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En Voyage Aurigny's Magazine ISSUE 47

GUERNSEY'S AIRLINE
aurigny

FREE TO TAKE AWAY

En Voyage

Aurigny's leisure and business magazine

ISSUE 47

SOAK UP SUMMER

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

BUSINESS NEWS

SPORTS SECTION

PLUS LOTS MORE

IMAGE: LES ETACS GANNET ROCKS, ALDERNEY

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The National Trust of Guernsey

Preserving Guernsey's heritage for future generations

Our heritage attractions

The Folk and Costume Museum

Set in heritage buildings around a cobbled courtyard at Saumarez Park, the Museum explores Guernsey life through permanent and seasonal exhibitions of traditional skills, domestic objects and an outstanding costume collection. A favourite with visitors and locals, the much-loved Museum Shop adds to the experience with thoughtfully sourced gifts and treats.

Opening times:

31 Mar to 01 Nov
7 days a week: 10.00am - 5.00pm (last entry 4.15pm).
Free entry – donations welcome.
The Museum is access-friendly.

How to find us:

Saumarez Park, Castel, GY5 7UJ | Perry's guide: 15G2 | Bus routes: 41 & 42.

Les Caches Farm

Set in the peaceful hamlet of Les Villets, Les Caches Farm is a wonderful example of a traditional Guernsey farmhouse and associated outbuildings.

Opening times:

6 May to 27 Sep
Wed - Sun: 10.30am - 12.30pm unless there is a private function. To avoid disappointment please check our website for up-to-date information. Free entry - donations welcome. Les Caches Farm grounds and apple orchard are open all year, for public enjoyment, tours and event opportunities.

How to find us:

Les Villets, Forest, GY8 0HN
Perry's guide: Page 28, D4 |
Bus routes: 71, 91, 92, 93, 94 & 95.
Alight from the bus at the Airport or Forest Stores.

The Victorian Shop and Parlour at 26 Cornet St

This fine St Peter Port restoration includes a Victorian-styled shop, selling delightful gifts and always offering a trip down memory lane.

Opening times:

16 Mar to 3 Oct
Mon - Sat: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Free entry.

How to find us:

26 Cornet Street, St. Peter Port, GY1 1LF | Perry's guide: SPP 5L8-M9 | Bus routes: Any bus route ending at St Peter Port terminus.

THE NATIONAL TRUST OF GUERNSEY

Les Caches Farm T: 07781 106461 E: emc@nationaltrust.gg
The Folk and Costume Museum T: 01481 255384 E: fcm@nationaltrust.gg
The Victorian Shop and Parlour T: 07781 145041 E: 26cornetstreet@nationaltrust.gg

Full information at nationaltrust.gg

'WE DON'T JUST TRAVEL TO SEE THE WORLD; WE TRAVEL TO SEE WHAT THE WORLD MAKES US.'

Anthony Bourdain

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.

@airlinegeek
#Aurigny

@paul _gsy_ ci
Yesterday's twilight takeoff views #Aurigny

@groningenairport
Today the first passengers leave for the Channel Islands with #aurignyairlines

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

@martynrobertbrown
Waiting for the flight home after a busy day at Jersey Zoo and Jump Jersey #Aurigny

@visitguernsey
On the way to Alderney #Aurigny

TPA Don't chase, lead.

tpagency.com

Produced six times a year
visit aurignymedia.com

COVER PHOTO
Les Etacs Gannet Rocks, Alderney
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Aurigny Air Services Ltd,
States Airport,
La Planque Lane, Forest,
Guernsey, GY8 ODT

aurigny.com

MEET THE TEAM

EDITOR
AMANDA EULENKAMP

amanda@aurignymedia.com
Call +44 (0) 1481 240234

ADVERTISING CONTACT

hello@aurignymedia.com
Call +44 (0) 1481 240240

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

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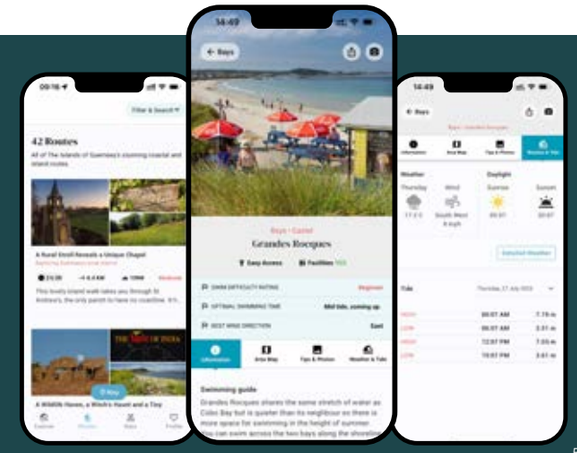

DESIGNED WITH YOU IN MIND

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THE DRAWING ROOM

thedrawingroom.gg

Welcome aboard Aurigny

LEON MITCHELL, HEAD OF OPERATIONS

On behalf of everyone at Aurigny, welcome on board, and thank you for choosing to fly with us today.

