the best beaches along the coast. Wide sands, open spaces and a relaxed atmosphere make it ideal for families.

Maria insisted the north was where Bulgarians came to breathe and she was not wrong. There were children playing safely in parks, a horse-drawn carriage ambling past and an elderly gentleman selling fresh orange juice from a tent shaped like the fruit itself. Albena felt clean, calm and uncomplicated. The kind of place where you rarely stray far from the beach because you simply do not need to.



L-R: BLACK SEA COAST, MUD HEALING TREATMENTS
OPPOSITE PAGE CLOCKWISE L-R: THRACIAN CLIFFS GOLF COURSE,
NESSEBAR OLD TOWN, SOZOPOL SEAFOOD. ALL IMAGES ©GETTYIMAGES

GOLDEN SANDS

Heading south, I reached Golden Sands, the principal northern resort. Backed by wooded hills and fronted by a long Blue Flag beach, it blends family attractions, with a lively nightlife.

By day the beach bars are perfect for a sundowner at exceptionally low prices. By night neon lights flicker, karaoke echoes and the choice of restaurants seems endless. Golden Sands is commercial and unapologetic about it, but it delivers exactly what many visitors want, sun, sand and entertainment at a reasonable cost.

A short drive away, the Botanical Gardens at Balchik offer something altogether gentler, with rare plants and sea views that feel a world away from the party scene.

ST KONSTANTIN AND ELENA

Only seven km south of Golden Sands, St Konstantin and Elena feels like a world away. Small, leafy and known for its mineral springs, it attracts those seeking complete relaxation, rather than raucous nights.

Cypresses, fig trees and lilies fill the parkland around the beach. A handful of shops and tavernas provide just enough life for a peaceful enjoyable stay. These resorts are close to Varna yet far from the noise.

CAPE KALIAKRA AND COASTAL GOLF

When I mentioned that some British golfers scoff at the idea of Bulgaria, Maria raised an eyebrow. 'Let them laugh,' she said, 'We will keep the views for ourselves.'

Around Cape Kaliakra sit three impressive courses: Lighthouse, Black Sea Rama and the jewel in the crown, Thracian Cliffs. Each offers its own challenge, but Thracian Cliffs is truly world class. Playing there feels like teeing off from the white cliffs of Dover, only with the Black Sea stretching endlessly below. The design is dramatic, the views extraordinary, and the sheer exhilaration of taking a shot from the cliff edge, unforgettable.

OBZOR, ELENITE AND SVETI VLAS

An hour south brings you to Obzor, where north meets south. Its 10km sandy beach is the headline act, divided into livelier central sections and quieter stretches towards the south.

Obzor feels part of a real community, surrounded by small villages and dotted with local bistros and market stalls. It is peaceful without being isolated, ideal for families who want space and simplicity.

Elenite sits in a quiet bay with a broad sandy beach and villas nestled among green hills. This

popular choice offers a relaxed base within easy reach of brighter lights if you fancy a night on the tiles!

A few kilometres away, Sveti Vlas is known for its marina. Yachts bob gently while diners enjoy seafood with mountain views behind them.

SUNNY BEACH

And so to Sunny Beach. The name alone conjures images, and many of them are accurate.

By day the long, soft sandy beach is undeniably beautiful. Families build sandcastles, sun seekers bronze themselves and beach bars mix stylish cocktails as the sun sets below the horizon. At that golden hour, with music drifting across the sand, I genuinely loved it.

By night the volume rises. Themed bars compete for attention, fairground rides whirl and neon signs glow. For teenagers and 20-somethings it can be the time of their lives. For families it offers attractions and amenities galore.

Sunny Beach delivers exactly what it promises, heat, hedonism and high energy holidays at affordable prices. It is not the whole of Bulgaria, but it is undeniably part of the picture.

Excursions range from jeep safaris to boat trips on the Black Sea. One of the most popular evenings is at Khan's Tent, combining food, folklore and entertainment.

NESSEBAR OLD TOWN

Just beyond Sunny Beach lies Nessebar Old Town. A UNESCO protected peninsula, it is a maze of cobbled streets, wooden revival houses and ancient ruins.

The old windmill at the entrance and the remains of the Church of St Sophia frame a town that feels timeless. During the day it buzzes with visitors browsing craft stalls and sipping coffee in shaded squares. Early morning and late evening, the town is at its best when the crowds have gone and you can enjoy a peaceful drink.

From the harbour you can sail off into the Black Sea for sunset tours. On one such trip I was lucky enough to spot wild dolphins. Nessebar is a place I would revisit in a heartbeat.

POMORIE

Pomorie offers something different again. Known for its healing mud and salt lake treatments, it attracts those seeking wellness as well as sunshine. This was somewhere that Maria regularly visited. It was then I realised why her complexion was so fresh. Add a Blue Flag beach and a clutch of museums and you have a resort that blends health and holidays.

SOZOPOL

If pressed for a favourite, I would say Sozopol. Set around a graceful horseshoe bay, it combines a calm beach with a charming old town perched on a rocky peninsula.

Consider staying at the wonderful Selena Hotel, which sits at the end of the bay. From here you can wander into town along a promenade, lined with relaxed restaurants overlooking the sea. Behind it, a small market sells fruit and vegetables in the late afternoon glow. In the old quarter, wooden houses lean over cobbled lanes while terraces serve fresh fish with views across the bay.

The seafood available in Sozopol was excellent. Check out the wonderful Restaurant Del Muro in town for octopus, grilled fish, shrimp, pasta with local or international wines. Meals are often paired with Shopska salad, a simple mix of tomatoes, cucumber, peppers, onion and white cheese reflecting the colours of the Bulgarian flag.

Sozopol is not a party town. It suits couples and those, like me, content to mooch.

DUNI

Seven kilometres from Sozopol sits Duni, a purpose-built resort focused squarely on families. With a magnificent three-km Blue Flag beach and a range of four and five star hotels, it offers activities for all ages within a contained, safe environment. Everything you need is on site, yet the history and charm of Sozopol are only a short drive away. For a family beach holiday where the kids will be entertained, it is hard to fault.

BULGARIA – GIVE IT A TRY

On my final day, as we drove towards Burgas Airport with the Black Sea beside us, Maria asked, 'So, was Bulgaria what you expected?' It was not. It was more layered, more surprising and far harder to define.

Yes, there are party strips and bargain beers. But there are also peaceful bays, world-class golf, historic towns, healing mud baths and sunsets over the Black Sea.

Most of all, there are people proud of their country and eager to share it, asking only that visitors treat it with respect.

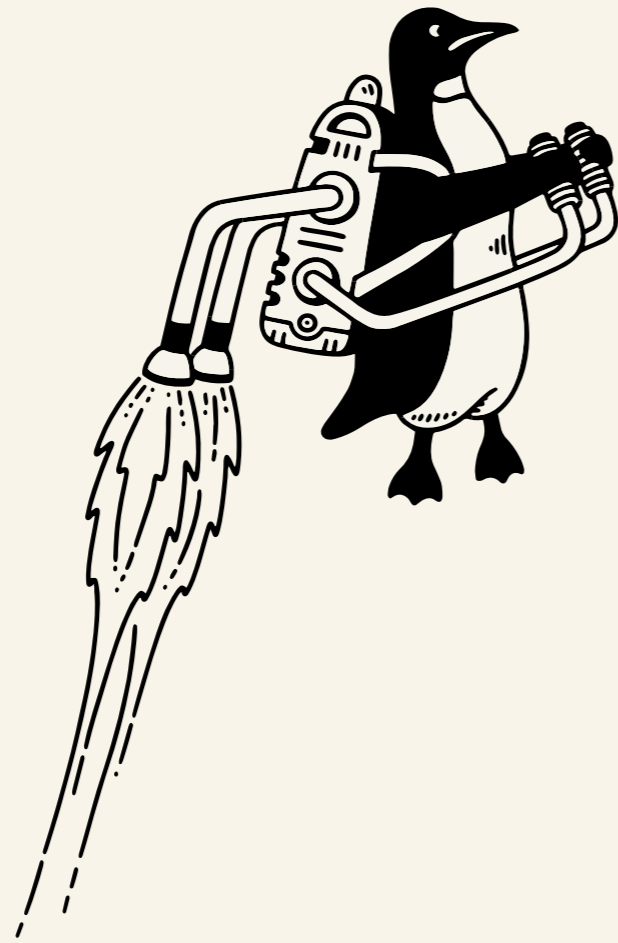
If you choose your resort carefully, Bulgaria can reward you richly. It is not defined solely by Sunny Beach, nor by outdated stereotypes. Hundreds of thousands of UK tourists return each year for good reason.

Their view, much like mine, is a Black Sea view.

Rupert Diggins is an award-winning UK travel writer, blogger, and the founder of justonefortheroad.com

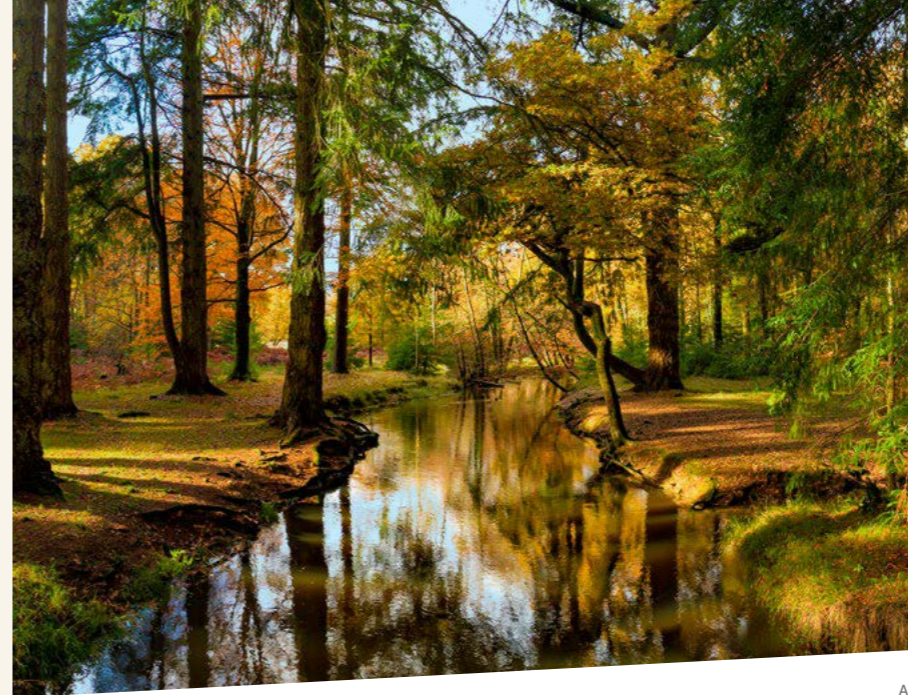
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LEFT: NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK.
ABOVE: WEST QUAY SHOPPING CENTRE. ©ISTOCKPHOTO

JUST A HOP, SKIP, AND A JUMP AWAY: SOUTHAMPTON & BEYOND

DOOR TO DOOR, SOUTHAMPTON IS GEOGRAPHICALLY THE CLOSEST AIRPORT TO GUERNSEY – AND WITH A SUPERB ROAD NETWORK AND TRAIN STATION WITHIN MINUTES AWAY, MAKES A GREAT STARTING POINT TO A TRIP IN THE SOUTH.

One of the (many) beauties of a trip to Southampton is the plethora of things to do on the airport's doorstep.

For anyone unfamiliar with the airport, car hire is easily available, with the motorway system literally at the end of the airport turn-off. Southampton Parkway train station is around 99 steps from the airport, and it's a short hop to Southampton Central, ideal for shopping (**Westquay Shopping Centre** is a great starting point, where you can pick up everything from high-end brands to high-street basics) dining and maybe taking in a show at the **Mayflower Theatre**? Check out mayflower.org.uk/whats-on/ for further information.

Close-by places such as the **New Forest**, **Winchester**, and **Salisbury** are just itching to be explored.

The New Forest is less than 20 miles from Southampton airport, and includes the New Forest National Park, which in turn includes the largest area of lowland heath in southern England, a rare habitat that once covered this part

of the country. The New Forest is not a natural landscape though. It has been shaped over hundreds of years by people, by history and by the animals that still graze it today. The area has a unique historic, cultural and archaeological heritage from royal hunting ground to shipbuilding, salt-making and 500 years of military coastal defence.

Make time to visit **Buckler's Hard**, which was once a bustling shipbuilding village where ships for Nelson's navy were built. **Beaulieu** is in the heart of the National Park, and a day out includes the National Motor Museum, Palace House, and Beaulieu Abbey. *Plan your day at beaulieu.co.uk.*

Salisbury is a city steeped in history. Climb to the top of **Old Sarum** and soak up breath-taking countryside views from this ancient ruin, or head to the 800-year-old **Salisbury Cathedral**, which boasts the tallest spire in Britain. **Winchester Cathedral** claims Europe's longest nave (and is also the resting place of Jane Austen), while the **Great Hall** is one of the finest surviving aisled halls of the 13th century, and

contains the greatest symbol of medieval mythology, King Arthur's Round Table, and is all that remains of Winchester Castle.

There are also direct trains to London (Waterloo, ideal for visiting the **London Eye**, **Southbank Centre**, and **SEA LIFE London Aquarium**) and **Oxford** from Southampton, meaning even more culture to fill your days. Discover the 'City of Dreaming Spires' with its stunning architecture, universities, museums, the oldest botanical garden in the UK, and of course punting on the River Cherwell.

BEYOND SOUTHAMPTON

Southampton airport is at the heart of a network that includes Alicante, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Faro, Geneva, and Newcastle, so is a great hub for travelling further.

The city is also the UK's premier cruise hub, operating from five dedicated terminals with major lines such as P&O Cruises, Cunard, Royal Caribbean, and Princess Cruises, offering itineraries to the Norwegian fjords, the Mediterranean and the Canary Islands.



ABOVE: RHS ROSEMOOR, DEVON; DAVID AUSTIN ROSES, ALBRIGHTON. RIGHT: RHS WISLEY ©ISTOCKPHOTO.



ABOVE: CHRIS ELLWOOD JESSON AT PARC ANDRÉ CITROËN IN PARIS. RIGHT: LA SEIGNEURIE GARDENS, SARK; RHS WISLEY.



INSPIRING GARDENS

WHEN NOT GETTING HIS HANDS IN THE SOIL OR CURATING PLANTS, 'GROOVY GARDENER' CHRIS ELLWOOD JESSON ENJOYS TRAVELLING IN THE SELF-GUIDED PURSUIT OF BEAUTIFUL GARDENS. HERE ARE SOME OF HIS FAVOURITES, CLOSE TO AIRPORTS ON AURIGNY'S NETWORK.

FLY TO: BIRMINGHAM

David Austin Plant Centre and Rose Gardens, Albrighton

A rose lover's paradise in rural Shropshire, there are six themed gardens that are free to enter. They contain the modern rose breeder's exquisite collection of shrub, climbing and rambling roses, among historic and species cultivars. A dreamy escape, plus an excellent restaurant, gift shop and plant sales area. You can book advice and tutorials from the knowledgeable team.

FLY TO: BRISTOL

Hestercombe Gardens, Somerset

Gertrude Jekyll and Edwin Lutyens' collaborative masterpiece (just outside Taunton), represents the continual evolution of garden design. Frothy erigeron (St Peter Port daisy) lines the steps, but the formal planting, use of water rills, pergola planting, Dutch Garden and adjacent landscape garden mean you will be spellbound here for hours. I caught the site last autumn before closing and it felt like I had the place to myself.

Caisson Gardens, Somerset

I fell in love with the distinct romance of this setting, with the incorporation of rescued canal architecture into its design and position on the edge of the Mendip Hills near Bath. An exquisitely beautiful house and quaint rural entrance count in its favour, plus there is a very natural feel to the way the planting coexists with the landscape. Open certain times of the year; check before travelling.

FLY TO: DUBLIN

Hunting Brook Gardens, June Blake's Garden and Patthana Garden

Three horticultural jewels in the crown of County Wicklow. I was blown away by all three for different reasons; but all represented significant garden artistry and a plant collector's mecca for me, reflective of their respective creators. I want to be suitably vague on these so that you actually invest your time in going!

FLY TO: EDINBURGH

Royal Edinburgh Botanic Garden

Great at any time of the year, the

Botanic Garden is home to one of the most diverse plant collections in the world. Around a 25-minute walk from Waverley Station (enjoying the Georgian architecture of the city) or accessible by bus, I last visited in early 2025 when the bulbs were emerging and the framework of the garden still showed such variety. Worth the wait for the restoration of the Palm Houses. Combine the garden with a Scottish city break.

FLY TO: EXETER

RHS Rosemoor, Devon

My favourite RHS garden, first discovered on a trip from Guernsey last year. The cool garden and recently expanded Winter garden, both designed by Jo Thompson, are particular draws, but I also found great emotional attachment in the rock garden, meadows, orchards, and rose garden. The site is vast and shows off the lush, verdant climate and landscape of Devon to its heart's content. I visited last summer at what felt like the peak of planting prowess but I can imagine there is a creative exercise here for every time of the year.

FLY TO: MANCHESTER

RHS Bridgewater, Salford

My favourite section of the RHS's most recent garden is the Paradise Garden. As part of a wider masterplan designed by Tom Stuart-Smith, there is a beautiful synergy of modern planting from across the globe within the heritage framework of the old site of a former stately home. The Chinese streamside garden has matured significantly since I last visited upon the site first opening, so I am due a visit as I have been very impressed by the television coverage.

FLY TO: SOUTHAMPTON

Mottisfont, Hampshire

Managed by the National Trust, Mottisfont is home to the national collection of pre-1900 shrub roses. I particularly recommend visiting on a warm evening in June when the blissful aroma gets trapped in the various planted and walled enclosures. You will not want to leave when they are at their prime!