Summer is always a special time for the islands, and it's been a busy few months across the airline. Our Southampton schedules are now fully underway, supported by an additional aircraft joining the fleet to provide greater resilience and smoother journeys throughout the season.

We've also recently partnered with VisitGuernsey on a new ITV1 television campaign, sharing a message to millions across the UK that we feel really proud of — that Guernsey is the 'simplest way to feel a world away'. At a time when travel can often feel complicated or uncertain, we're lucky to have something truly special here.

Behind the scenes, we've continued investing in the service we provide, including a transformational change at Southampton, with the development of our ground handling base. We now have 18 Aurigny team members based there, ensuring it's our own people — the people who know our customers and islands best — supporting passengers throughout their journey. That's especially important on our lifeline routes, including for those travelling for medical treatment.

I'm also delighted to share that this spring has been one of our strongest operational periods in recent years. More than 90% of our flights arrived within 15 minutes of schedule, while in April, 99% arrived within 60 minutes.

As always, your safety and comfort remain our top priorities. Our cabin crew are here to look after you, so if there's anything we can do to make your journey easier or more enjoyable, please don't hesitate to ask.

Most importantly, thank you for flying with Aurigny. We know you have a choice, and it means a great deal to all of us that you've chosen to travel with us this summer.

ADVERTORIAL

Why your brain thinks energy is boring (and why it's wrong)

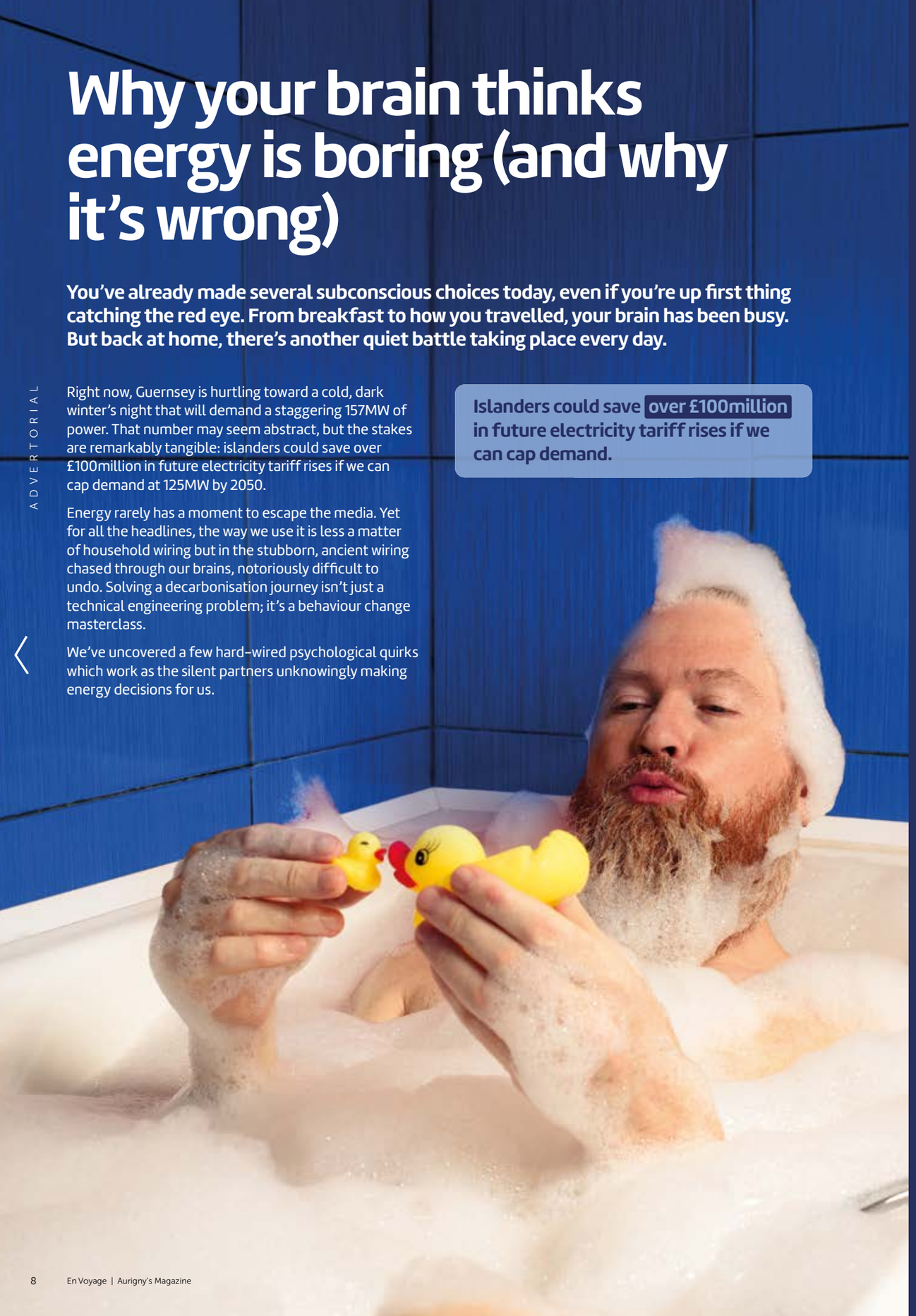
You've already made several subconscious choices today, even if you're up first thing catching the red eye. From breakfast to how you travelled, your brain has been busy. But back at home, there's another quiet battle taking place every day.