FLY TO: LEEDS BRADFORD

RHS Harlow Carr, Harrogate

Another personal favourite with its excellent Alpine house and kitchen garden – and the way in which the garden integrates into the Yorkshire Dales landscape is palpable. Plus, there is a lovely stroll into the spa town of Harrogate (the original home of Betty's Tea

Rooms) through Valley Gardens, a 17-acre English Heritage Grade II listed park, themed gardens, floral displays and historic buildings.

FLY TO: LONDON GATWICK

RHS Wisley, Surrey

The original home of the RHS. Particular highlights for me are the Piet Oudolf borders and the world food garden designed by Ann-Marie Powell. The picture is from the trials garden which is always a fascinating site, in this case showing particular Dahlias on exhibit for their assessment of how capable they are for the market.

FLY TO: LONDON CITY

RHS Hyde Hall, Essex and Helmingham Hall, Suffolk

A good test of drought-tolerant dry borders in particular in the east of England, and home to the Floral Fantasia garden showcasing the latest varieties of seasonal planting, which in the year I went, brightened us all with the clout of the sunflower!

I would combine Hyde Hall with a tour within East Anglia. Helmingham Hall is surrounded by a medieval moat and boasts exquisite gardens.

FLY TO: PARIS

Château de Versailles and Parc André Citroën

The extensive formal gardens at Versailles are vast as befits the

opulence of the Château itself, with an orangery, fountains, miniature châteaux and villages. Allow at least two hours to visit.

The Parc André Citroën is a 14 hectare public park on the left bank of the Seine, and showcases modern garden design ingenuity in the early 1990s on the site of a former car factory – it still sets standards today.

FLY TO: GUERNSEY

Sausmarez Manor, Guernsey and La Seigneurie Gardens, Sark

Both of our RHS Partner gardens offer different visitor experiences; the latter benefits from an exquisite walled garden and dovecote. I always feel completely astounded that such a small island can have such a horticultural asset. The 'Queen Anne' frontage of Sausmarez Manor hosts regular specialist plant fairs held by Plant Heritage Guernsey.

FLY TO: ALDERNEY

Bloomin' Alderney Gardens Festival 7 – 14 June

Alderney boasts over 30 open gardens in this annual event; more poignant this year as the island is a finalist in the RHS Britain in Bloom Awards, having pulled out all the stops with its community efforts.

Chris can be followed at [@groovygardenerchris](https://www.instagram.com/groovygardenerchris).



ABOVE: CLEMATIS QUEENS NURSE.
RIGHT: HRH THE KING WITH RAYMOND EVISON AT THE 2023 RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW.



NEW CLEMATIS DEBUTING AT RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

AWARD-WINNING HORTICULTURIST RAYMOND EVISON – THE FOUNDER OF RAYMOND EVISON CLEMATIS – HAS CULTIVATED A NEW CLEMATIS FOR THE ISLAND'S QUEEN'S NURSES, WHO SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED THE NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME IN GUERNSEY.

There are some 20 Queen's Nurses in Guernsey, who about seven years ago were seeking ways to raise awareness of their charity, which provides training schemes and support to nurses, while ensuring excellent, high-quality healthcare.

'To be awarded with the title Queen's Nurse is an honour,' said Alison Carney, one of Guernsey's Queen's Nurses.

'It doesn't mean I have letters after my name or anything, but in my professional role I'm allowed to cite the fact. It's validation and acknowledgement of what you do, and a public demonstration of how proud I am of the work that I do.

It offers lots of professional support, networking and training support as well. We have lovely badges that we wear on special occasions. I wear mine on my uniform every day.'

The UK Queen's Nursing Institute is the oldest nursing organisation in the UK, founded during Queen

Victoria's reign. It relies on the National Garden Scheme for about half of its annual income. After realising this, Mr Evison – a long-time fan of the open garden scheme – told the local Queen's Nurses that if they could introduce the scheme to the Channel Islands, he would love to breed a special plant in their honour.

'It was sort of a playful challenge,' said Miss Carney.

'But we all got our heads together.'

Now, visitors have been welcomed to explore the private gardens of islanders since June 2022, thanks to the efforts of the local Queen's Nurses NGS committee.

As promised, Clematis Queens Nurse™ EviGsy159 – a deep rosy pink flower with prominent primrose anthers – is budding, ready to bloom in April, and flourish at its debut at this year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show (19 - 23 May).

'It has been named Queens Nurse to acknowledge the wonderful

care that the Queen's Nurses give in the community in the UK, but especially in Guernsey where their work goes almost unnoticed,' said Mr Evison.

'And to also thank the Guernsey Queen's Nurses for their amazing fundraising efforts in opening gardens in the Bailiwick of Guernsey for the National Gardens Scheme which raises money for numerous charities.'

The local Queen's Nurses who are responsible for planting the seeds of the NGS in Guernsey, have been invited to see their pink plant of pride in all its glory at the Chelsea Flower Show in May.

'It feels absolutely amazing to have our own clematis,' said Miss Carney.

'It's so joyful, and such a brilliant, high-profile platform for us. People will ask about the plant's name, and then maybe look-up and find out more about the charity. It's so generous of Ray, we're all delighted.'



ABOVE: BLAIR CASTLE.
LEFT: GLEN NEVIS, SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS ©ISTOCKPHOTO

THE HEART OF THE HIGHLANDS

WITH AURIGNY FLYING REGULARLY TO EDINBURGH, THE LURE OF THE SCOTTISH LAKES AND MOUNTAINS AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THIS MOST BEAUTIFUL PART OF THE COUNTRY IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

Whether you hire a car or take the train, the Scottish Highlands are within a couple of hours of Edinburgh.

The closest lochs (around a couple of hours away) are located in the **Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park**. Visit **Loch Katrine**, home of steamship **Sir Walter Scott**, and enjoy the loch from the water. Steamships have cruised the loch for more than 180 years. See lochkatrine.com for timetables, as well as places to stay and things to do.

A popular stop to and from the Highlands is the small town of **Callander** from where there are numerous walks that suit all abilities. The website visitcallander.uk/walking-highlights-walks, including a 1.25 mile wheelchair accessible circuit by the river Teith.

Pitlochry is known as the gateway to the Highlands, and is home to **Pitlochry Dam and Fish Ladder**. An extremely popular place to visit, there is an excellent circular short walk from the town centre. Annually, 5,000+ salmon pass through the fish ladder each year to spawn.

Blair Castle is worth a visit; surrounded by hills and peaceful countryside, the castle has some of Scotland's finest views. It has been home to the Atholl family for more than 700 years. *More information at atholl-estates.co.uk/blair-castle/* Around three to four hours from Edinburgh, **Inverness** is considered to be the main city and capital of the Scottish Highlands. Visit the iconic **Culloden Battlefield**, the site of the final Jacobite Rising, or wander through the Victorian Market for independent shops.

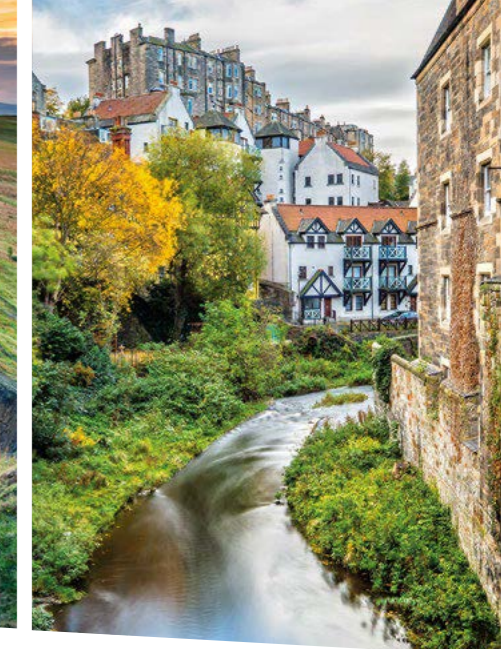
Nearby, iconic **Loch Ness** is the place of legend. Don't miss **The Loch Ness Centre** where you can take a one-hour tour, which offers an immersive experience, allowing you to become part of the legend and unearth the real stories about Loch Ness. Then take a cruise on the 'Deepscan' vessel, named after the famous expedition on Loch Ness in 1987. Taking just 12 guest, you can search the depths of the loch with on-board sonar equipment. Check out lochness.com for further information.

From the boat, you'll also see the breath-taking beauty of **Urquhart**

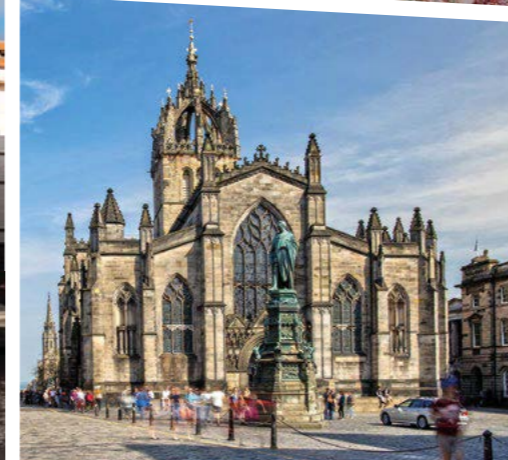
Castle. Once one of Scotland's largest castles, Urquhart has experienced much conflict during its 500 years as a medieval fortress. To check opening hours and to book tickets to explore the ruins, see historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/urquhart-castle/

Around 16 miles south of **Fort William** is the dramatic, steep-sided volcanic valley of **Glencoe**. Famous for the 1692 Massacre of Glencoe, there is extensive hiking, mountaineering and sightseeing available. Base yourself in Glencoe Village, located between the banks of Loch Leven and the mouth of the glen. James Bond fans will recognise it as a location for filming *Skyfall*.

Fort William is in the western Scottish Highlands, on the shores of **Loch Linnhe**. It's known as a gateway to **Ben Nevis**, the UK's highest peak, and **Glen Nevis**, home to **Steall Falls**. More film buff info: the 120m-high waterfall famously featured in *Harry Potter* and the *Goblet of Fire* as the backdrop for Harry's dragon fight in the *Triwizard Tournament*.



48 HOURS IN EDINBURGH



IMAGES CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ST JAMES QUARTER; VICTORIA STREET; SALISBURY CRAGS, HOLYROOD PARK; DEAN VILLAGE; ST GILES' CATHEDRAL; LEITH HARBOUR; EDINBURGH CASTLE. ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

FROM VOLCANIC PEAKS TO COBBLED CLOSES, IAN CHILD SHARES HOW TO SPEND 48 HOURS IN ONE OF EUROPE'S MOST ATMOSPHERIC CITIES.

Steeped in centuries of history, dramatic architecture and exceptional food, Edinburgh is perfectly suited to a short city break. Scotland's capital is compact and highly walkable, meaning visitors can experience panoramic viewpoints, medieval streets and excellent dining all within a couple of days.

DAY ONE

Start the day with a proper Scottish breakfast. Just five minutes from **Edinburgh Waverley Station**, the welcoming **Edinburgh Larder Cafe** serves a full works that includes black pudding, haggis, bacon, eggs and a traditional potato scone.

From there, head for **Arthur's Seat**, the extinct volcano that rises 251 metres above the city. The climb rewards walkers with sweeping views across Edinburgh and out to the **Firth of Forth**. Depending on your pace — and how often you stop for photos — the ascent takes between 45 minutes and two hours. Prefer something gentler? Wander around **St Margaret's Loch**, a tranquil pond overlooked by the ruins of **St Anthony's Chapel**.

Next, make your way to Edinburgh's most iconic landmark: **Edinburgh Castle**. Dramatically perched atop volcanic Castle Rock, the fortress has dominated the skyline since the 12th century and played a key role in Scotland's history.

Highlights inside the castle walls include the Great Hall, the Royal

Palace, St Margaret's Chapel and the National War Museum of Scotland. Visitors can also see the Honours of Scotland — the crown, sceptre and sword of state — alongside the legendary Stone of Destiny, used for centuries in royal coronations.

After a day of sightseeing, cross **North Bridge** to **St James Quarter**. The modern shopping district features more than 80 retailers and over 40 restaurants and bars — an ideal spot to relax over dinner.

DAY TWO

Begin day two at the award-winning **Lannan Bakery & Pantry**, widely known for some of the best pastries in Scotland. Expect a queue, but the flaky croissants and expertly crafted pastries are well worth the wait.

From here, stroll 15 minutes to picturesque **Dean Village**, a former milling settlement tucked along the **Water of Leith**. Its stone houses, arched bridges and riverside paths make it one of the city's most photogenic corners.

Next, return to **Edinburgh Old Town**, where narrow closes, hidden courtyards and centuries-old buildings create one of Europe's most evocative historic districts.

Start at the foot of **Cockburn Street**, a curving street famous for its distinctive Scots Baronial architecture. At the top, step inside Tron Kirk Market — a former church now home to an indoor arts and crafts market.

Literary fans should then stop by **The Elephant House** on George IV Bridge, where J. K. Rowling wrote parts of the Harry Potter series. Order a pot of tea and enjoy the magical memorabilia that now fills the café.

A short walk down colourful **Victoria Street** leads to **Grassmarket**, a historic square hosting a lively market every Saturday.

Finish your wanderings at **The Vennel Viewpoint**, where Edinburgh Castle rises dramatically above the rooftops — one of the city's best photo spots.

End your 48-hour visit with dinner at **Luckenbooths** on the historic Royal Mile, directly opposite the magnificent **St Giles' Cathedral**.

After two unforgettable days, chances are you'll already be planning a return.

WHERE TO STAY

High budget – The Edinburgh Grand or Apex Waterloo Place Hotel
Medium budget – Hub by Premier Inn Edinburgh City Centre or Britannia Edinburgh Hotel
Low budget – Argyle Backpackers or Haymarket Hostel

HOW TO GET THERE

From Edinburgh Airport, trams depart roughly every seven minutes and run directly into the city centre. Alternatively, buses including the Airlink 100, Lothian Buses Service 17 and Lothian Buses Service 18 connect the airport with destinations across the capital.

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VLOGGING MY WAY TO THE TOP!

PHILIP SAUNDERS' OTHER LIFE AS A TRAVEL VLOGGER



SIGHISOARA, ROMANIA. IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO



MELNIK'S VINEYARDS, BULGARIA. IMAGE ©PHILIP SAUNDERS

A nasty accident in Cyprus proved a turning point for Philip Saunders, now Aurigny's Chief Commercial Officer, as he decided to fulfil a long-standing ambition to create his own YouTube channel. This article tells the background story to his own channel 'Travel In The Know' and may perhaps inspire others to try their luck on the world's largest and most successful video entertainment platform.

On an otherwise glorious evening in February 2024, my perspective of the world changed in the flash of a second: through a sudden sense of unanticipated physical descent, total loss of control, and with searing pain taking dominion over my left leg.

As the sun set in shades of deep orange and red over the barren hills surrounding Larnaca, I had just fallen into one of Cyprus's notorious potholes and suffered a 'Jones Fracture', one of the worst breaks any foot can suffer.

For context, this public menace lay in plain sight in the middle of the pavement, where it surely had no right to be!

Nobody could accuse me of carelessness or, worse still, witlessness.

Except... this danger had escaped my attention as I had been simultaneously walking and editing a particularly stunning image on my iPhone from adventures around Cyprus. In truth, it was highly unlikely that anyone else would ever see it or pass judgement on my artistic merit.

Five months out of action with my leg in plaster was undoubtedly a high price to pay for poor foresight with such meagre return.

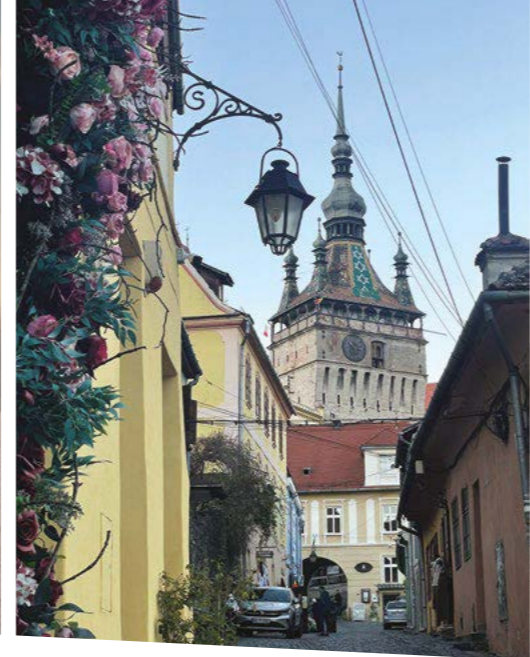
This extended period of immobility provided an unexpectedly pleasurable opportunity to complete my hitherto hopeless yet lifelong ambition of reading Tolstoy's 'War and Peace' from cover to cover – without skipping a page! – as well as review dozens of Oscar-nominated movies dating back to the 1930s, and for the first time in my life, 'binge watch' YouTube content covering the worlds of travel, transportation and eating-out, aspects of life that have always served as a personal call-to-action to explore and unearth new inspirations and experiences.

Over five months, I viewed some truly awful content on the very same mobile device that had led to my downfall, but also discovered many formats that were engaging, quirky and refreshingly original, compared to the marshalled perfection of some travel shows on UK broadcast media.

You too can discover these avid travellers, all with stories worth sharing ... the Scottish enthusiast Steve Marsh, 'Bald and Bankrupt', 'Wolters World', Eli From Russia and Eva zu Beck all bring radically varied perspectives on world travel, frequently to a very high standard.

If aviation's your thing (and after all you are sitting on an Aurigny aircraft!) you are sure to enjoy the contrasting styles in airline reviews provided by the smooth yet expert Sam Chui, and clickbait-grabbing, self-professed pro-consumer warrior, Josh Cahill.