Right now, Guernsey is hurtling toward a cold, dark winter's night that will demand a staggering 157MW of power. That number may seem abstract, but the stakes are remarkably tangible: islanders could save over £100million in future electricity tariff rises if we can cap demand at 125MW by 2050.

Energy rarely has a moment to escape the media. Yet for all the headlines, the way we use it is less a matter of household wiring but in the stubborn, ancient wiring chased through our brains, notoriously difficult to undo. Solving a decarbonisation journey isn't just a technical engineering problem; it's a behaviour change masterclass.

We've uncovered a few hard-wired psychological quirks which work as the silent partners unknowingly making energy decisions for us.

Islanders could save over £100million in future electricity tariff rises if we can cap demand.



THE STATUS QUO TRAP

As a fellow human being, this writer is biologically wired to prefer things just as they are. If your boiler or car is working, it'll register as "safe", a status we're notoriously reluctant to argue with. Brains are cognitive misers; they want to save energy for conscious action, such as remembering what to do next, send an email, navigate a difficult conversation. We often wait until something stops working before we process that elusive second thought.

Energy retailers worldwide see thousands of daily panic purchases, for example if boilers die in the bleak mid-winter, or tumble dryers pack up before a grim seven-day rain forecast. Your brain screams for the quickest, easiest path back to normal, often trampling familiar routes, as "Safe" is often just Familiar disguised as Certainty.

PEAK PARADOX

Why is timing everything?

Most of us come home and switch our electricity ecosystem on to full capacity around 6pm – turn up heating, boil the kettle, pre-heat the oven, dial up the washing machine.

At scale, these collective habits influence 'peak' electricity demand, and to make sure everyone gets what they need, our engineers also fire up the power station's fossil-fuel generators during winter.

This brings us to two interesting psychological quirks.

1) Hyperbolic discounting

Hardwired to choose small, immediate rewards over larger, later ones, we often want clothes and dishes clean now, the house warm quickly, and rooms lit up before we walk in.

Against instant domestic comfort, long-term visions of a stable, decarbonised grid saving north of £100m in future tariff rises feels distant and inconsequential. The future is blurry compared to the hot cup of tea we want right now. For brains that evolved to find berries in the bush today, "saving over £100m by 2050" feels irrelevant.

And frankly, isn't that just someone else's problem to solve? Unfortunately, it isn't. That £100+ million price tag for 'maximum demand' is a collective tab we'll all eventually have to split. To stop a bill that size landing on our doormats, Guernsey needs a community shift to use more imported, low-carbon electricity – to go 'off-peak.'

2) Social proof

You'll notice your neighbour's new electric car, or sunlight glinting off their new solar panels. What you don't see is the quiet revolution inside their homes: their storage heater soaking up the cheapest, cleanest electricity at 2am, their water heating overnight for a cheaper, cleaner morning shower, or their washing machine starting up as the clock strikes 11pm.

These are heavy lifters for our grid. But that invisibility makes it harder to feel the prickle of social pressure, even if it means lower bills, less air pollution, and reducing future tariff rises.

CHUNKING

Trade a thousand nagging worries for a single golden rule.

"Be mindful of your energy use all day" may not convince you to change your daily habits.

If you wanted someone to take action, what would you tell them?

1) "The best time to use electricity is between 11pm and 5am, the second best is between 10am and 4pm."

2) "Please be mindful of your energy use, reduce where possible, and consider utilising off-peak overnight electricity to support grid efficiency."

Humans can be notoriously poor with vague instruction, but on the flipside have a remarkable knack for following a single, binary rule that acts like a mental shortcut to cleaner, cheaper electricity.

LOSS AVERSION

Sometimes the sting of losing £10 has twice the potency of gaining it.

To many, the 'sting' of waiting for their dishwasher now feels greater than the reward of a lower bill next month, so we treat convenience as a premium luxury and choose to pay more.

It's the same electricity, but as the grid must deliver at its busiest moment, you pay more for the 'right now' factor. The power is the same; the timing is what costs you.

As we all share the cost of the electricity grid, we all feel it when people use the grid during 'peak' times. That means to help reduce future tariff rises, we must solve a peak demand problem today.

Every night, the network has a pool of 'latent capacity', the mechanical and thermal room to move power that simply goes unused. Rather than relying on the congested daytime rush, those who tap into the grid later take advantage of a system that's already 'on' and ready to import cheaper, cleaner hydro, wind and solar power into their home.

(OUT) SMART ENERGY

So how do we outsmart our own biology when it comes to energy? It starts by 'load shifting', or moving the heavy lifting off-peak to enjoy cheaper, cleaner electricity.

Handing someone a smart meter and a spreadsheet and expecting them to do their laundry at 3am won't work. We value convenience, status, and staying safe more than efficiency. We don't all need to be engineers to help solve the decarbonisation problem – for many of us, a cleaner future comes at the expense of changing just a few habits.

To master them, we must also outsmart our own forgetfulness.

Delay-start timers are unsung heroes. Pair them with a Guernsey Electricity fridge magnet reminders or a labelled smartphone alarm to turn off-peak savings into a subconscious, daily win.

Learn more by searching 'off peak' at **electricity.gg** or follow Guernsey Electricity on social media

Guernsey Electricity

72 SEAT ACTIVATION – WORLD PILOT DAY

72 Seats. 72 Stories. One Airline

The appearance of 72 seats in a familiar formation on the Market Terrace attracted plenty of attention, as Aurigny's installation shared powerful, real-life stories from passengers across its routes.

The installation featured 72 individual seats, mirroring the capacity of a single ATR72-600 aircraft, each representing a real journey. Throughout the day, visitors were invited to take a seat and read personal accounts from passengers who use Aurigny's lifeline routes for everything from essential medical travel and education to family connections and critical moments when getting somewhere wasn't optional, it was vital.

The event also marked the lead-up to World Pilot Day on Sunday 26 April, recognising the 50 Guernsey-based pilots behind these journeys. Operating more than 10,000 flights each year, Aurigny's pilots play a crucial role in safely connecting the community, often in complex and challenging conditions.

Designed as an immersive and highly visual experience, the installation attracted public interest and created a space for reflection on the role air connectivity plays in Guernsey.

Philip Saunders, Chief Commercial Officer at Aurigny, said: 'This was about bringing the purpose of our airline into the open. Every story reflects a real moment where these flights made a difference, and behind each one is a Captain and First Officer who ensured that journey could happen safely. It's been incredibly meaningful to see so many people engage with that.'

Visitors also experienced a live artistic element, with local artist Ross Le Brun painting the outline of an ATR, adding a creative interpretation to the installation and further attracting attention to the aircraft at the heart of these services.

LOVE IS IN THE AIR

The distance between Alderney and Guernsey just got a lot smaller for one local youngster.

In a heart-warming result for our recent Love is in the Air competition, Stefan from Alderney has been crowned the winner, securing a year's worth of inter-island travel. Hosted in partnership with All Island Media, our contest saw the public cast their votes for the stories that moved them most and Stefan's tale of long-distance friendship took the top spot with 31% of the vote.

The win means Stefan will be able to enjoy up to 12 return flights over the next year, allowing him to visit his best friend who recently relocated to Guernsey.

Stefan's mother, Klaudia, was moved by the news: 'There's something quietly heartbreaking about watching your child miss someone. Flights between our islands aren't just journeys. They are reunions. They are hugs at arrivals.'

Upon hearing the news that he'd be seeing his friend much more often, Stefan was really happy and has already begun planning his visits.