My attention was immediately grabbed by 'Gary Eats', an at-the-time unknown English restaurant and food vlogger. His engaging, relaxing style radiates 'bonhomie', and to this day you can only watch in astonishment as his YouTube views and subscriber numbers keep growing at speed! Little could



ABOVE L-R: TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN; SIGHISOARA, ROMANIA. OPPOSITE L-R: (CLOCKWISE); WALKING THE LENGTH OF THE BELGIAN COAST; FOOD IN THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL COLOURS, KYIV; BUCHAREST TRIUMPHAL ARCH. ALL IMAGES ©PHILIP SAUNDERS

Gary know that within two years he would reach over 400,000 subscribers and publish an Amazon-listed best-selling book.

While shrewdly accepting that comparable success would likely elude me, a firm resolution took hold of my temporarily caged consciousness: as soon as walking without crutches became more than just a dream, I too would claim the title of YouTube's (at least momentarily) freshest travel talent!

At last, my iPhone photo and video final edits would reach a broader audience – perhaps even global, who could tell, no longer solely imprinted upon this traveller's memory banks.

In August 2024, my full range of movement restored, I set off intrepidly to Bucharest with a spiritual clapperboard constantly in mind as I set about producing my first YouTube vlog.

And my word, how well-equipped I felt for this new role: a true professional in the making! My Insta360 Ace Pro action camera and professional DJI-2 microphone at hand 24/7.

Unquestionably, there were a few teething concerns. It turned out that should the camera's inner workings seize up, then my Chinese technological wonder would have to be shipped to the People's Republic for servicing, with the end-result that a fresh

purchase would be 'de rigueur' to carry on vlogging.

While shooting so-called B Roll (that's background footage to provide cutaways adding context and enhancing storytelling) on a sultry day in Romania's capital, often known as the 'Paris of the East', one of my lithium batteries started to expand alarmingly and it took me over an hour to retract it successfully from the camera's hull!

Fortunately, these proved to be beginners' trials and most of my experience with hardware has been trouble-free ever since.

Completing the first vlog seemed a total triumph.... After all, I had experienced the new hipster-vibe of Bucharest's booming coffee shop scene, as well as a happy if bashful chat with the Romanian police after having been spotted ignoring local traffic rules while crossing the insanely busy roads leading to the city's very own Triumphal Arch.

My first-ever visit to Romania took place during the revolution of 1989 which resulted in the overthrow and execution of Nicolae Ceaușescu, one of Eastern Europe's most ghastly dictators. Consequently, the vlog's main feature incorporated a visit to the Ceaușescu clan's luxurious and well-appointed, if somewhat vulgar home in the leafy suburbs, now open to public scrutiny.

The impact caused by the rapid passage of time never fails to astonish: 35 years on and our 20 year-old guide assured the tour group that Ceaușescu had meant no harm to his people and has been widely misunderstood ever since. Her creative reimagining of history may double as a handy excuse for those responsible for his state visit to Britain in 1978, culminating in a knighthood, but it will never erase my memories of acute suffering and hardship, witnessed first-hand just as the Securitate secret police were poised to shoot down protesters during the regime's final hours.

Perhaps I would be granted the last laugh... every few minutes this young lady barked out a crystal-clear instruction; 'No filming! No photographs!' My makeshift solution was to hold my camera upside down by means of its extension stick, thereby escaping both the guide's line of sight and her intense scorn. And for the record, it's oh-so-easy to invert your image in post-production.

With hindsight, that first production seems too long (considering the modern era's short attention spans), lacked editorial finesse and proved somewhat too ambitious in scope. Yet 18 months later, 'Bucharest's Best Kept Secrets' remains my fourth most popular vlog and has racked up over 4,500 views. Not too shabby for a first effort!

Since then, I've travelled all over Europe and ventured a little into Asia in search of content. Themes covered so far include the war in Ukraine (imagine my wife's delight once she found out I was on the way to Kyiv), the Pope's funeral in Rome, haggling in Tashkent's extraordinarily bizarre bazaar and visiting a friend's beautiful restaurants in Kutaisi, a genuine foodie heaven in Georgia.

Having joined the leadership team at Aurigny six months ago, my time vlogging has been somewhat curtailed. Naturally, I'm focused on aviation, one of the other great passions in my life, and hopefully helping to deliver services that make a meaningful difference for the better in our passengers' lives.

However, whenever I can find a quiet moment, my camera will assuredly make an outing, and the channel will with luck continue to grow one step at a time.

As fortune would have it, my two passions even align perfectly sometimes.

On Thursday 12 February earlier this year, Aurigny's Dornier 228 NG turboprop aircraft took to the skies for the last time on the lifeline route between Guernsey and Alderney.

'Travel In The Know' was there recording all the emotional moments on the day.

Memories and thoughts recorded for posterity with John Morris,

Captain on the Day, and with Steve Parilla, the airline's legendary station manager in Alderney, may well provide a historic record of an important day in local history in years to come.

The fire brigade's water cannon salute and the final take-off may awaken treasured memories and even bring a sentimental tear to someone's eyes somewhere across the Channel Islands.

On reflection, all the hard work has more than paid off over the last eighteen months, and it's a true pleasure to share my world with well over 2,000 subscribers.

Certainly, it's a much better feeling than not being clear on where you are going, plunging foot-first into an open crater in the Republic of Cyprus while gawping at a photograph I may have loved, yet that could never hope to receive a broader audience.

—
You can follow Philip's adventures on 'Travel In The Know' over on YouTube.



'THE POTHOLE THAT CHANGED MY LIFE' (ABOVE) 'THE PHOTO I WAS EDITING WHILST FREE-FALLING INTO MY POTHOLE' (BELOW)





The Guernsey Tourism Partnership is dedicated to representing and promoting tourism related businesses in Guernsey.

We have created a network of members to share ideas and information to benefit all. Our goal is to establish tourism as one of the core industries in Guernsey and to promote its unique benefits to the public, both locally and abroad. Below are just some of our many partners.

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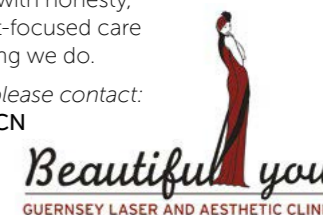
EXPANDING OUR SERVICES

We are delighted to announce the opening of our new clinic at Island House, Rohais, St Peter Port, marking an exciting new chapter in our growth. This expansion allows us to continue offering advanced aesthetic and surgical treatments in a modern, fully equipped setting.

At Guernsey Laser & Aesthetic Clinic, our mission remains simple: to deliver safe, natural-looking results with honesty, experience, and patient-focused care at the heart of everything we do.

For more information please contact:

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ABOVE L-R: FLYING BACK TO GUERNSEY; ISABELLA WITH HER FAMILY AT HER GRADUATION.



ABOVE: AERIAL VIEW OF ST PETER PORT. ©ISTOCKPHOTO

GRADUATE LIFE

WHY GUERNSEY MADE MORE SENSE THAN LONDON AFTER GRADUATION

► **NAME: ISABELLA THOMASON**

► **UNIVERSITY: UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX**

After three years in the UK, Guernsey graduate Isabella Thomason BA (Hons) stepped into the so-called 'real world', and shares all the highs and lows that come with it.

My time at university was filled with lots of exciting opportunities and memories that will last a lifetime. I met some incredible people along the way who have shaped who I am today.

The modules I studied were eye-opening and challenged me to think in new and creative ways, from exploring truth and deception to the role of AI systems in policing. Throughout my degree, I was led down lots of different paths, learning many invaluable skills and gaining confidence in my way of thinking. All my hard work paid off when I graduated with a First Class degree, from the University of Sussex in the summer of 2025, reflecting my dedication and enthusiasm towards my studies.

ESCAPING THE GRADUATE RAT RACE

Finishing university feels weirdly anticlimactic. One random Tuesday you hit the submit button on Turnitin, and just like that, years of hard work are over. No big moment, just a reality check.

All of a sudden, LinkedIn becomes your best friend; you're scrolling through jobs and desperately trying to connect with people who might help you to get that 'dream job'. But is there such a thing as a dream job? For some, it's the people, for others it's the pay cheque, the location, or just doing something they enjoy.

But according to research by Accor (launched alongside the E4 show *Fred's Last Resort*), 46% of people don't believe a dream job exists, and more than half think they won't ever end up in their ideal role or industry.

After finishing university, I moved back home to start my somewhat

unexpected career in finance, and while it may not stereotypically look like a Bachelor of Arts degree graduate's dream job, it gives me stability and the chance to work in a wonderful location, with good people supporting me in my future goals.

The saying 'good things happen when you least expect it' has been creeping its way into my life a lot lately. I've realised a good job doesn't need to tick every dream job box to be a good one.

The biggest misconception I had when finishing university was that I needed to stay in the UK, as it was where I would find dream career opportunities, and that this would be unattainable if I was to go back to Guernsey.

However, Guernsey offers the opportunity to enter a growing market with less competition and more potential for accelerated career growth that somewhere like London can't offer everyone.

AFTER FINISHING UNIVERSITY, I MOVED BACK HOME TO START MY JOB, IT GIVES ME STABILITY AND THE CHANCE TO WORK IN A WONDERFUL LOCATION, WITH GOOD PEOPLE SUPPORTING ME IN MY FUTURE GOALS.

Coming home to Guernsey has given me the opportunity to step away from the pressure of city life and immerse myself back into the community I grew up in, something that has become increasingly important to me as I have got older.

The 'me' of three years ago when I first started university to the 'me' of now are miles apart! Both academically and personally, my life took some unexpected turns, and I had to re-centre myself and find my motivation.

With its thriving financial services sector, Guernsey offers an ideal setting for my future both in the world of work and in my personal life. Since returning I have been able to prioritise purpose over pressure and reconnect with friends and family, who would've otherwise been a comforting yet distant thought in the fast-paced life of a city like London.

ARTEMIS FIDUCIARIES

Looking for a job in today's market, where jobs could be lost to AI at any moment, was a challenge. I had to consider sustainability, security and most importantly adaptability. Artemis

really presented Guernsey as a destination not a departure. Boasting the island's charm, lifestyle and sense of belonging, Artemis brought together a lot of the key values I was looking for in an employer.

With an extensive list of employee wellbeing initiatives, Artemis really appealed to me with an outstanding work-life balance. Upon arrival on my first day I was wowed with the stunning office at Plaza House, with a view you could never get bored of.

Only being here for a little less than a year, I have had many opportunities to make meaningful connections with my colleagues at a variety of events, such as our Christmas party and activities from yoga on the balcony, team meals and drinks to a day trip to the Island of Sark.

Sweetened with the addition of weekly treats, where I have been spoilt for choice with office deliveries of pizzas, ice creams, baked goods and brunches, I have thrived in the environment Artemis has curated. Feeling valued and included in the workplace has helped my confidence grow tremendously.

Moving back home has definitely come with its disadvantages; the loss of the luxury of Uber and fast food, however it all feels worthwhile watching the positive direction that my life is leading me in.

I am excited to see what the future has in store for me, starting my CGI IFA qualification with Artemis' support, I can't wait to see how far I can progress professionally and look forward to future opportunities.

THE BIGGEST MISCONCEPTION I HAD WHEN FINISHING UNIVERSITY WAS THAT I NEEDED TO STAY IN THE UK, AS IT WAS WHERE I WOULD FIND DREAM CAREER OPPORTUNITIES, AND THAT THIS WOULD BE UNATTAINABLE IF I WAS TO GO BACK TO GUERNSEY.

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IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO

TRUSTED ADVISERS FOR A SEAMLESS RELOCATION

BY MARTYN BAUDAINS, PARTNER, OGIER

The island of Guernsey is well known for its unspoilt beaches, sunshine, great restaurants, golf courses and friendly people.

Beyond these attractions, Guernsey is an independent, self-governing jurisdiction with a capped tax system, free from capital gains, inheritance, or wealth taxes – all compelling reasons that position Guernsey as a great place to live.

Individuals and their families looking to relocate to Guernsey can expect to enjoy a relaxed lifestyle, great healthcare and education systems, a thriving entrepreneurial culture, access to high quality property and a straightforward route to residency. Add to that the safety and security offered by island life, and you'll be left wondering why you didn't relocate sooner.



In recent years, the island has reformed its tax arrangements for those looking to relocate. Individuals who meet the simple criteria can enjoy even greater benefits for their initial years as residents. Given the rise in remote working, more entrepreneurs – both young and not so young – are attracted to the easier and safer way of life in Guernsey.

Moving offshore requires the right advice, which is why our relocation team is here to assist. We help with your property purchase and wealth structuring, and we can connect you with trusted contacts in the tax and banking fields to ensure you receive expert, bespoke advice tailored to your requirements.

Having outlined some of the compelling reasons to move to Guernsey, it might be tempting to relocate straight away. However, it is important to consult with experts before making any decisions. So before jumping on that boat or aeroplane, ensure you seek the right advice from experienced professionals. Ogier's relocation team offers a discreet, knowledgeable, and proactive service to help you navigate the unfamiliar processes and to achieve the best outcome for you.

Partner Martyn Baudains is a top-tier property lawyer in Ogier's property law team in Guernsey and advises on all aspects of residential and commercial property including conveyancing, property finance, and developments.

INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES LOOKING TO RELOCATE TO GUERNSEY CAN EXPECT TO ENJOY A RELAXED LIFESTYLE.. AND [THE] SECURITY OFFERED BY ISLAND LIFE.

CHERRY GODFREY PROPERTY LAUNCHED WITH ACQUISITION OF MAWSON COLLINS

Cherry Godfrey Group has bought Mawson Collins to launch Cherry Godfrey Property.

The acquisition combines two local businesses with the aim of strengthening Cherry Godfrey's offering across finance, insurance, mortgages and now property services.

'Property has long been a natural extension of what we already do at Cherry Godfrey Group,' said chief operating officer Tanzy Cherry. 'We support people through financing, insuring and protecting their homes, so this next step makes complete sense.'

'Mawson Collins is a business we greatly respect, with strong values, a talented team and an excellent local reputation. Bringing the two businesses together allows us to deliver our plans for Cherry Godfrey Property in a way that is established, credible and firmly rooted in Guernsey.'

Mawson Collins will continue to operate from its existing offices, now as Cherry Godfrey Property, with the same team and leadership in place.

There will be no disruption to clients, services or ongoing work, and existing relationships will remain unchanged.



L-R: Lisa Collins, Mike Collins, Tanzy Cherry, David Cherry.

Mike Collins, former managing director at Mawson Collins and now group director of property at Cherry Godfrey, said it was a very positive step for the business.

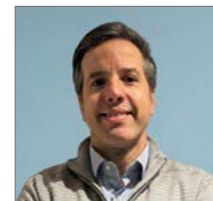
'Becoming part of Cherry Godfrey Group gives us additional backing and support, while allowing us to continue operating as we do today,' he said.

'Our clients will continue to work

with the same people, from the same offices, with the same level of service they expect from us. We see this as an exciting opportunity to strengthen the business for the long term.'

As part of this next phase, Cherry Godfrey Group will continue to invest in its people and capability, creating opportunities to grow the team and business in Guernsey.

JTC OPENS SÃO PAULO OFFICE



Mauricio Carmagnani.

JTC has expanded its global footprint by opening a Brazilian office, as part of a strategic enhancement to its proposition in the Latin American market.

Located in São Paulo's financial district, the office offers a full suite of corporate, fund and private client services for local and foreign businesses, fund managers, investors, individuals, families, family offices and multi-family offices, with links to Brazil.

JTC's head of Brazil, Mauricio Carmagnani, said: 'Establishing an on-the-ground presence in Brazil enables us to combine our deep cross-border professional services expertise with a true understanding of local nuance – from regulations to market dynamics. 'As the largest market in South America, Brazil offers a strategic base from which our team can strengthen connections with clients and partners, to enhance service delivery, while at the same time expanding JTC's global reach and supporting cross-border services for our multinational clients.'

JERSEY RETAINS IFC STATUS



Rob Moore accepts CW IFC Award 2026.

Jersey has retained its top standing in the global private wealth space, being crowned 'International Financial Centre (IFC) of the Year' for the 13th time at the annual Citywealth IFC Awards 2026.

Jersey Finance's UK director, Robert Moore, accepted the award at a gala dinner held in London, which saw the island shortlisted alongside a number of other IFCs from across Europe, the Middle East and the Americas.



Walkers' Guernsey Office.

WALKERS WINS AWARD

Walkers was named as Offshore Firm of the Year at the Lawyer European Awards 2025.

'We're extremely proud to be recognised as Offshore Firm of the Year,' said the firm's London managing partner Jack Boldarin.

'This award reflects the strength of our European practice and the calibre of our people. Standing out in such a competitive market speaks volumes about the expertise and commitment of our teams and the trust our clients place in us.'

NEW RECORD AT TISE

The International Stock Exchange has once again set a new record of securities listed during the year.

In the year when it was taken over by new American owners, the local exchange listed 1,140 securities during the year, a 19.7% increase year-on-year.

The new listings contributed to a record 4,818 securities on TISE's Official List at the end of the year, an annual increase of 7.4%. The total market value of listed securities also reached a record £797bn at 31 December 2025, a 12.6% increase year-on-year.

'I am delighted to report a record number of new listings on TISE during 2025,' said chief executive officer Cees Vermaas.

'It has been a milestone year for the exchange, with Miami International Holdings' acquisition of TISE in June and strong growth in our listings business. The increase in the number, value and diversity of securities admitted to TISE confirms our position as a leading European listing venue for bonds offered to qualified investors.'

Private equity debt securities made up about 40% of listings, with more than 400 added during the year, an increase of more than 18%.



Chief executive officer Cees Vermaas.

The number of high yield bonds topped 500, with annual listings up by three-quarters over the year.

150 new securitisations listed represented an increase of 8.7%, while its new category for securities listed for specialist companies, introduced in November 2024, rose to 27 listings by the year end.

The exchange is also now the largest market for listed UK real estate investment trusts.

Listings were drawn from 38 different territories and jurisdictions, with the UK responsible for almost half. Nearly a third of new business came from the European Union.

DATA SECURITY HOT TOPIC AT CONFERENCE



Nalin Patel (Director of Research, Pitchbook), photo by Sophie Rabey.

Tokenisation was among the subjects discussed at PwC's Channel Islands Alternatives Conference.

The method of securing data takes sensitive data – such as a credit card number – and replaces it with a unique, non-sensitive equivalent – a token – which has no meaning and no intrinsic value.

The token is, as such, not able to be exploited, being mapped from



sensitive data through a one-way cryptographic function, to make it such that it is very hard to obtain the original data without access to the 'vault' of token data. It is, in a way, the counterpart to encryption – another method of securing data. The key difference between them lies in that, where encryption muddles sensitive data, tokenisation creates a representation of real data.

The data security process is one receiving increasing attention from the island's finance industry.

The Guernsey Financial Services Commission ran a consultation around the time of the conference where one of the issues was discussion around permitting the tokenisation of collective investment schemes on public blockchains. PwC's discussion of the subject was moderated by PwC director Callum McCutcheon, and was one of several subjects spoken about at the conference.

Investor trends, both local and in the UK, were discussed by Pitchbook's Nalin Patel (pictured), PwC's Bernard Mullaly, Carey Olsen's Andrew Tually and Addleshaw Goddard UK's Kemi Greene, while talks about private market valuations were led by PwC's Kat Hallpike and Simon Holden.

The event, which was hosted by lead office partner at PwC Roland Mills, is intended to be an annual event. This was the second that the firm had hosted.

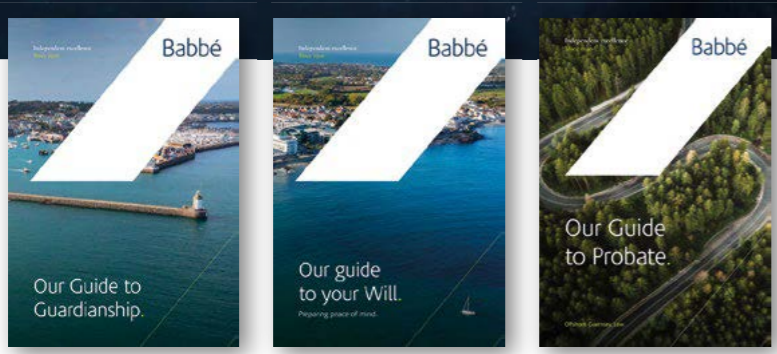
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ESTATE PLANNING ACROSS BORDERS: WHY A 'WORLDWIDE WILL' CAN BE A COSTLY MISTAKE



BY MARI WARNICH, ASSOCIATE, BABBÉ

In a world where cross-border connections become the norm, many people now own assets, property, or have family members in several countries.

For these individuals, the idea of a single 'worldwide Will' may seem like an efficient solution.

In practice, however, a worldwide Will can create significant legal and administrative challenges. Wills do not often travel smoothly across borders. A Will that is perfectly valid in one country may face delays, challenges, or even rejection elsewhere.

This is largely because countries differ in their requirements for witnessing, execution, notarisation, language, and probate procedures. Their inheritance rules also vary widely.

1. DELAYS:

Even when a foreign Will is recognised, executors may find it hard to prove its validity or to obtain the authority needed to deal with local assets. This may cause significant delays in administering the estate. Bank accounts may remain frozen, property sales can be postponed, and ongoing expenses – such as insurance, maintenance, service charges, and taxes – continue to accumulate. These expenses do not pause simply because the estate is waiting for probate.

2. UNINTENDED REVOCATION:

A further risk is unintended revocation. It is common for a person to sign a later Will in another country to cover a recently acquired asset. Standard wording such as 'I revoke all previous Wills' can unintentionally revoke an earlier worldwide Will in its entirety. This can create uncertainty, trigger disputes among beneficiaries, or leave parts of the estate to be distributed under intestacy rules.

3. FORCED HEIRSHIP:

Forced heirship is another frequent point of conflict. Many jurisdictions follow forced heirship regimes, which require fixed portions of an estate to pass to certain family members, while other jurisdictions – such as England or Guernsey – typically allow broad testamentary freedom. A Will drafted on the assumption of full testamentary freedom can therefore be ineffective, unenforceable, or only partially effective

in a country with mandatory inheritance rules. Mandatory inheritance rules will always override full testamentary freedom.

COUNTRIES DIFFER IN THEIR REQUIREMENTS FOR WITNESSING, EXECUTION, NOTARISATION, LANGUAGE, AND PROBATE PROCEDURES.

4. CONFLICT-OF-LAWS:

Cross-border estates also raise complex conflict-of-laws issues, particularly where different rules apply to movable and immovable property. Real estate is usually governed by the law of its location (lex situs), while other assets may follow the law of the owner's domicile or habitual residence. As a result, a single estate may therefore be subject to multiple legal systems at once.

THE SOLUTION:

For many individuals, a more practical and reliable approach is to have a primary Will for their main place of residence, supported by separate local Wills for foreign assets. These documents should be carefully drafted to work together – without revoking one another – to ensure efficient administration across all jurisdictions. The objective is straightforward: to make administration faster, easier, and less costly for the people you leave behind. With the right planning, your wishes can be upheld everywhere.

If you'd like to discuss your specific estate planning requirements, please do get in touch.



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IMAGE: ©ISTOCKPHOTO

NEW UK TAX BREAKS FOR RETURNING EXPATS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

BY MARK SAVAGE, TAX DIRECTOR, BDO

There has been much publicity recently about UK tax changes in the last two years, and the abolition of the so-called 'remittance basis' rules from April 2025. The effect of these changes is that a number of UK residents have found the UK a less attractive base.

However, new rules brought in at the same time, to encourage people to move to the UK, also benefit UK expatriates returning to the UK in a way that the old rules did not. Previously, returning expatriates could not usually qualify for the remittance basis but, provided that they have been away for at least ten years, they will qualify for the replacement regime. This exempts all Foreign Income and Gains ('FIG') from UK taxation for the first four years of residence, regardless of whether those income and gains are kept abroad or remitted to the UK.

For expatriates who have been away from the UK an insufficient amount of time to benefit from the new rules, a further unwelcome UK tax problem may lie in store in the shape of the 'temporary non-resident' rules. A temporary non-resident is someone who has left the UK and returned after fewer than five (often six in practice) tax years have passed.

Temporary non-residents may face an immediate UK tax charge on their return based on capital gains and many types of investment income (including pension income) received while outside the UK. For expatriates choosing to return to the UK earlier than originally planned, perhaps for lifestyle reasons, this tax charge can prove to be both prohibitive and unwelcome.

For expatriates, who have not been away a sufficient amount of time to benefit from the new FIG rules, and who may be within scope of the temporary non-resident, there exists another option.

If they wish to return to the British Isles, but not to the UK itself, Guernsey, and the other Crown Dependencies, offer an attractive lifestyle, near the UK, while remaining outside the scope of UK taxation.

At the same time as the introduction of the FIG regime, changes to the scope of UK Inheritance tax have been introduced which is now tax residence based and would be the subject of a separate article. Returning expats will also need to consider the implications of these new regulations on a future return to the UK.

For more information, please get in touch with one of our Tax team:

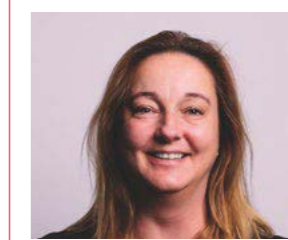
WHILE MANY RETURNING EXPATS MIGHT INITIALLY INTEND TO USE GUERNSEY AS A 'STEPPING STONE' BACK TO LIFE IN THE UK, MANY RELOCATORS FIND LIFE THERE SO ATTRACTIVE THAT THEY ULTIMATELY CHOOSE TO STAY.



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MARKET OUTLOOK 2026:

A TIME TO REBALANCE AND RESET



- Architecture ○
- Technical Design ○
- Interiors ○



2025 delivered a roller-coaster ride, marked with many major politically driven U-turns. The economic landscape felt more like quicksand than solid ground. However, 2026 seems to be calling for a sense of calm – a time for resetting and rebalancing.

Entering 2026, the message is clear: agility and a broader investment lens will be prerequisites for success. **Craig Allen, Head of Investment Management at Julius Baer Guernsey**, takes us through Julius Baer’s 2026 Market Outlook and explains why investors should consider shifting to more tactical strategies that capture emerging global opportunities.

MACRO & STRATEGY: GOING GLOBAL

Real global growth is moving at a pace of around 3%, driven by emerging markets (EM). The US is seeing a shift from consumption-led and job-driven growth to a credit-driven momentum, fuelled by interest rate cuts and AI investment. In Europe, governments are doubling down on fiscal stimulus to revive domestic demand amid a deterioration in export competitiveness. While in China, the government is in pursuit of long-term self-sufficiency, curbing excessive industrial competition and navigating other deflationary pressures.

These divergent expansions create global investment opportunities for those willing to reconsider their traditional buy-and-hold strategies and look for investments across the globe. For currencies, the USD may weaken further due to slower growth and lower rates, with strong outflows driving further decline. We would suggest exploring other currencies that stand to benefit, such as the EUR, Eastern European currencies that offer upside potential, undervalued Scandinavian currencies or the safe haven of choice, the Swiss Franc.

FIXED INCOME INVESTMENT: BUILD RESILIENCE, CAPTURE YIELD

In 2026, fixed income investors are facing a more accommodative monetary policy, strong credit fundamentals and attractive yields. The markets are being shaped by a combination of stabilising macroeconomic conditions and a continued easing cycle by the Fed. Rate volatility has declined as the US Treasury’s dynamic funding strategy has helped regulate supply pressures, at least for the time being. So, while the long-term fiscal path remains tricky,

it shouldn’t evoke immediate concern. It’s our view that these dynamics call for a slight overweight in duration, especially as real yields remain attractively high at current levels.

Despite the contained risks, greater market sensitivity to negative news has become a more pervasive issue. Investors must strike a careful balance between income and volatility. Therefore, a barbell strategy emerges as the most favourable, given the current environment. This combines short-term credit risk allocation with longer-duration exposure to high-quality bonds.

EQUITIES: BROADENING THE LENS

Nowhere will our prediction of “resetting and rebalancing” be more applicable than in equities. It’s undeniable that in 2025, AI and big information technology did the brunt of the heavy lifting for global equity indices. However, with earnings strengths spreading beyond these segments, investors would be remiss not to consider broadening their portfolio diversification.

In Europe, fiscal stimulus and improving economic movement, particularly in Germany, support cyclical sectors, financials, and mid-caps. Swiss equities remain attractive as a defensive core allocation within global equity portfolios. In Asia, emerging markets are underweighted despite strong fundamentals. A weaker USD, AI supply-chain exposure, and improving earnings trends favour the region, with China highlighted as a conviction call amid policy support and innovation-led growth. Defensive sectors, especially healthcare, are regaining appeal given attractive valuations and improved earnings visibility. Meanwhile, our Next Generation analysts argue that the themes investors should keep an eye on in 2026 are AI & Cloud Computing, Cybersecurity, and Clean Energy.

Ultimately, 2026 will not reward complacency, but, on the contrary, tactical finesse. Therefore, having a trusted advisor to support you in navigating the global arena has never been more essential.

For tailored guidance to help balance your portfolio, please get in touch with Craig Allen at craig.allen@juliusbaer.com and to read the full report, go to www.juliusbaer.com/en/insights/market-outlook/

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ADVERTORIAL

Why having a plan for your money changes everything



By Paul McCormick, Director & Senior Financial Planner at Gower

It's hard to feel confident about the future if you don't have a plan.

For many people, money comes in each month and flows straight back out again. Bills are paid. Cards are paid off in part or whole. What's left, if anything, sits in a current account until the next expense appears. There's no clear direction, no defined goals, just a constant cycle.

That lack of structure often leads to anxiety. You may earn well yet still feel uncertain. You may save occasionally yet wonder if it's enough. Without a plan, it's difficult to measure progress, and even harder to feel in control.

A simple framework that works

A practical way to begin is by separating your money into four clear categories:

1. Essentials

These are your non-negotiables – housing, utilities, food, transport and core living costs. Knowing exactly what you need each month gives you a stable foundation.

2. Emergencies

Life rarely goes exactly to plan. An emergency fund protects you from unexpected expenses such as repairs, medical costs or sudden changes in income. Even a small reserve can reduce stress significantly.

3. Dreams

Holidays. A new home. Supporting your children. Reducing working hours. These goals deserve a place in your plan.

4. Retirement

Setting aside money consistently, even modest amounts, allows time and growth to work in your favour. You cover today, protect tomorrow, and build for the future, all at the same time.

From money stress to money confidence

Putting a plan in place doesn't require dramatic change. It just needs to start.

When you decide where your money should go before it arrives, you take control. Instead of reacting to expenses, you direct your income towards the life you want to build.

We often describe this as money confidence, a sense of calm and control that comes from knowing your money is working for you, not against you.

Progress builds momentum

You don't need to have everything perfectly organised from the start. What matters is that you begin. Small, regular contributions add up. Clear goals create motivation. Reviewing your plan annually keeps you aligned as life evolves.

Seeing your future more clearly

For those who want greater clarity, structured financial planning can help bring your plan to life.



Planning for your future is as easy as 1 2 3

- 1 Speak to a Gower adviser
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- 3 Start a plan for your money

Future Forecast.

BY GOWER

Whether you're saving for future, optimising your investments or planning for major expenses, Future Forecast helps you plan with confidence and clarity.

With a tailored plan and our expert guidance by your side, we can help your goals become reality.

Secure your future with confidence

At Gower, we use tools such as Future Forecast to map income, spending, savings and long-term goals into a clear, visual roadmap. Once you create a plan, even a basic one, you begin to replace money worry with money confidence. And that's a powerful place to start.

01481 737926 | paul.mccormick@gower.gg | gower.gg/future-forecast

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WHY EVERY BUSINESS NEEDS CYBER LIABILITY INSURANCE NOW MORE THAN EVER

BY OLIVER GOATER, MANAGING DIRECTOR, NETWORK INSURANCE & FINANCIAL PLANNING

In today's digital-first world, cyber risk is no longer a possibility, it's a certainty. From multinational corporations to small local businesses, no organisation is immune from the growing threat of cyberattacks.

With data breaches, ransomware incidents, and social engineering scams on the rise, cyber liability insurance is no longer a 'nice-to-have' – it's a business necessity.

CYBERCRIME IS ON THE RISE, AND NO ONE IS TOO BIG (OR SMALL) TO BE TARGETED

In 2025 there were a number of high profile cyberattacks on large organisations such as Co-op and Marks & Spencer (M&S) which served as sobering reminders that even the most established, well-resourced brands are vulnerable.

- **Marks & Spencer (M&S):** £300m. loss before insurance; £136m. net profit impact after insurance
- **The Co-op:** £206m. lost revenue; £80m. first-half profit loss; £120m. full-year effect
- **Jaguar Land Rover:** £196m. direct cyber-related loss (company); £1.9bn total estimated economic cost (broader)

These are not isolated events. They highlight a critical truth: cybercriminals are not just targeting financial institutions or tech firms, they're going after retailers, service providers, schools, healthcare companies, and everyone in between.

Contrary to popular belief, hackers don't only go after the big guys. In fact, small and mid-sized businesses are increasingly targeted because they often lack the robust cybersecurity infrastructure of larger organisations. According to recent industry reports, over 40% of cyberattacks are aimed at small businesses, many of whom never recover from the financial fallout.

Cyber liability insurance helps mitigate this risk by covering expenses related to breaches, ransomware payments, system restoration, legal fees, regulatory fines, and more. Without it, a single incident could cause financial and reputational damage that's difficult, if not impossible, to recover from.

BREACHES ARE DEVASTATING, FINANCIALLY AND REPUTATIONALLY

Let's imagine for a moment that your business experiences a breach. Whether it's customer data, employee records, or proprietary business information, once that data is compromised, the damage is swift and severe. You'll be expected to notify affected individuals, investigate the breach, hire cybersecurity experts, and potentially defend your business against lawsuits or regulatory action.

Worse, your clients' trust, which you've earned over years, can vanish overnight.

Cyber liability insurance provides a financial safety net during these crises. It helps cover the costs of breach response, ransomware payments, system restoration, legal counsel, public relations, and more. In short, it helps you bounce back faster and with fewer long-term consequences. Without it, a single breach could cripple your operations.

THIRD-PARTY RISKS ARE GROWING

As seen in the M&S and Co-op incidents, many breaches now occur indirectly through third-party service providers. This means even if your own systems are well-protected, your vendors and partners can expose you to risk.

Cyber policies often include coverage for liability stemming from third-party vendors, along with support services to help you assess and manage supply chain risk. In today's interconnected world, protecting your own data isn't enough. You need protection that accounts for your entire digital ecosystem.

REGULATIONS ARE GETTING TOUGHER

Governments are responding to rising cybercrime with tighter regulations. Whether operating under UK GDPR, PCI-DSS standards for card payments, or local data protection laws in Guernsey and the Channel Islands, your business faces increasing scrutiny and steep penalties for non-compliance.

A good cyber liability policy helps cover regulatory fines and provides access to expert resources who can guide you through reporting obligations and audits. Being insured shows your commitment to due diligence and proactive risk management.

CYBER INSURANCE OFFERS MORE THAN JUST A PAYOUT – IT OFFERS SUPPORT

Beyond financial protection, cyber liability policies typically include access to a full suite of breach response services. This can include:

- 24/7 access to cybersecurity experts
- IT forensics and breach containment support
- Legal advice on regulatory and contractual obligations
- Crisis PR and customer notification assistance

This kind of coordinated response can be the difference between a controlled incident and a business disaster. It's having a dedicated cyber emergency response team on call 24/7, providing you with peace of mind.

IT'S MORE AFFORDABLE THAN YOU THINK

One of the most common misconceptions we hear is: 'cyber insurance must be expensive'. In reality, it's often much more affordable than expected and dramatically less expensive than recovering from a breach.