VISITOR GROWTH THIS SUMMER

Aurigny is pleased to announce a renewed and expanded partnership with Visit Guernsey to drive visitor growth to the islands for Summer 2026.

In close collaboration with Visit Guernsey, the island's destination marketing organisation, the partnership has delivered a large-scale campaign that positions Guernsey as the destination that is 'the simplest way to feel a world away'. The creative direction reflects a growing demand in 2026 for uncomplicated, reassuring travel experiences, offering visitors an opportunity to unwind, reset, and reconnect in a peaceful island setting.

From 1 May, a new advertisement will air on ITV1 prime-time television, delivering more than 25 million ad impacts across the UK. The campaign has been carefully tailored to resonate with prospective holidaymakers who may not typically consider Guernsey as a destination, with many reconsidering their usual holiday hot spots due to current global tensions.

Last year's campaign demonstrated the effectiveness of the partnership between the national airline and the national tourism organisation, with statistical analysis showing that linear television advertising drove a 9% increase in flight searches on Aurigny.com.

L-R: Sam Talbot, Head of Marketing at Aurigny, Sam Claxton, Marketing Manager at Visit Guernsey, Zoe Gosling, Head of Marketing at Visit Guernsey, Philip Saunders, Chief Commercial Officer at Aurigny.

Complementary digital activity contributed to incremental inbound bookings. It has since been reported that air visitors increased by 12% in 2025 compared to 2024, underscoring the importance and success of the partnership approach last year. Subsequently, activity will be further scaled for 2026.

NEW GROUND HANDLER BASE, SOUTHAMPTON

Aurigny has invested in its Southampton base to improve support for Guernsey and Alderney routes.

The growth of the handling team will cover all aspects of customer service and ground handling at Southampton Airport. As a result, passengers will experience dedicated service and coordinated support from the airline's own specialist staff at every point of their journey on the lifeline routes between Guernsey, Alderney and Southampton.

This development follows a successful recruitment campaign in Hampshire and weeks of specialist training for the airline's new team at Southampton Airport. The airline's newly dedicated in-house team at Southampton will handle up to 70 flights per week to and from Guernsey and Alderney.

The airline will also be in a much-improved position to support customers who require a little extra assistance. Within the last 12 months, well over 1,500 travellers have required special assistance for Aurigny's flights at Southampton Airport, of whom over three-quarters required assistance with mobility.

Following the cessation of Blue Islands services and Aurigny's growing role in patient travel, this number is expected to almost double over the next year.

ALL IMAGES: ©SAUCE FILMS

A TIME OF REFLECTION AND CELEBRATION

Liberation Day in Guernsey is more than a date on the calendar, it is a moment of collective memory and reunion. This year, Aurigny was honoured to fly Mavis Brown, a former child evacuee, back to her roots to share her story and reflections of the evacuation.

In the summer of 1940, as Nazi Germany prepared to occupy the Channel Islands, parents were given mere hours to pack their children's lives into small suitcases before the occupying forces arrived. Among the thousands who fled were approximately 2,500 islanders bound for Stockport, Greater Manchester.

Mavis Duquemin (as she was then) stood alongside other children awaiting evacuation, clutching a packet of sandwiches, her winter clothes and a small suitcase. She was not quite three years old.

'At the harbour there were all sorts of boats, coal boats, cattle boats – none of them cleaned out. It was a really rough crossing, even though it was July,' she recalled.

The departure marked the end of the only world she knew. Her family had never stepped foot off Guernsey before the war. Upon arriving in England, they relied on the kindness of strangers.

Mavis and her mother initially stayed in Brinnington, sleeping on donated mattresses, before reuniting with her sister, Hazel, three months later, who had travelled over earlier and ended up in Rochdale.

She remembers Christmas 1940, when 'there was a string of bombs up through the sky, coming down from planes. We lived in Heaton Moor, a village in Stockport. And there was damage.'

Her father joined the Welsh Fusiliers and went over to Ireland in 1941, to guard Stormont (the seat of the Northern Ireland Assembly). The family went with him and lived with other people for two and a half years. When Mavis returned to Stockport, she spoke with a strong Belfast accent.

The Duquemin family returned to Guernsey after the war, in 1945 for Christmas. After such a long time away, they settled in Stockport, with regular visits to Guernsey.

Mavis eventually met a Scottish GP called Andrew Brown and they married. They had two girls and have two grandchildren. Despite what she thought about the island when she returned after the war, the Guernsey connection is still strong, with granddaughter Gabriella now calling the island home.