Premiums vary based on your business, your industry, the type of data you handle and current cybersecurity measures. The good news? Many insurers now reward proactive risk management, so implementing tools like multi-factor authentication or employee training can significantly lower your costs.

PEACE OF MIND IN A DIGITAL WORLD

You lock your doors at night. You carry liability insurance. Why would you leave your digital assets unprotected? Cyber liability should be viewed the same way, a foundational layer of protection in an increasingly digital business environment.

Cyber liability insurance is your business's safety net in an environment where data is currency and downtime is costly. It empowers you to operate confidently, knowing that even in the face of a cyberattack, you have a response plan and a team ready to protect your interests.

FINAL THOUGHTS

If household names like M&S and Co-op, with their dedicated IT teams and cybersecurity budgets can fall victim to cyberattacks, no business is truly safe. Cybercriminals aren't always looking for the biggest target, they're often looking for the easiest one.

Cyber threats aren't going away, they're evolving. Don't wait for a breach to force your hand. By investing in cyber liability insurance, you're not just protecting data, you're safeguarding your livelihood, your employees, and your reputation.

If you'd like a tailored quote or just want to learn more about how a policy could benefit your business, please contact one of our team at Network. We're here to help you find the right coverage for your needs, and your budget.

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WHERE WERE YOU AT MIDNIGHT?

Presence in the UK at midnight usually equates to a day of residence in the UK when looking to determine UK tax residence. The same test applies for Guernsey tax residence.

When leaving the UK, under the provisions of the statutory residence test, in specific circumstances, "split year treatment" may apply. In such cases this splits the UK tax year into a UK resident part and a non-resident part. If this does not apply the individual remains UK resident until the following 5th April (subject to possible tax treaty considerations).

If an individual is contemplating leaving the UK, split year treatment may be helpful, as it may reduce exposure to UK income tax and capital gains tax from departure (as opposed to the following 5th April). Split year treatment should not be taken for granted, as often an individual's circumstances may mean it does not apply.

Once non-UK tax resident, the SRT determines UK residence and non-residence on an annual basis. The maximum number of nights you may spend in the UK is determined by reference to the number of "ties" held with the UK in the year under review. Ties are broadly;

- > family (spouse, partner or minor child being UK resident)
- > accommodation (available - not just owned)
- > working in the UK (on more than 40 occasions in the tax year)
- > spending 90 or more days in the UK, in either of the prior two UK tax years.
- > spending more time in the UK than any other single jurisdiction.

Simply put, the more ties, the fewer the nights you may spend in the UK before triggering UK tax residence.

There are a few occasions when presence at midnight does not constitute a day of presence in the UK when considering residence. The most common of these include;

- > a transit day. When you simply transit through the UK (and do not do anything unrelated to that transit).
- > an exceptional day. This broadly means that you were prevented from leaving the UK by something that was exceptional and outside your control. 'Exceptional' would need to be determined upon the facts of the case in hand and may include physical, legal and moral obligations of the individuals own conscience that prevent that person from leaving the UK.

It is possible to be a tax resident of both the UK and Guernsey, under their respective domestic legislation, at the same time. In such cases the UK/Guernsey double tax treaty will determine residence for treaty purposes.

Although the UK/Guernsey double tax treaty may mitigate exposure to UK income and capital gains tax for a Guernsey treaty resident individual, there is no treaty protection for UK IHT.

As noted above, becoming UK tax resident may now cause exposure to UK IHT. Broadly, the test for IHT exposure, from 6 April 2025, is whether an individual is a UK "long term resident" (LTR), meaning they have been UK tax resident for at least 10 years out of the last 20 years. If you are a LTR at the time of an IHT event, most commonly death, you will be subject to IHT on all assets (UK and foreign). Those who are not UK LTRs will only be subject to IHT on UK situs assets and assets deriving value from UK land and property.

Anyone who has recently permanently left the UK will likely cease to be subject to UK income tax and capital gains from the date of a relevant split year or from the following 6 April. In contrast, for UK IHT purposes, they may well remain exposed to UK IHT upon worldwide assets for up to ten tax years following departure from the UK.

LTS Tax Limited, registered with the Chartered Institute of Taxation, is an independent and leading tax practice in Guernsey. The team is qualified to provide UK and Guernsey tax advice and would be pleased to discuss UK and Guernsey tax matters with you.



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FOR EVERY ACTION THERE IS AN EQUAL AND OPPOSITE REACTION



BY MARK BOUSFIELD, MANAGING DIRECTOR AT TITAN WEALTH IN THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

AM I PART OF THE CURE, OR AM I PART OF THE DISEASE?

Coldplay, Clocks, 2003

Over the past 15 years there has been a significant shift in the Western economic landscape. It didn't arrive with dramatic headlines or sweeping reforms, yet its impact has been profound.

To understand why, we need to go back to 2008. Following the financial crisis, central banks cut interest rates to near zero and kept them there for more than a decade. They also injected vast liquidity into financial markets with the objective of stabilising economies, restoring confidence and supporting growth. In many respects it worked: markets recovered, property prices climbed and equities embarked on one of the longest bull runs in history.

Nevertheless, as Isaac Newton told us: for every action in nature there is an equal and opposite reaction. Part of that reaction has been the 300-year-old Cantillon Effect, whereby all that new money does not benefit everyone equally. Those closest to the source of liquidity – then court 'insiders', now well-connected financial institutions or asset owners – gain first despite funding being underwritten by the taxpayer. Cheap borrowing lets those with capital acquire assets before prices adjust, reinforcing the charge of 'socialising losses while privatising gains'. By the time the 2008 measures filtered through to wages and the broader economy, asset prices had long since risen.

Data reflects this reality. In the US, the top 1% of households now own roughly 30% of total wealth, while the bottom half owns only a small fraction¹. In the UK, the top 10% hold well over 40% of household wealth². Since the mid-2000s that concentration at the top has only increased.

Although low interest rates certainly helped many homeowners through cheaper mortgages, ultra-low rates also inflated asset prices more broadly. Equities, property and alternative investments surged, expanding the net worth of those already invested.

Then along came inflation, recently accelerated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

After years of subdued price growth, the post-pandemic inflation spike hit essentials first and costs rose rapidly. For households without meaningful asset exposure, purchasing power was squeezed;

for asset owners, the picture was more nuanced. Inflation eroded the real value of fixed debt while often supporting nominal asset prices.

There is, however, another structural factor today that differs from Cantillon's 18th century French gold-based economy. Modern fiat 'paper' currencies generally lose a small amount of purchasing power each year. A 2% per annum inflation target sounds modest, but compounded over decades becomes meaningful. Since the early 2000s, both the US dollar and the British pound have lost roughly half of their purchasing power³. This is a long-term feature of the system which means that cash is eroded over time. When the unit of account steadily loses value, ownership of productive or scarce assets becomes increasingly important.

Unsurprisingly, the economic consequences have spilled into politics. When asset markets appear to reward those already inside the system, trust weakens. Support has risen for both populist movements and redistributive policies across Western democracies, particularly among younger generations facing high housing costs and limited asset ownership.

This is not the place for ideological debate, but it is worth recognising the direction of travel and the importance of investing into assets. As Anthony Scaramucci observed – you want to own things that can't be printed. Over long periods, global equities have historically outpaced inflation because companies adjust earnings over time. Real assets such as property and commodities reflect replacement costs while precious metals like gold have served throughout history as stores of value during periods of monetary expansion.

The common thread is ownership and time. Disciplined, diversified investment with a long-term horizon – and resilience through volatility – remains central to building and preserving wealth.

Which brings us back to Coldplay's question: in an era of expanding balance sheets and steadily eroding purchasing power, are we part of the cure or part of the disease? For us at Titan Wealth, disciplined ownership – no matter the size – is one of life's most reliable remedies.

The value of investments and the income derived from them may go down as well as up and you may not receive back all the money which you invested. Any information relating to past performance of an investment service is not a guide to future performance and may not be repeated.

Sources:

1. Federal Reserve Distributional Financial Accounts. 2. Office for National Statistics, Wealth and Assets Survey. 3. US Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI data; UK Office for National Statistics CPI data.

ADVERTORIAL



WHY MOVING YOUR BUSINESS TO GUERNSEY MAKES STRATEGIC SENSE

In today's competitive global landscape, businesses are increasingly seeking jurisdictions that offer stability, efficiency, and a supportive environment for growth.

Guernsey – renowned for its strong financial ecosystem, excellent quality of life, and pragmatic regulatory approach – continues to attract organisations from startups to multinational groups. With the support of Locate Guernsey, a single point of contact for business and personal relocations, the island offers a compelling proposition for companies considering a move.

STREAMLINED, PRO-BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Guernsey's business culture is grounded in efficiency and a practical 'can-do' attitude. Companies can establish themselves quickly with minimal bureaucracy. In many cases, aside from forming a company, only registration with Income Tax and Social Security is required –

reflecting an administrative system designed to help organisations start operating with ease.

Regulated financial services firms also benefit from a clear and proportionate framework overseen by the Guernsey Financial Services Commission. This balance of accountability and agility has long positioned Guernsey as a trusted jurisdiction for international business.

CLEAR AND STABLE TAXATION

Guernsey's tax regime provides long-term stability and certainty for planning. Key features include:

- **0% corporation tax** for most companies
- **10% corporate tax** for certain financial services activities
- **20% corporate tax** for utilities
- **A flat 20% personal income tax rate**, with caps available
- **No capital gains, inheritance, wealth or gift taxes**

With no minimum income or revenue thresholds for individuals or businesses relocating, the

island offers flexibility for a wide variety of business models.

A LEADING INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CENTRE

As the closest global finance centre to London, Guernsey maintains a collaborative yet independent relationship with the UK as a self-governing Crown Dependency. The island has a strong international reputation for regulatory excellence, innovative financial products, and the ability to demonstrate real business substance – qualities that continue to attract fund managers, financial institutions, and investors.

GEOGRAPHIC CONVENIENCE AND MODERN CONNECTIVITY

Guernsey's strategic location enables exceptional convenience for European and international operations. Flight times to London start at just 40 minutes, allowing same-day engagement with clients in major global financial hubs. Investment in digital infrastructure – including full-fibre coverage and island-wide 5G

WITH THE SUPPORT OF LOCATE GUERNSEY, A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT FOR BUSINESS AND PERSONAL RELOCATIONS, THE ISLAND OFFERS A COMPELLING PROPOSITION FOR COMPANIES CONSIDERING A MOVE.

expected by 2026 – ensures fast, reliable global connectivity.

SKILLED WORKFORCE AND COLLABORATIVE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

The island benefits from a highly skilled workforce and a close-knit business community known for collaboration and innovation. Easy access to decision-makers helps companies build strong relationships quickly – an advantage for organisations focused on growth and influence.

SUPPORT FROM LOCATE GUERNSEY

A major strength for relocating businesses is the support provided by Locate Guernsey, a States of Guernsey agency offering free guidance throughout the process. Assistance covers immigration, tax and registration, finding premises, recruitment considerations, and community integration. This single-contact model ensures a smooth and confident transition for businesses and their employees.

HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE

Guernsey's natural beauty, low crime rates, short commutes, and welcoming community contribute to an exceptional quality of life that appeals to professionals and families. With excellent education and healthcare, and easy access to beaches and outdoor activities, the island offers a balanced lifestyle that helps attract and retain talent.

With political and economic stability, a supportive business environment, and expert relocation guidance from Locate Guernsey, there has never been a more advantageous time to consider moving your business to the island.

Contact: 01481 220011
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ABOVE L-R: EMMA SHELL, MARKETING & EVENTS MANAGER; JO STODDART, DIRECTOR OF LOCATE GUERNSEY; GILL MABBETT, RELATIONSHIP MANAGER. ALL IMAGES ©LOCATE GUERNSEY



To start your journey, call the Locate Guernsey team

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HOW INTERNATIONAL FAMILIES ARE REDEFINING YACHT OWNERSHIP

BY BRUCE MALTWOOD, YACHT SERVICES DIRECTOR AND DARREN TOUDIC, PRIVATE CLIENT DIRECTOR AT PRAXIS

Yachts were once seen primarily as lifestyle assets, offering a way to enjoy time with family and friends in comfort wherever the season allowed.

Today, that view is evolving and owners, particularly NextGens, expect more from their investment than occasional use. Extended travel windows, charter income and jurisdictional flexibility are high on the agenda.

Many are also using yachts as a professional platform. Onboard offices are becoming commonplace, enabling owners to maintain access to global markets and clients while travelling. For private clients, this shift calls for greater rigour in how yachts are acquired, held and operated.

Yacht ownership should be approached in the same way as other significant assets, with full due diligence, realistic operational budgeting, and early consideration of exit and succession planning. Annual costs, which typically include crew, insurance, fuel, maintenance and marina fees, can reach 10-15% of the vessel's value per annum. For many families, a charter strategy is used to help offset some of these costs, though this requires careful planning, experienced management and appropriate insurance.

A well-considered ownership structure in the right jurisdiction is essential to manage tax and VAT exposure. Local requirements differ between the Mediterranean, the Caribbean and the Gulf, and specialist advice should be sought at the outset and throughout the life cycle of the yacht to ensure it is positioned and operated efficiently.

LOCATION, MOBILITY AND STRATEGIC POSITIONING

Location has a direct impact on both charter demand and resale prospects. Hubs such as Monaco, the South of France and the Caribbean remain popular for purchase and charter activity.

For families, where the yacht is based often forms part of a broader planning strategy. This may include lifestyle preferences, regulatory considerations or the desire to support wider mobility planning.

Cruising patterns are changing, with growing interest in remote destinations, explorer vessels and new regulatory zones. Asia and the United States are increasingly important to the industry. The US has seen a notable rise in both ownership and new build orders, reinforcing its position as a leading market.



IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO

PRIVACY, SAFETY AND REPUTATIONAL PROTECTION

Privacy and security remain critical issues. Rising geopolitical instability, increased data breaches and greater public scrutiny have led to higher investment in onboard systems such as Automatic Identification System cloaking and digital privacy protocols.

Family offices must also address the legal and operational risks associated with crew management, guest safety, insurance and compliance. These are no longer secondary concerns, and a clear governance framework and robust asset protection are essential.

Establishing trust and working with a specialist yacht management partner can provide additional protection, particularly where coordination and discretion are embedded into the service.

FAMILY OFFICE PLANNING AND MULTIGENERATIONAL USE

Yachts often span generations and should be aligned with the overall wealth strategy. This includes estate planning, succession and clarity around how and when the vessel is used by family members. Family governance documents can help manage this, ensuring that expectations are agreed and understood.

Ownership structures must be carefully assessed. The chosen jurisdiction, treatment of charter income and management of risk all have tax and legal implications. Crew employment and regulatory compliance also require careful oversight.

Families should also define the primary use of the vessel. Whether it is for private enjoyment, shared use with relatives and friends, or commercial chartering will shape how it is managed and how its long-term value is preserved.

With yacht ownership requiring the same level of oversight and discipline as any other major asset, with clear objectives, sound structure and good governance from the outset.

For more information on Praxis' private wealth, yacht ownership & yacht management services please reach out to Bruce or Darren.

E - info@praxisgroup.com

Please note that this article is intended to provide a general overview of the matters to which it relates. It is not intended as professional advice and should not be relied upon as such. Any engagement in respect of our professional services is subject to our standard terms and conditions of business and the provision of all necessary due diligence. © Praxis 2026. PraxisFM Trust Limited is regulated by the GFSC and JFSC.

WHY GUERNSEY IS MORE ATTRACTIVE THAN EVER FOR RELOCATORS

BY ALEX STUART, SWOFFERS OPEN MARKET NEGOTIATOR



In an increasingly uncertain world, individuals and families are reassessing where they live, work and invest. Rising taxes, political volatility and economic instability across multiple regions are prompting a growing number of people to look for jurisdictions that offer security, predictability and quality of life. Against this backdrop, Guernsey has never looked more attractive.

Recent developments in the UK provide a clear illustration of why relocators are exploring alternatives. The latest UK Budget confirms a significant rise in the overall tax burden, with an estimated £26bn in new taxes being raised during this Parliament. Income tax and National Insurance thresholds remain frozen, steadily pulling more people into higher tax bands. At the same time, taxes on dividends, savings, property income and high-value homes are increasing, including the introduction of a new 'mansion tax' on properties valued over £2m. For many investors, landlords and internationally mobile professionals, the cost of remaining UK-resident is rising year on year.

The UK is not alone in facing fiscal pressure. Across Europe, governments are grappling with high public debt, ageing populations and the lingering effects of inflation, leading to higher taxes and tighter regulation. In the United States, political polarisation and uncertainty around future tax policy continue to unsettle both individuals and business owners. Elsewhere, geopolitical tensions, conflict in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, and concerns around energy security and supply chains have reinforced the appeal of smaller, well-governed jurisdictions with a track record of stability.

Guernsey stands out as a calm and credible alternative. The island offers a simple, transparent and highly competitive personal tax regime, with a flat income tax rate of 20%, no capital gains tax, no inheritance tax, and no VAT. For those relocating via the Open Market, an additional incentive exists in the form of a tax cap of £60,000 per annum, covering almost all worldwide income for up to four years. The only exception is income derived from Guernsey land or buildings, which remains taxable at 20%. Qualification for the cap is straightforward: individuals must become Guernsey-resident and purchase an Open Market property with sufficient document duty paid, currently equating to a purchase price of around £1.4m, or more.

For internationally minded individuals with overseas

income, investments or valuable property interests, this combination of clarity and efficiency is increasingly compelling. Businesses and entrepreneurs are similarly drawn to Guernsey's corporate environment, where most companies benefit from a 0% rate of corporation tax, helping to underpin the island's strong finance, insurance and investment sectors.

Beyond tax, Guernsey delivers something many larger jurisdictions struggle to offer: a genuine sense of security and community. Crime rates are exceptionally low, public services are reliable, and the island enjoys political continuity and sound fiscal management. In a world where sudden policy shifts and social unrest have become more common, this stability carries real value.

Quality of life is another powerful draw. Guernsey combines beautiful beaches, dramatic coastal cliffs and countryside with excellent healthcare, high quality schooling and a slower, more balanced pace of life. The island's mild climate and compact size make outdoor living a daily reality rather than a weekend aspiration, while excellent transport links ensure easy access to the UK and Europe.

Guernsey is increasingly recognised as a safe haven, offering financial efficiency, reassurance and a supportive setting for long-term planning. We're seeing growing interest from individuals and families seeking greater stability which reflects this momentum.

Following a year in which we sold five times as many Open Market properties as our nearest competitor and secured a 73% market share, the start of 2026 is already shaping up positively.



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Growing with purpose

Driven by growing demand and a clear strategic vision for long-term success, AFR Advocates are delighted to announce significant promotions within the firm as we enter an exciting phase of expansion.



Quentin Bregg has been promoted to Partner, reinforcing AFR's expertise in complex commercial disputes, insolvency and regulatory matters.



Nicholas Donnithorne has joined the firm as Group Partner, bringing deep experience in trusts, pensions and private & family office structures.



Jonathan Corry has been promoted to Senior Associate, recognising his broad practice across litigation, employment, family and criminal law.

These promotions reflect our continued investment in leadership, depth of expertise and the long-term success for each of our clients. **Speak to our team today to see how we can support you.**

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A PERSONAL JOURNEY TO THE CHAIR ROLE



The Medical Specialist Group (MSG) has appointed Guernsey-born Dr Michelle Le Cheminant as Chair, officially making her the first female and youngest Chair since the Group's establishment in 1992.

In a conversation about her path into medicine and her vision for the future of healthcare in Guernsey, Dr Le Cheminant reflected on the experiences that shaped her journey. Crediting her upbringing, local mentors, and early exposure to the realities of community healthcare, her story is not only one of professional achievement, but of commitment to the place that first inspired her to pursue medicine.

HOW DID YOU BECOME A DOCTOR, AND WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO BECOME A DOCTOR?

While studying, I developed a strong interest in science, though I was unsure how I wanted to apply that passion. It was during this period, as I began facing my own health challenges that I started to see how science could directly affect people's lives.

During my teenage years, those health challenges required ongoing medical care, bringing me into close contact with the healthcare professionals at the MSG who were involved in my treatment. Their dedication, compassion, and expertise not only supported me through a difficult period but inspired me to consider how I might one day contribute to that same sense of care and stability for others.

WHERE DID YOU TRAIN TO BECOME A DOCTOR?

I was educated locally before pursuing higher education at the University of Cambridge and subsequently completing my MBBS at King's College London. In 2014, I became a Fellow of the Royal College of Anaesthetists.

Throughout my studies, I remained closely connected to the island that shaped me. While at medical school, I maintained strong links with the MSG and returned to work as part of my clinical training. Those periods back on island were especially meaningful, reinforcing both my professional development and my ambition to bring the skills I had gained back to the community where my journey began.

I am the first doctor in my family of local Guernsey trades workers and although my specialist training spanned to 15 years in the UK, I always knew that I would bring my skills back to this special island.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR SPECIALISM?

During my time at school, I undertook work experience at the MSG alongside one of my current colleagues, Dr Gary Yarwood, through a programme similar to the 'Taste of Medicine' now run by the MSG.

Dr Yarwood not only solidified my decision to pursue medicine but also instilled in me an early interest in anaesthesia and critical care.

WHY DID YOU WANT TO BECOME CHAIR OF MSG, AND WHAT ARE YOUR AIMS AS CHAIR?

Having grown up in Guernsey, I feel a deep, personal connection to the community and a strong commitment to giving back. I'm motivated to contribute to strengthening the specialist healthcare services that the island depends upon.

This role provides the opportunity to combine strategic leadership with a lived understanding of the community's needs, ensuring that decisions are grounded in local insight and a clear focus on delivering meaningful outcomes for patients and staff.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM THE PREVIOUS CHAIR THAT YOU WILL BRING FORWARD INTO YOUR ROLE?

I succeed Dr Steve Evans, who served as Interim Chair for three years, providing stability and continuity during a significant period of transition. His leadership was invaluable, and I am proud to follow in his footsteps.

From that experience, I carry forward a belief: the Chair is strengthened by the collective wisdom of the Board. I have always believed that leadership is at its best when it is shared, when we listen carefully, respect the diverse experiences around the table, and create space for every voice to be heard.

To follow my journey in the role, delivering meaningful outcomes for the community that shaped me, keep an eye on my Instagram page @drmichelle_msg for regular updates and behind-the-scenes content.

'THEIR DEDICATION, COMPASSION, AND EXPERTISE... INSPIRED ME TO CONSIDER HOW I MIGHT ONE DAY CONTRIBUTE TO THAT SAME SENSE OF CARE AND STABILITY FOR OTHERS.'

ADVERTORIAL

PRAXIS



Pictured L-R: Ciaran O'Neill, Samantha Le Brun, Fiona Corbet, Alex Trabold, Sophie Hale & Leigh Digard

Fiona Corbet and Leigh Digard have been appointed to Executive Directors at Praxis's Guernsey office. Between them, they bring a combined 60 years of experience to the firm.

In addition, Samantha Le Brun has been appointed to Client Services Director, Sophie Hale to Trust Manager, and Alex Trabold to Senior Administrator.

'These appointments reflect the strength and depth of our Guernsey team and our long-standing ability to attract and retain talent across the business,' said Ciaran O'Neill, managing director of Praxis, Guernsey. 'As client needs evolve, our team is well-positioned to provide high-quality private wealth services rooted in deep local expertise.'

CAREY OLSEN



Carey Olsen has expanded its employment law capabilities in Guernsey with the appointment of Louise Stothard as an Associate in the firm's Dispute Resolution and Litigation Team.

Carly Parrott, Head of Employment and Counsel at Carey Olsen, said: 'We are delighted to welcome Louise to the team. Her blend of private practice and in-house experience gives her a well-rounded and commercially focused approach that will be hugely valuable to our clients. Louise's expertise in both contentious and advisory employment matters strengthens our market leading offering in Guernsey, and we are excited to have her on board.'

DLM



Joel Armorgie has joined DLM Architects as an Architectural Assistant. He has valuable experience of working on a range of residential and commercial projects in the Channel Islands.

David Radford, Technical Director at DLM Architects, said: 'We are thrilled to welcome Joel to the team at DLM Architects. Joel joins us as an Architectural technician, bringing nine years' experience and a fresh, creative and dynamic technical perspective to the team. Joel's expertise in technical detailing and passion for sustainable design align perfectly with our firms ethos.'

OGIER GLOBAL



Ogier Global, Ogier's Corporate and Fiduciary Services Division, has appointed Mark Grenyer as Head of Fund Administration in Jersey.

He is an Associate of the Chartered Governance Institute, and has more than 25 years' international financial services experience, primarily in the funds sector.

OAK



Oak Guernsey has strengthened its compliance team with two senior appointments.

Lauren Deary joins as Senior Manager and Sophie Walden as Manager, further enhancing the firm's governance, risk and regulatory capabilities.

TITAN WEALTH



Pictured L-R: Brett Coombs-Goodfellow, Mark Rondel, Brendan McCullagh, Andrew Ingram and Richard Thomas.

Andrew Ingram and Brett Coombs-Goodfellow have joined as Senior Investment Manager and Investment Manager and Brendan McCullagh as Senior Compliance Administrator in Titan Wealth's Jersey office.

'We have been wanting to grow our investment management team for some time but it was important that we found the right people who understood our heritage in the Channel Islands but had the experience and drive to take our business forward and I have every confidence that Andrew and Brett are the people to do that,' said Kevin Boscher, managing director of Titan Wealth in Jersey.

HAND PICKED HOTELS



Hand Picked Hotels has made three senior hires across its Channel Islands leadership team.

Will Jackson has been appointed General Manager for L'Horizon Hotel & Spa in Jersey, José Simoes, Hotel Manager at Braye Beach Hotel in Alderney and Jaime Short, Director of Sales, Channel Islands.



Julia Hands, Chair of Hand Picked Hotels, said: 'Our Channel Islands properties have always been a key part of our strategic focus, and these appointments reflect our commitment to and long-term investment in the Channel Islands.'

We are passionate about supporting strong talent and I am confident these colleagues will further contribute to the performance and reputation of our Channel Islands properties within the Hand Picked Hotels portfolio.

LA GRANDE MARE



Ben Stimson has been appointed Managing Director at La Grande Mare, ahead of the opening of its golf course this summer.

A senior golf and leisure leader with extensive international experience of working in premium golf environments across the UK, UAE and Saudi Arabia, he was most recently director at The London Golf Club.

In his new role, he will be responsible for helping to shape La Grande Mare's golf, dining, leisure and hospitality offering across the resort.

Steve Lansdown, CBE, owner of La Grande Mare, said: 'We have always been committed to developing a premium golf offering here in Guernsey by investing in excellence, and Ben's appointment is a strong testament to that commitment.'

'His global reputation for leading through trust and creating a culture of exceptional hospitality will be invaluable as we move through the next phases of La Grande Mare's evolution – it's great to have him on board.'

The new appointment follows that of Golf Performance Director Sue Shapcott, PhD, PGA, who joined the team in October and oversaw the successful launch of the Golf Performance Centre.

MOURANT



Benjamin Manchak from the firm's Guernsey litigation practice, and Jersey investment funds specialist Stefan Chinniah have become Partners and joined Mourant's shareholder group.



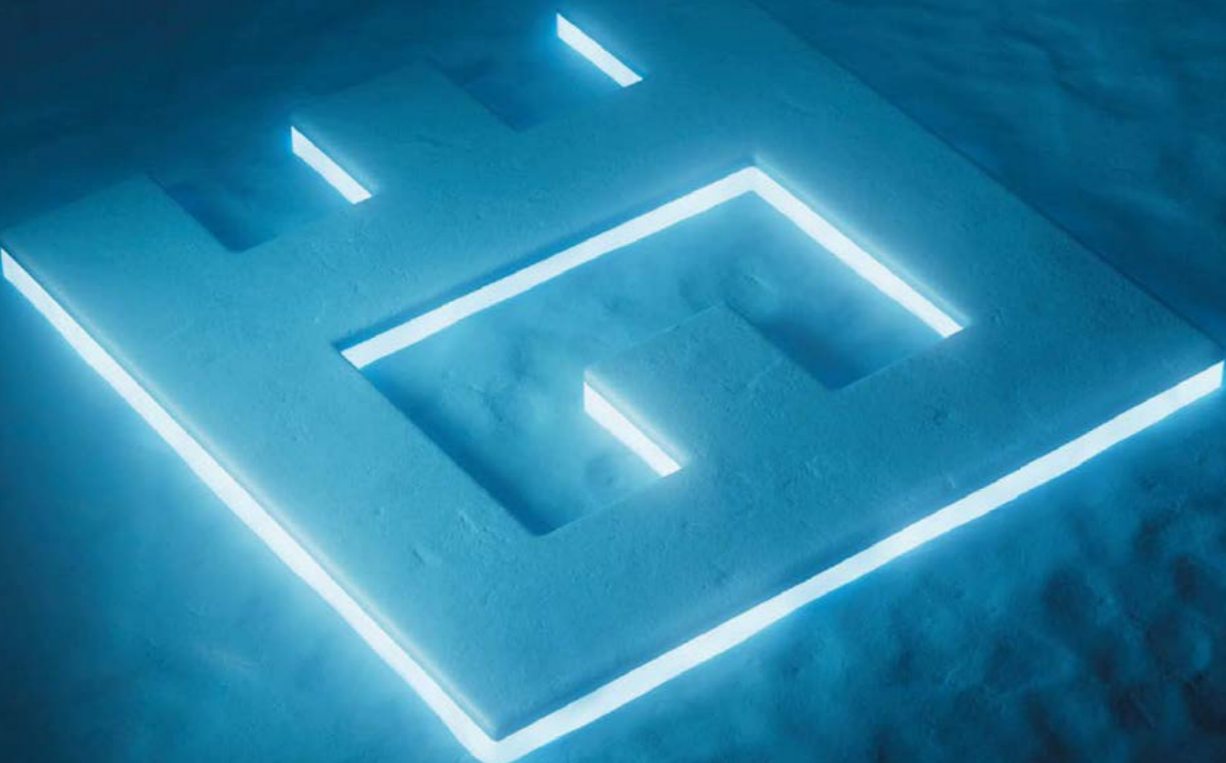
These latest appointments follow last year's addition of six new partners across Mourant's Jersey, Guernsey, Luxembourg and Cayman Islands offices.

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'WE GOT 50 DATA REQUESTS OVERNIGHT'

WHEN EVERY SECOND COUNTS:
HOW SMART DSAR PROCESSES
PROTECT TRUST



BY BRYAN BEESLEY, ADVISORY ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, KPMG IN THE CROWN DEPENDENCIES

Imagine the situation – robust and trusted business, good policies and practices in place, rarely receives Data Subject Access Requests (DSAR) and for the couple that do come in each year, they are easily handled.

But when they experienced a data breach, which we all know can happen to anyone, 50 requests came in overnight costing the business a huge amount of time and resource.

A phishing email had reached a new joiner. Believing the message was genuine, they entered login credentials via an email link, which gave attackers access to an email account and, critically, to several shared mailboxes. Among them: a client onboarding mailbox containing application forms and due diligence documentation.

The technical team acted quickly to contain the breach, including the required notification of the affected data subjects. But then came the surge: more than 50 individuals requesting details on their personal data, a DSAR. Each query was legitimate, time-bound, and complex.

The existing process was manual and fragmented requiring data from several core business systems, pulling teams away from business-as-usual and creating operational strain.

The result? Weeks of disruption, diverted resources, and heightened regulatory risk simply because the DSAR response process was not ready.

Under GDPR Article 15, and or comparable requirements in 'Adequate' jurisdictions, the response stipulations and constraints are pretty much defined from the outset. The clock starts ticking immediately; the response window is one month to respond to DSARs and meeting those deadlines without sacrificing accuracy or security is tough when data sits across several systems and is contained in unstructured data sources such as email accounts and mailboxes. It is well known that the 30-day window can be extended to 90 days, but this is not always applicable, and the extension may not be 'accepted' by the relevant Supervisory Authority.

Making a robust DSAR response process part of your information management policies and framework,

such as privacy and security, isn't just about compliance – it's about control and providing you with a level of assurance to be able to respond accordingly. When requests spike, you need clarity on where data resides, confidence in your response, and the ability & agility to act quickly without diverting critical resources for any longer than necessary.

HOW DSAR FROM KPMG HELPS

KPMG's PII Extractor tool is designed for those moments when a DSAR arrives, whether it is simple or complex, the solution is scalable and supports your response. It maps data touchpoints across your organisation, consolidates information, and automates the response process. This results in less manual effort, faster turnaround, and assurance that you are meeting applicable regulatory obligations.

KPMG is onboarded as a supplier by means of a scalable retainer dependent on your needs and the complexity of your systems; but this enables us to be ready whenever you need us. At the point of request, we are immediately able to get to work supporting your business in responding accurately and quickly.

For businesses, a resource such as this is invaluable. When regulatory obligations and client expectations converge, having an agile, defensible method for managing DSARs helps maintain trust and minimise disruption, ultimately strengthening your confidence and the trust your clients bestow.

Get ready now – for what might come.

For more information, email: bbeesley@kpmg.co.im

IMAGE ©ISTOCKPHOTO





ABOVE L-R: SEA GLASS COLLECTING AT CASTLE CORNET; DISCOVERING A CRAB; ROCK POOLING AT PÉTILS BAY; COLLECTING SEA GLASS; ROCK POOLS AT PORT SOIF. ALL IMAGES ©ISLAND FAMILIES.

SEASHORE TREASURES

BY NATALIE MYERS FROM ISLANDFAMILIES

When spring arrives in Guernsey, the island bursts back into life. The gorse on the common glows yellow, the sea starts to sparkle again, and before you know it, the urge to take little ones on outdoor adventures feels irresistible again.

So if you're looking for screen-free, low-cost memories with the kids this spring, here are three beautifully Guernsey ways to embrace the season.

ROCK POOLS

Long enjoyed by local children and adults alike, scanning the low tides for what might be lurking is great fun. Guernsey's large tidal range makes it arguably one of the best places in the British Isles for rock pooling and we love nothing more than hunting for 'treasure'.

The most important advice is to always check the tides (and indeed the weather) before you go. The last thing you want is to get yourself cut off anywhere, especially with small children in tow. Ormering tides are particularly low and can make for

exciting rock pooling so it's worth checking them out too.

Our all-time favourite place to go rock pooling is Pétils Bay, just past Bordeaux Harbour. At low tide there's a wealth of habitat to uncover, from a variety of starfish and brightly coloured anemones, to worm pipefish, crabs, and rock goby fish. Another firm favourite in the IslandFamilies' house is the west coast at low tide. Port Soif offers so many hiding places you just wouldn't know were there otherwise. And there are quieter spots that often get overlooked but are every bit as rewarding. Moulin Huet with its clear water, is perfect for more explorations. Just be conscious of accessibility if you're taking youngsters.

I can't help but feel that teaching our children how to respect the environment is a vital part of growing up on such a beautiful island. Reminding them to be considerate with how they treat the delicate habitats and showing them how to place rocks back as they were. As the age-old saying goes, leave nothing but footprints, take nothing but photos (and great childhood memories).

SEA GLASS

There's something a little magical about hunting for sea glass on the beach, and it's a pastime enjoyed by youngsters in Guernsey for years. Tumbled and weathered by the waves for years, sea glass comes to be as bottles and glass that find their way into the oceans are worn down into colourful jewels, which are then scattered across the sand for little treasure hunters. I guess you could say it's glass that's been recycled by the waves.