Returning on Aurigny for Liberation Day 2026, Mavis was met on touchdown by the Aurigny team, the pupils of Forest School, and Gabriella. She was also greeted by the Bailiff of Guernsey, Sir Richard McMahon.

Her weekend was a whirlwind of Liberation Day tradition. From participating in the iconic Cavalcade to dancing at the Liberation Tea Dance, Mavis joined in the celebrations that took place around the island.

'THERE'S REMEMBRANCE, BUT THERE IS DEFINITELY A CELEBRATION,' SHE SAID, ADDING: 'I LOVE GUERNSEY ALWAYS.'

GUERNSEY'S AIRLINE
aurigny

IN FOCUS REPORT - APRIL

Aurigny in Focus: How we're Performing

We're back to keep you informed of our operations and performance. As we move into the summer season, we are pleased to share a strong period of operational delivery across the last three months, demonstrating continued improvements in reliability and customer service.

April in Context

In April, we welcomed 52,661 travellers across our network as demand continued to grow heading into the busy summer season. Over the last quarter, we've delivered a consistently strong operational performance, with significant improvements in punctuality and reliability compared to the weather-affected winter period earlier in the year.

The improvement seen across February, March and April reflects the hard work and dedication of teams across the airline, all working together to provide a dependable service for our island community and visitors alike. While weather and Air Traffic Control (ATC) restrictions can continue to impact operations at times, the overall trend across recent months has been extremely positive.

As always, we continue to encourage customers to share feedback through our post-flight survey, helping us identify where we are performing well and where we can continue to improve.

52.6K

TRAVELLERS CARRIED

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 April, 92% of flights arrived within 15 minutes of schedule, excluding weather and Air Traffic Control (ATC) restrictions.
2. Including weather and ATC impacts, 89% of flights arrived within 15 minutes of schedule arrival.

By comparison, all other airlines at London Gatwick achieved 82% on-time performance within 15 minutes of schedule arrival during April. Our performance compared strongly with the wider industry and reflects the continued focus on operational reliability across the airline.

This also comes at a time when we've expanded our network by adding an aircraft. Not only are we operating more flights than ever before, but we are also achieving more on-time flights than ever before.

*Source: Eurocontrol.

Our Completion Rates

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

1. In April, our flight completion rate was 99% when excluding weather, Air Traffic Control (ATC) restrictions and medevac requirements.
2. Including the impact of weather and ATC restrictions, our completion rate was 98%.

By comparison, all other airlines operating at London Gatwick achieved an average flight completion rate of 93%. Our performance remained well above the industry average, demonstrating our ability to maintain a consistent and dependable service for customers.

*Source: Eurocontrol.

What We're Doing

Over the last three months, our focus has remained on continuing to deliver a dependable and resilient service for our passengers. The strong operational performance achieved across February, March and April reflects the commitment of teams across the airline.

We have continued to place a strong emphasis on customer service, ensuring passengers are supported throughout their travel experience and that assistance is available when needed. Our teams across the operation remain focused on delivering clear communication and responsive support, particularly during periods of disruption.

At the same time, we continue to reflect on the strong delivery achieved as a whole across the airline, while maintaining a clear focus on continuing this standard as we move into the busier summer months.

Our Call Centre

- Calls connected: 3,369
- Average wait time: 30 seconds

Our Contact Centre teams continued to deliver a high level of support throughout April, maintaining fast response times while assisting customers across the network. The reduced average wait time reflects the ongoing commitment of our customer service teams to providing efficient and effective support.

In Summary

The past three months have represented a strong period of operational performance for Aurigny. Following a more challenging winter period earlier in the year, February, March and April saw significant improvements in punctuality, reliability and customer service delivery across the airline.

We are pleased with the progress made and remain committed to continuing this positive momentum as we move further into the summer season. Thank you to our island community and all our passengers for your continued support.