You want to look for pieces with soft, frosted texture (not the shiny stuff) and rounded edges. Colours beyond the usual green and brown are most sought after, so anything blue, lilac, and red are rare treasures and definitely worth boasting about.

One of our favourite spots to go hunting is Le Picquerel. On the northwest coast lies an underrated little beach in Grande Havre Bay. You can park by L'Islet Common and make your way down onto the rocky part of Le Picquerel where searching can commence.

You want to search the patches in between the rocks – there's not loads but it's worth hunting for.

There's also plenty of treasure alongside Castle Cornet and you can watch the boats come and go as you hunt. Head along Castle Emplacement and go down the steps to the left as you walk towards the Castle; the bay is just behind the Yacht Club. And finally, if you're lucky enough to be in Herm and fancy a little hunting, a great spot for sea glass is Fisherman's Beach on the west coast.

FORAGING

As the tide comes in and out, it presents a variety of edible seaweeds that are gaining popularity, and apparently there's over 700 types in our seas to try. Chef James Strawbridge once told the BBC that 'it's all edible, there's no such thing as a dangerous seaweed, so anything you find out there, you can eat. Some of it won't taste very nice, some of it will taste amazing'. So why not see how many you can find?

Or have the kids seek out some wild rock samphire – a fleshy plant

with yellow flowers, primarily found on the coast clinging to rock faces, sea walls, and cliff edges where it receives salt spray. In the past it was prized for pickling (some called it sea fennel) and is also used for salads.

While ormer tides are great for rock pooling, they're obviously best for harvesting this local delicacy. Many kids love to go ormering – I remember going with my parents and grandfather as a youngster – but as they're a protected species, it's imperative you check the ormering tides and know the rules for collecting them. An alternative would be limpets, which apparently can be cooked in a stew or flattened and stir fried.

Children are often more likely to try something new if they've helped gather it, so why not head out and find your own treasures to see what you can cook with? I'm not convinced I'd get my lot to try limpets, though!

If you'd rather be led by an expert, Wild Guernsey offers family-orientated workshops where you can discover the best wild harvests that nature has to offer, either

from the hedgerows or the seashore. Or Guernsey Seaweed offers foraging tours where knowledgeable guides provide fascinating and informative hands-on experience, learning all about the history, uses, and benefits of seaweed in Guernsey. One child under 15 can attend for free with each paying adult.

Enjoying spring in Guernsey is a beautiful reminder that we're lucky to live somewhere where nature is quite literally on our doorstep, and the beach is never far away. So whether you're collecting sea glass treasures, crouching over a rock pool, or sniffing out wild garlic along the lanes, now is the time to slow down and enjoy it with the kids.

IslandFamilies is a vibrant hub of information, and home to the popular Community Club, helping families get the most out of life in the Bailiwick. Visit islandfamilies.com for more information on things to do, places to go, and money to be saved along the way.



DESIGNED WITH YOU IN MIND

We create meaningful architectural designs, inspired by our clients' ideas and aspirations.



THE DRAWING ROOM WORKED WITH ENVIRONMENT GUERNSEY TO FIND THE PERFECT PLACEMENT FOR THE BIRD BOXES AND BEE BRICK WHEN DESIGNING THIS FAMILY HOME.

SMALL CHOICES, BIG IMPACT

BY TOM BOURGAIZE, ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGIST AND DIRECTOR AT THE DRAWING ROOM



Working with clients to make their homes more sustainable, without making things complicated, Tom Bourgaize, Architectural Technologist and Director at The Drawing Room, discusses the simple design choices that can lead to more efficient, comfortable homes.

For many homeowners, the word sustainability can feel daunting but, in our experience, sustainable design doesn't have to be complex. In fact, some of the most effective sustainable strategies are also the simplest.

We often remind our clients that sustainability isn't about doing everything all at once or getting it 'perfect'. Small decisions, made early in the design process, can have a surprisingly big impact on how a home performs, how comfortable it is to live in, and how it affects the environment over time.

DESIGNING WITH ENERGY IN MIND

Before turning to technology, we always start with the basics of good design. How a building is positioned on its site, how it captures daylight, and how spaces respond to the sun all play a major role in energy use.

Simple decisions such as orientating living spaces towards natural light, designing shading to avoid overheating, or strategically placing windows can dramatically reduce the need for artificial heating and lighting. When these principles are considered from the outset, they usually come without additional cost, and they improve daily life in subtle ways.

When it comes to heating and lighting, we guide clients towards solutions that balance efficiency with comfort. Well-insulated homes paired with modern, energy-efficient heating systems stay warmer for longer while using less energy. Similarly, thoughtful lighting design can lower electricity use while creating calm, welcoming spaces.

STARTING WITH MATERIALS

One of the first things we encourage clients to think about is materials. The materials used to build a home

of course influence its appearance, but they also affect energy efficiency, durability, and long-term environmental impact. Choosing high-performing insulation, responsibly sourced timber, or lower-carbon alternatives to conventional finishes can significantly reduce heat loss and energy demand.

There's also a quiet sustainability in renovation that's easy to overlook. Guernsey's building stock is rich and varied; from our granite cottages and farmhouses to mid-century homes perched above St Peter Port. Reusing an existing structure saves embodied energy and often leads to homes that are better tuned to their environment. When combined with contemporary insulation, air tightness, high performance glazing and services, they can perform exceptionally well.

SPACE FOR NATURE

For us, sustainability is also about recognising a building's wider ecosystem and, even on small residential projects, there are opportunities to support local wildlife. We often incorporate bat boxes, bird boxes, and bee bricks into our designs to provide habitats for species increasingly affected by development.

These elements are affordable, discreet, and easy to integrate, yet they allow homes to give something back to the natural environment (and they're a bit of a unique feature that our clients love).

MAKING BETTER CHOICES

Sustainable architecture is ultimately about thinking long term. The small decisions made during design and construction continue to shape how a home performs for decades. When sustainability is easily understandable, people are far more inclined to embrace it; and that's where we come in.

There is no single sustainability checklist that works for everyone, so our role is to help clients identify the 'quick wins' for their project. By breaking sustainability down into clear, manageable decisions, we aim to make it feel achievable rather than intimidating.

ADVERTORIAL



**GO
ALL
IN.**

National Year of Reading 2026

KEY MOMENTS

Guernsey Literary Festival: 23 April - 7 May

One of the highlights in the Bailiwick calendar, bringing some of the world's greatest writers, thinkers and speakers to Guernsey. This year's big names include broadcaster Sophie Raworth, scientist Tim Spector, and barrister and thriller writer Rob Rinder.

Arts Sunday: 7 June

Guernsey Arts invites the community to join a public celebration of arts, culture and storytelling. This year's theme is 'Go All In', connecting to the National Year of Reading.

Summer Reading Challenge: July - September

The Guille-Allès Library's annual challenge to read six books during the summer holidays. Children of all ages - including those visiting the island - are encouraged to take part. This year's theme is 'Read to the Beat', celebrating the inspiring connection between reading and music.

Book Week: October

Three popular children's authors will tour schools in Guernsey and Alderney, meeting more than 5,000 children to inspire a love of reading. Every child from Reception to Year 9 will have the chance to meet an author.

THE GREAT ESCAPE: THE JOY OF BOOKS

2026 IS THE NATIONAL YEAR OF READING. ADAM BAYFIELD OF THE GUILLE-ALLÈS LIBRARY SHARES HIS LOVE OF BOOKS AND WHY THEY ARE SO SPECIAL

What was the last great book you read? Perhaps it took you somewhere special. To Narnia, or Middle-earth, or the edge of the universe.

Perhaps it taught you something you never knew about football, music, or something else you care about. Or maybe it was a book you've read before - maybe it took you back to childhood.

Reading is travelling. To distant lands, back and forth in time, to strange and magical worlds - open the pages of a book and you are instantly somewhere else. And that means reading is also escaping. Whatever your worries, whatever's happening in your life, something else is happening in a book.

2026 is the National Year of Reading. Across the UK, people of all ages are being encouraged to 'Go All In' and rediscover the joy of reading this year.

It comes at a critical time. Research shows that reading for pleasure is at an all-time low in the UK: fewer people are reading regularly than ever before. Half of adults say they don't read often, and only one in three children say they enjoy reading in their free time.

And that's a problem. A big problem. Because study after study shows that reading is absolutely vital - both for our individual wellbeing, and for the strength of our communities. Whether or not a child reads for pleasure is a key predictor of their future success. And it remains important all through life, as reading is known to boost health and happiness, reduce stress - it may even help you live longer. Put simply, reading is good for us!

Crucially, it also builds empathy. 'A reader lives a thousand lives,' wrote Game of Thrones author George

R.R. Martin. 'The man who never reads lives only one.' Reading puts us in the minds of others - it helps us to understand each other. Look around the world today, and it feels like that's never been more important.

The goal of the National Year of Reading is to start reversing this decline in reading for pleasure. Because it can be reversed.

In Guernsey we have a head start, because the picture is already more positive. A recent survey of more than 4,000 children found that 39% say they read every day or almost every day - more than double the figure on the mainland. Meanwhile, the news for local adults was also encouraging, with almost two thirds saying they read regularly, compared to half in the UK.

The results suggest that reading is already firmly at the heart of island life. But we know there's

much more to do. The survey also revealed some more worrying statistics; for instance, that seven out of 10 secondary school children in Guernsey say they don't often see adults reading. Many people said that busy lives and day-to-day distractions like social media make it hard to find time for reading. And lots of people told us they'd like to read more.

That's where the National Year of Reading comes in. Throughout 2026, the Guille-Allès Library, the States of Guernsey, the Guernsey Literary Festival, Bright Beginnings and Guernsey Arts are teaming up to bring the campaign to life across the island. Together, we're developing a year-long programme of events to celebrate the incredible power of reading and support people to read more.

There'll be high-profile shared reading events. Local ambassadors like Guernsey FC footballer Ross Allen will be visiting schools to share their love of reading. And there'll be a spotlight on the initiatives that already make an impact, including the Guernsey Literary Festival, which this year promises to be bigger and better than ever. Among the record total of 80 events is a special conversation exploring the urgency of the National Year of Reading, featuring authors Lauren Child, Horatio Clare, and the Festival's Honorary Chairman Terry Waite.

Everyone knows reading is important, but many people see it as a duty, even a 'chore'. Being encouraged to read more can sound like being told to 'eat your vegetables'. The National Year of Reading seeks to banish that perception; instead, it's all about celebrating the joy and fun that reading can bring.

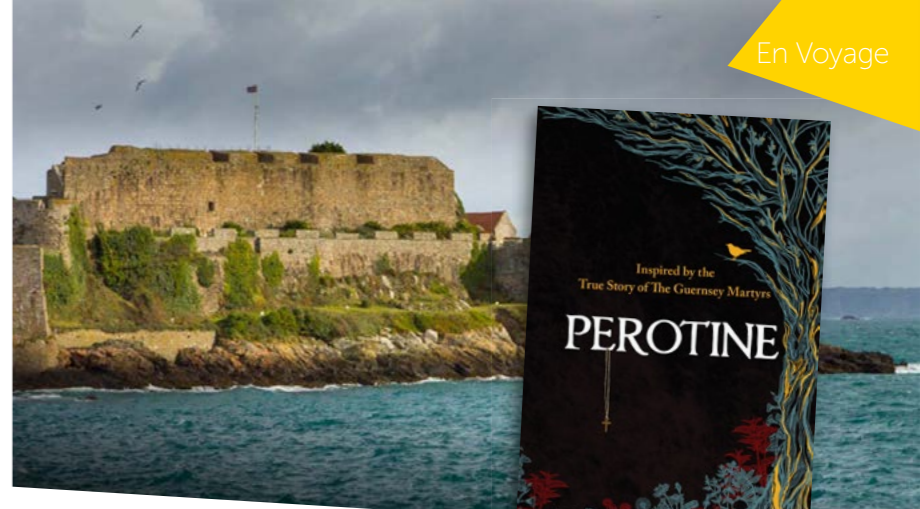
The campaign tagline is 'Go All In' - encouraging you to read about things you already enjoy. Whatever you're passionate about, it's reading that will take you 'all in'. You might be into sport, music, history, science, cooking, gaming, gardening - whatever it is, throw yourself into reading and you'll discover more about it than you ever thought possible.

I'm enjoying doing exactly this myself: I've just finished reading a 600-page epic all about the history of Test cricket. Some people would rather watch paint dry, but to me, it was sheer delight.

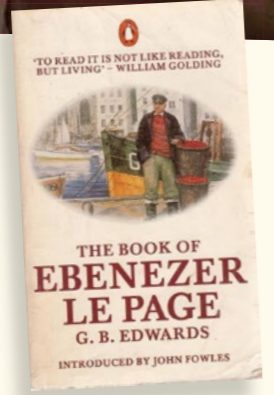
I learned so much I never knew about my favourite game - and I feel I understand it more than ever. And that's what this year is all about: finding the thing you're passionate about, and diving into a book.

The National Year of Reading is not about telling people they should read more. It's about reminding us why we want to.

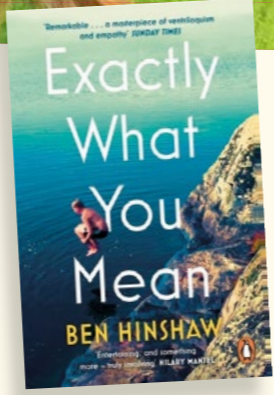
So - what will you read next?



FIVE GREAT GUERNSEY NOVELS



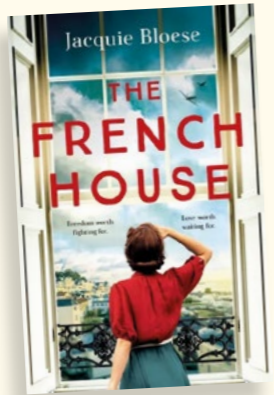
The Book of Ebenezer Le Page – G.B. Edwards
The fictional memoir of an archetypal Guernseyman, who lives through drastic changes on the island from the late nineteenth century to the 1960s. Widely regarded as a masterpiece, and one of the best representations of Guernsey in any work of art.



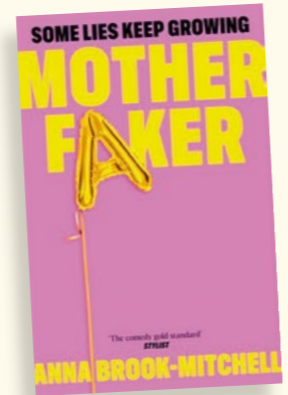
Exactly What You Mean – Ben Hinshaw
Local writer Ben Hinshaw's debut novel follows interconnected characters from Guernsey to London, California, and beyond. Described by no less than Hilary Mantel as 'entertaining, and something more – truly involving.'



The Devil's Claw – Lara Dearman
After discovering a body on a beach, local journalist Jennifer Dorey uncovers a pattern of similar deaths over the past 50 years. And with his identity about to be revealed, the killer has Jennifer in his sights...



The French House – Jacquie Bloese
As gardener and housekeeper of the famous Victor Hugo house, Isabelle Larch and profoundly deaf Émile – once lovers, now strangers – find their lives colliding once more. A beautiful love story and an exquisitely written portrait of Guernsey during the German Occupation.



Motherfaker – Anna Brook-Mitchell
'Some lies keep growing.' Teacher Barri Brown is preparing for a year's maternity leave. But there's a catch – she isn't pregnant... Published in February, this Guernsey-set novel is on course to become one of the hit titles of 2026.



ON THE TRAIL OF THE GUERNSEY MARTYRS

JERSEY WRITER DREENA COLLINS SHARES THE INSPIRATION FOR HER LATEST NOVEL

Thirty years ago, I stumbled upon an incredible true story. A tale so shocking, so brutal, that I was amazed I'd not encountered it before. The 16th century. Three women. And an appalling twist. This was the experience of The Guernsey Martyrs.

WHO WERE THE GUERNSEY MARTYRS?

The Guernsey Martyrs were charged with heresy in 1556. Protestants, the women lived alone – a mother and her two daughters. Perotine was one of them, a young woman whose Calvinist husband had fled the island, fearing for his safety after the land returned to Catholicism. How the women lived, in a notoriously wet, bleak, and tumultuous period of history, fascinated me.

Not only that, but their prosecution involved a series of missteps and accidents. Initially, they were charged with harbouring stolen goods, and it was only during the proceedings that their faith came to light. The women apologised and offered to go to Mass. Their apology was rejected. And worse was to come once their punishment was enacted.

But Protestantism was not their only secret – Perotine held back a devastating truth that only surfaced as their story came to an end. Why would she do this? And how could those who tried her act as heartlessly as they did?

FINDING THE COURAGE TO TELL THEIR TALE

I have written on and off throughout my life, and with great focus in the last seven or eight years. Periodically, Perotine would surface among my ideas, her story compelling, and calling to me to be written.

But in the early stages of my writing career, the idea of tackling it was overwhelming: it would be a multi-layered test, and historical fiction a brand-new genre. 1556? That was a whole other world.

Eventually, emboldened by experience, I applied for a grant from ArtHouse Jersey. They funded a research visit, enabling me to travel from my homeland of Jersey to Guernsey.

The oldest surviving record of the trial is in John Foxe's 'Book of Martyrs' (1563) and I plotted the sites named and created a trail for myself, visiting research venues (such as the Island Archives and Priaulx Library), but also the locations of several events: the Town Church where the ecclesiastical trial was held, and Castle Cornet, once the site of the prison. I retraced their steps.

I visited the plaque in their memory, a small, dark panel on Tower Hill steps – a poignant reminder that these were real people, who had lived, loved, walked, and died nearby.

WRITING THE BOOK

My initial visit to Guernsey became one of several, and I have since explored the parts of the island where I placed her home and travels, thinking of her as someone who foraged, walked, and prayed in nature. It was inspirational.

Finally, in 2023, I wrote and finished my novel – and then in 2024 I re-wrote it, removing a subplot and developing the characters further. It was the right thing to do. I was very aware that the voices of the women had been lost in the passage of time, so I hoped to flesh them out as three-dimensional people, bringing them to life. The novel is now entirely about them.