92%*

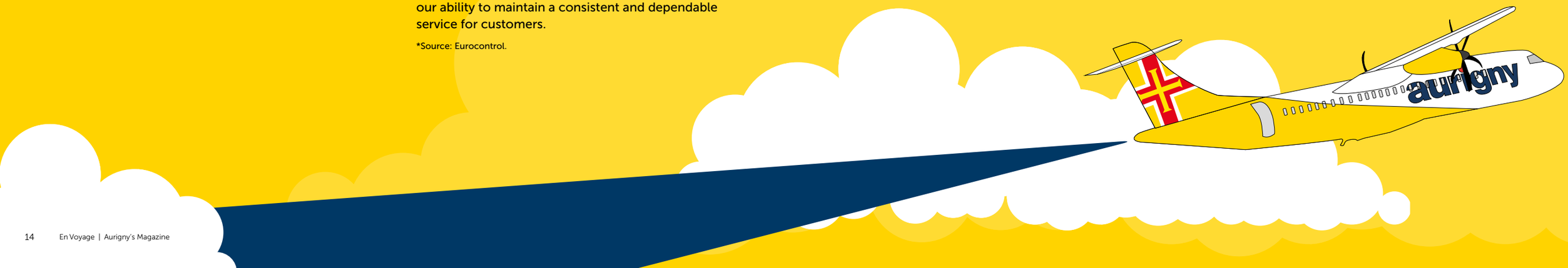
FLIGHTS ARRIVING WITHIN 15 MINUTES OF SCHEDULE

98%

FLIGHT COMPLETION RATE

3.4K

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

- ALDERNEY
- BIRMINGHAM
- BRISTOL
- DUBLIN*
- EDINBURGH
- EXETER
- GRENOBLE*
- JERSEY
- LEEDS BRADFORD*
- LONDON CITY
- LONDON GATWICK
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FROM ALDERNEY

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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 & VAPING

Smoking of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and vaping devices 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

FILMING & PHOTOGRAPHY:

We ask customers to be respectful of the privacy of our crew and fellow passengers when taking photographs or filming onboard. Please do not film or photograph crew members without their permission. If you are planning organised or commercial filming, requests can be submitted via the form on our website.

OFFENCES TO AVOID:

Assaulting, intimidating, threatening a crew member or passenger.

Refusing to follow instructions from the crew.

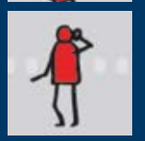
Intoxicated or disorderly conduct or consuming alcohol which was not provided by crew members.

You are not permitted to consume your duty free purchases on board.

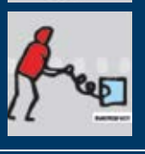
Engaging in or displaying any indecent or lewd behaviour.

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.

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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GUERNSEY

Beach Guide

Guernsey has a beach and a bay for everyone.
Here we discover Le Grand Havre.

LE GRAND HAVRE

At the northern tip of the West Coast, the wide bay of Grand Havre boasts an illustrious array of beaches. Whether it's the brilliant yellow sands of Le Picquerel, the picturesque harbour at Les Amarreurs, or the unrivalled swimming to be found at Rousse, Ladies Bay and Chouet, you really are spoiled for choice.

The stone wall at Rousse, beneath a fabulous kiosk (try the fish finger sandwiches - seriously), is a magnificent place for a swim. A little to the north is Le Picquerel, a small beach with a big heart. Its sloping sands quickly give way into a surprisingly warm, pale blue sea, while its northerly orientation shelters the beach from the prevailing winds, making swimming a non-too-daunting prospect well into the autumn.

A stone's throw across the bay lies the small harbour at Les Amarreurs, arguably the prettiest of Grand Havre's beaches. A flotilla of fishing boats bob beside the granite jetty, which is a perfect spot for jumping into the water. This makes Les Amarreurs ideal for a swift after-work swim, as many Vale residents will tell you.

Although all four beaches can lay claim to being the perfect barbecue spot, it's hard to look beyond Ladies Bay when it comes to picking a favourite. An evening here enjoying hamburgers, fish rolls and potato salad (an integral but underappreciated part of any world-class barbecue) as the sun goes down – the sea shimmering, the sky a shocking pink, and the church bells calling out across the water – is nothing short of spectacular.

Chouet (pronounced 'Shoo-ay', 'Choo-ay' or 'Chewy', take your pick) is a sweep of spongy sand that marks the end of the West Coast. Like Ladies Bay, this is a big hit with families, but the strikingly beautiful views across the bay to the Vale Church are popular with all.

Chouet is one of the nicest places to swim on the West Coast, particularly at high tide – the headland that extends out into the bay (home to another of those ubiquitous Martello Towers) keeps the waters calm and clear.

The only major downside to Chouet is its location perilously close to the island's landfill site - if the wind is blowing from the north, this can overpower beachgoers with throat-constricting odours. The prevailing southerly winds mean this is seldom a problem (though when it is, boy, do you know about it), but if you do find yourself forced to breathe exclusively through your mouth then you can always walk down the beach a little to Ladies Bay.