Of course, ultimately, what I produced is fiction. We will never know how they felt, or why they acted as they did. But I hope now that a few more people might follow their trail, learn about their story, and be shocked, saddened, and a touch awestruck by Perotine – just as I was all those years ago.

Perotine is available to preorder now and launches on 21 April. It is available from select Channel Islands retailers, and via Blue Ormer (paperback) and Amazon (ebook).

Dreena Collins is an award-winning multi-genre author, who also writes feel-good fiction as Jane Harvey. She will be speaking at the Guernsey Literary Festival on 1 May. See guernseyliteraryfestival.com/events/dreena-collins-perotine



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Sport

VICTORIA PARK'S DOUBLE SPONSORSHIP SIGNALS NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFEREES

GUERNSEY'S HOME OF FOOTBALL, VICTORIA PARK, HAS AGREED A PAIR OF SPONSORSHIP DEALS WITH LOCAL REFEREES TOM STRAWBRIDGE AND BRENT BLONDEL AS THEY LOOK TO DEVELOP THEIR REFEREEING CAREERS BOTH AT HOME AND AWAY.

Tom and Brent are well-known faces on Guernsey's football scene, having both played competitively at a local level before transitioning into refereeing.

Recent changes have enabled Guernsey-based match officials to progress to Level 4, opening the door to officiating Step 5 football within the National League System (NLS) and creating new pathways for career development.

With limited opportunities to referee higher-level matches on island, Victoria Park's sponsorship will enable Tom and Brent to travel regularly to the UK. This will allow them to gain invaluable experience officiating at new grounds, working with different clubs, and learning alongside UK-based match officials as they continue to develop their skills.

In addition to the sponsorship agreement, Victoria Park has established links with Puma, the official kit partner of Professional

Game Match Officials Limited (PGMOL). Through this partnership, both referees have been supplied with official Puma kit to wear when travelling and officiating.

Rob Jones, Victoria Park Director, said: 'Part of our mission statement is to support enhanced experiences and create a lifelong journey within the game. Victoria Park already does this for local players, coaches, officials and supporters, and with this sponsorship, we are extending that commitment by supporting these two ambitious referees as they focus on developing their careers off-island.'

'Tom and Brent's dedication to challenging themselves at a higher level is exemplary. If they can become pioneers for future aspiring officials, then that will be a fantastic achievement - and we are extremely proud to play a small part in helping realise that goal.'

Tom said: 'Victoria Park's sponsorship has been huge in

enabling me to progress my refereeing career and, hopefully, pave the way for future Guernsey match officials to experience a similar journey.

'I'd like to progress as far up the ladder as possible. Who knows what that level is, but Victoria Park's support is already allowing me to officiate at a level that wasn't previously possible, and I'm incredibly grateful to the team for their backing.'

Brent said: 'I'm keen to develop my refereeing career as far as I can, but one of the biggest barriers is the cost involved in travelling regularly to the UK. Victoria Park's sponsorship will be a huge support, helping me gain invaluable experience with new teams, at different grounds, and alongside match officials off-island. I'm really grateful for the opportunities it will open up, and hope it will set an example for future Guernsey referees as they come through the ranks.'



ALL IMAGES ©THE GUERNSEY SPORTS COMMISSION

XCITING YEAR AHEAD FOR CYCLING PRODIGY ZACH

2026 IS SHAPING UP TO BE AN EXCITING YEAR FOR YOUNG GUERNSEY MOUNTAIN BIKE CROSS COUNTRY PRODIGY ZACH SMITH. NICKY WILL FROM THE GUERNSEY SPORTS COMMISSION EXPLAINS.

The 16-year-old has been identified as one of the top mountain bike riders in the UK and is now a Great Britain Cycling National School of Racing Foundation rider for 2025-26.

This means that he is regularly travelling to the UK for training camps and competitions as well as competing both in Europe and on the domestic mountain biking cross country scene. Oh, and not forgetting studying for his GCSEs this summer alongside all the training and travelling.

Zach first tried two wheels when he was about one and a half and then when he was seven, he went along to the Guernsey Velo Club's weekly Flyers sessions. But he admits that he didn't really enjoy it at the time.

It was putting in the miles during lockdown that seemed to unlock his talent on the bike.

'I think I did about a thousand kilometres over six weeks with my mum and dad. I had a new bike as well and I literally just fell in love,' says Zach.

Age group success in Southern XC events soon followed. He competed in his first ever national event in Wales in his first year in the U14 age group and came 10th.

Zach continued to hone his skills, dominating the local cross country and cyclocross scene in his age group and in 2024 he won all the southern XC events he entered and was ranked 4th nationally, made the podium at two national events and came second at the Welsh national championships.

Last year he concentrated on racing in Europe, learning to ride more aggressively culminating in a successful application for selection to the NSR foundation programme.

'I'm on a very structured programme now, it's tailor made for me. It's usually 12-hour weeks; I have one gym session a week plus a few other strength sessions as well but it's mainly on the bike.'

And being on the bike means hours and hours in his mum and dad's garage on the turbo trainer as this is the only way to get all the miles in that he needs when the weather is so poor.

'It's more like a mental thing, sitting on my bike on the turbo in a garage watching a fake bike go round and round is a bit tedious,' Zach admits.

'Nutrition has played a big part for the last year because I didn't really think about it before because I was self-trained but, now I'm on this programme, they give me advice.'

'The night before a race is just carbs. I love to eat. On race day I always have the same thing, four

'MY FRIENDS DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW I CAN WAKE UP AT 5 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING IN THE SUMMER AND GO FOR A FOUR-HOUR BIKE RIDE BUT I DON'T REALLY CARE WHAT PEOPLE THINK TO BE HONEST, I'M IN IT FOR MYSELF.'

to six large Weetabix with jam, no milk, fruit and extra granola on top.'

He's also trying to make time for his studies.

'I need to find that balance, I haven't quite found it yet but it's coming.'

The benefits of the training programme are now starting to pay off as his first step up to compete against a stacked expert field in the opening round of the Ian Brown's Mountain Bike Cross-Country Series saw him lead from start to finish.

'For the XC, the first one, to be able to win against people like Mark Le Page and other top Island Games riders, to still win was really cool and pretty incredible, and it's set me up well for the national series coming up.'

'I'm doing every national bar the one in Bradford because I have a GCSE on the Friday and another GCSE on the Monday and I'm not

going to be able to get to Bradford and back in time.'

Zach continues to receive support from sponsors Utmost and the Guernsey Sports Commission, and his family are behind him all the way.

'My family has backed me from the start. My mum and dad they obviously saw something when I was young. I know it's a lot of money to get away to compete six times in a row and living on an island is a bit of a pain.'

My friends don't understand how I can wake up at 5 o'clock in the morning in the summer and go for a four-hour bike ride but I don't really care what people think to be honest, I'm in it for myself.

I just set my own goals because when you are in a solo race no one else really matters because if you are the one who is winning you have got to hold your place.'

Zach is certainly single minded about where he wants to be in six months' time.

'Definitely still on the GB pathway. Top 5 nationally in the under 16 or under 17 age group, hopefully some national stripes, national champion would be good, top 25 in Europe. Ultimately, I'd love to be on the world stage, racing for world cups, which would be great. In September I'm going to apply for the Olympic Development Squad which is the next step up to what I'm on now which is only for a year. I'm just looking for a good season and staying fit and healthy and injury free.'

You can follow Zach's progress on Instagram @zachsmithmtb



L-R Janet Unitt & Heather Langlois from St John Guernsey LBG, and Leon Steyn and Amanda Benwell from Utmost Guernsey.



L-R Amanda Benwell, Oto Idem and Scarlett Plampton. Image ©Sophie Rabey.

£25,000 RAISED IN AID OF ST JOHN GUERNSEY LBG

Three finance sector workers have done their Utmost to support the local St John charity.

Taking place on the first Saturday of each month between 8am and 9am, the breakfasts are arranged by the RBL's Welfare Team in conjunction with Sarnia Hotels and also supported by Stan Brouard.

'Utmost Guernsey has been actively supporting St John Guernsey for the past two years. As well as organising a number of events and raising £25,000, its employees have volunteered their time, providing first aid support at some of Guernsey's biggest events, including Guernsey Together, North and West Shows, Seafront Sundays and its annual flag day.

The experience prompted Scarlett Plampton, Oto Idem, and Amanda Benwell, to officially sign up as St John Event First Aiders.

'We are immensely proud of all our colleagues who supported, encouraged and got involved with

St John Guernsey LBG as well as those who have joined the St John First Aider team and continue to strengthen the relationship built over the last two years. This achievement truly reflects the collaborative and community focused ethos of Utmost Guernsey,' said Leon Steyn, CEO of Utmost Guernsey.

Heather Langlois, CEO of St John Guernsey LBG, thanked Utmost for its support.

'AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF MONEY HAS BEEN RAISED ALONG WITH A NUMBER OF WONDERFUL FRIENDSHIPS FORMED ALONG THE WAY, BOTH OF WHICH WE CAN'T BE MORE GRATEFUL FOR AND WHICH HELPS US TO CONTINUE OUR MISSION IN DELIVERING FIRST AID TREATMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO OUR COMMUNITY,' SHE SAID.

RBS INTERNATIONAL BOOSTS SUPPORT FOR GUERNSEY CHARITIES

RBS International is strengthening its community support in 2026, building on the progress made since launching its Community Involvement Strategy last year, when it donated funds to 13 local charities, including supporting the Guernsey Community Foundation in its efforts to reduce homelessness on the island through a £20,000 grant to the newly established charity At Home in Guernsey.

This year, RBS International will focus on three priority areas: supporting vulnerable children and young people, helping victims of abuse, including financial abuse, and assisting people affected by poverty.

'Our communities continue to face immense pressure from rising living costs, and charities delivering essential services are feeling the strain. Last year, we saw firsthand the difference our support can make for the most vulnerable groups across our jurisdictions,' said Jane Howard, CEO of RBS International.

'WE'RE NOW STRENGTHENING OUR COMMITMENT FOR 2026, PROVIDING THE TIME, EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES CHARITIES NEED TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE WHO RELY ON THEM MOST. I LOOK FORWARD TO BUILDING ON THE IMPACT WE ACHIEVED TOGETHER LAST YEAR.'



The Cheshire Homes team.

TISE RAISES MORE THAN £16,000 FOR GUERNSEY CHESHIRE HOMES

The International Stock Exchange (TISE), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Miami International Holdings, Inc. has donated £16,404 to support the Guernsey Cheshire Home.

It was chosen by TISE staff – who volunteered to assist with the Guernsey Cheshire Home's fundraising initiatives such as a Pancake Day fundraiser at the Town Church – as its charity of choice for 2025.

'We are so pleased to help the Guernsey Cheshire Home by raising this significant sum,' said Laura Cornelius, Head of Human Resources at TISE. 'It is great to see our team come together through various activities to raise funds for such a worthy cause. I hope that the money raised will benefit the charity in its mission to provide residents with the opportunity to live a life of their own choosing within a friendly and comfortable environment.'

The Guernsey Cheshire Home is a unique facility that for more than 35 years has provided a home for people who need constant care due to serious physical disabilities such as multiple sclerosis, spinal injury, strokes, motor neurone disease, cerebral palsy, and the effects of accidents.

The funds raised by TISE will enable the charity to redecorate a resident's bedroom to create a more comfortable and personalised living space, replace hoists and tracking systems in two rooms – improving safety and dignity in care – and purchase new slings for residents, ensuring comfort and reliability in daily support.

'WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THIS SUPPORT FROM TISE WHICH IS A GREAT BOOST IN OUR EFFORTS TO STAFF AND MAINTAIN THE HOME DURING 2026,' SAID MARY ELLEN CARTER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AT THE GUERNSEY CHESHIRE HOME. 'IT COSTS OVER £1.5M. ANNUALLY TO RUN THE HOME – EXCLUDING THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT – AND WITH NO DIRECT GOVERNMENT FUNDING, WE ARE RELIANT ON FUNDRAISING AND DONATIONS.'

The staff at TISE have chosen Dementia Friendly Guernsey, a local charity dedicated to improving the quality of life for people affected by the condition and their carers, as their charity of choice for 2026.



Laura Cornelius, Head of Human Resources at TISE.

Sky Café

Enjoy refreshing drinks and snacks at great prices, plus make the most of Aurigny's excellent duty-free offers.

Products listed may be subject to change due to availability.

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Our clients benefit from a closer relationship with directors who are right there to understand your unique financial goals and investment preferences.

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 Boutique Asset Management

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Light Bites



Muffin - mixed flavours
£3.00



Walker's All-Butter Shortbread 11g
£1.50

Sweet Snacks



Cadbury Nibbly Fingers
 125g (Not included in Deals)
£3.50



Nestlé KitKat 4-finger
 41.5g
£2.50



Cadbury Dairy Milk
 Chocolate Bar 45g
£2.50

Savoury Snacks



Pringles Original
 40g
£2.50



Pringles Sour Cream
 & Onion 40g
£2.50



Mini Cheddars
 45g
£2.50



Sea Salted Pretzels
 30g
£2.50



Sour Cream & Chive
 Pretzels 30g
£2.50

Great Value Deals

DEAL 1

Any Hot Drink
 & Muffin

£5.50

DEAL 2

Any Beer, Cider or
 Wine & your choice
 of Savoury Snack

£8.00

DEAL 3

Any Soft Drink
 & your choice of
 Savoury Snack

£4.00

DEAL 4

Any Hot Drink &
 your choice of
 Sweet Snack

£5.25

DEAL 5

Any Soft Drink &
 your choice of
 Sweet Snack

£4.00

ALLERGENS

Please be aware that some of our products may contain allergens and some of our customers may bring onboard their own products containing allergens. If you are susceptible to serious complications arising from allergens it is your responsibility to make our cabin crew aware of this immediately.

Sky Beverages

Hot Drinks

WARNING
These drinks are hot. Please handle with care in order to protect yourself and fellow passengers



Clipper Organic English Breakfast Tea
£3.00



Clipper Organic Everyday Decaf Tea
£3.00



Hot Chocolate
£3.00



Bean14 Coffee
£3.00



Bean14 Decaf Coffee
£3.00



Nescafé Cappuccino
£3.00



Nescafé Latte
£3.00

Soft Drinks & Water



Coca Cola Classic 150ml
Diet Coke 150ml
Sprite 150ml



Schweppes Indian Tonic Water 150ml

£2.00

Ballygowan Water

Ballygowan water has a unique mineral content, the result of 750 years of natural filtration through mineral-rich limestone. Still 500ml
Sparkling 500ml

£2.75



Daymer Bay Orange and Apple Juice

Squeezing the best from nature, inspired by the natural beauty of North Cornwall's Daymer Bay. 250ml

£2.75

Blackcurrant Ribena 200ml
£2.50



Sky Bar Service

Mini Spirits



£6.50

Bacardi Carta Blanca Rum 50ml
Jack Daniel's Whiskey 50ml
Gordon's Dry Gin 50ml
Smirnoff Red Vodka 50ml
Bombay Sapphire Dry Gin 50ml
Bell's Scotch Whisky 50ml
Blue Bottle Gin 50ml
Blue Bottle Pink Gin 50ml

2 SPIRITS AND 2 MIXERS
£14

Wines



Jack Rabbit Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot, White Zinfandel or Pinot Grigio 187ml

£6.00

2 FOR
£10

Beers & Cider

Madri Lager 440ml
Thatchers Gold Cider 440ml

£5.50

2 FOR
£10



Lunetta Prosecco

200ml
A deliciously light and fruity Prosecco with hints of apple and peach on the nose and a fresh, softly sparkling palate.

£7.50

2 FOR
£14



BLUE BOTTLE DRY GIN



The epitome of boutique distilled gin. Each batch is meticulously crafted in a copper still at the Three Fingers Distillery on Guernsey. Blue Bottle gin has a unique combination of botanicals scrupulously selected to create a delectable treat.

50ml only **£6.50**



ALLERGENS

Please be aware that some of our products may contain allergens and some of our customers may bring onboard their own products containing allergens. If you are susceptible to serious complications arising from allergens **it is your responsibility** to make our cabin crew aware of this immediately.

Sky Duty Free

Spirits



Bombay Sapphire Dry Gin 1ltr
£22

2 FOR £40

Gordon's London Dry Gin 1ltr **£14.99**
Smirnoff Red Vodka 1ltr **£12.99**
The Famous Grouse Whisky 1ltr **£15.99**



MIX & MATCH
Gordon's Gin and Famous Grouse Whisky
2 for £26



Wheadon's Gin

70cl
Handcrafted Gin from the Island of Guernsey.
A premium artisan gin distilled in very small batches, Wheadon's seasonal infusions balance locally foraged flavours with a traditional blend of botanicals to produce perfectly balanced gins for a discerning palate.
Inspired by our island home and constantly seeking expressive and unique flavours to delight drinkers, Wheadon's can be enjoyed on the rocks with a garnish, or pairs perfectly with tonic.

£40

Cigarettes & Tobacco

Marlboro Gold	200 / 400s	£63 / £94
Benson & Hedges	200 / 400s	£50 / £80
Lambert & Butler Silver	200 / 400s	£50 / £66
Mayfair King Size	200s	£50
Golden Virginia Tobacco	5 x 50g	£56
Amber Leaf	8 x 30g	£50

ALLOWANCES & PAYMENT

On flights from the Channel Islands to the UK, the allowance includes 200 cigarettes and four litres of spirits. On flights from the UK to the Channel Islands, the allowance includes 200 cigarettes and one litre of spirits. A duty-free service is only available on the ATR aircraft. You must be 18 years old or above to purchase tobacco or alcohol. Major credit or debit cards are accepted.

PLEASE NOTE

Items will not be exchanged/refunded. Please check your duty free purchases before departing the aircraft.

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