Between the car parks at Les Amarreurs and Ladies Bay is one of the few beachside children's playgrounds in Guernsey (featuring a slide that once upon a time gained a certain notoriety among schoolchildren as the tallest on the island – it must have shrunk, because it doesn't look half so tall anymore). Coupled with the excellent rock pooling opportunities (the group of rocks at the southern end of Ladies Bay are a haven for crabs, anemones and even starfish – quick, someone phone Attenborough) and the unfailingly popular ice cream van, this makes Grand Havre a reliable family destination in both summer and winter, when buttoned-up walks on the windswept sands can be combined with a go on the swings.

Optimum Tide

Chouet – **High, going down**
Ladies Bay – **Mid, going down**
Le Picquerel – **High**
Les Amarreurs – **High**
Rousse – **High**

Best Feature

Remarkable views, especially at sunset

Taken from Guernsey Beach Guide.

IMAGE: ©VISIT GUERNSEY

WHAT'S THERE ?

- CAFÉ
- SWIM
- TOILETS

DOGS ON BEACHES

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

25 April - 5 July

On display at
Guernsey Museum
at Candie

Lost IN Nature

Let art transport you to nature

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GUERNSEY MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

WHAT'S ON IN THE BAILIWICK?

FERMAIN BAY ©VISIT GUERNSEY

5 – 13 June

CREATIVE SARK

A week of writing, craft, healing, floristry and more, exploring the creative hub that is Sark.

7 – 13 June

BLOOMIN' ALDERNEY

Wander through some of Alderney's most beautiful gardens

9 June – 3 July

'FORM' AN ART EXHIBITION BY CAITLIN GRUPPING

Caitlin's first solo exhibition incorporates linocut printing, oils and textiles based around life drawing studies.

BALCONY GIG ©ART FOR GUERNSEY

16 June

SEAFRONT SATURDAZE 4PM – 10PM

Head down to the seafront in St Peter Port and enjoy a glorious evening of food, music and stalls. *Also on Saturday 15 August.*

18 June 10am – 12pm

TRADITIONAL SPINNING DEMONSTRATIONS

Join heritage spinners on the courtyard at the Folk and Costume Museum at Saumarez Park for a hands-on demonstration.

28 June 11am – 7pm

HAVELET REGATTA

A day of events and attractions at Havelet Bay designed with families in mind. This seaside celebration raises funds for the Guernsey Cheshire Home – *more information at haveletregatta.gg*

28 June; 12 July; 2 August; 30 August 3pm – 8pm

COBO BALCONY GIGS

Bringing a real carnival atmosphere to the Cobo seafront, the balcony gigs have become a major part of Guernsey summers over the past 30 years, while raising funds for local charities.

SEAFRONT SUNDAY ©VISIT GUERNSEY

4 July

GUERNSEY ROUND TABLE HARBOUR CARNIVAL

The Harbour Carnival is a fun-filled free family fundraising event in and around St Peter Port Harbour, raising funds for Channel Islands Air Search. Includes the spectacular Man Powered Flight, and ends with a Grand Finale display over the harbour. *More information at harbourcarnival.gg*

6 JULY 5PM – 9PM

LÉ VIAËR MARCHI

Taking place at Saumarez Park, Lé Viaër Marchi is a lively and atmospheric evening celebrating local food, crafts and island life. It is known as the event that heralds the start of the island's summer. *See nationaltrust.gg/events for more information.*

NORTH SHOW ©VISIT GUERNSEY

8 July – 31 July

‘MARINE LIFE’ AN ART EXHIBITION BY ROSANNE GUILLE

Rosanne returns to her love of the sea and immerses herself in the life of the local fishermen and their catches.

10am until 5pm daily at the National Trust of Guernsey’s Art at the Park Gallery, Saumarez Park.

SHEEP RACING ©GUERNSEY PRESS

10, 17, 24 and 31 July
6pm – 9pm

KPMG CASTLE NIGHTS

This series of free entertainment for the whole family is held at Castle Cornet. Pack up a picnic and find a spot to enjoy live music, singing and family fun. *See arts.gg/events/kpmg-castle-nights/ for the full line up.*

17 – 18 July

SARK SHEEP RACING

Enjoy the pre-race music evening on 17 July, before the sheep racing on 18 July. Discover food stalls and games – pay at the gate.

18 July

ROCQUAINE REGATTA

A fun-filled day at Rocquaine Bay on the west coast. Join the fun as a spectator or get the children involved in the junior sand events. Enjoy entertainment and live music while rounding off the day with an evening barbecue. Free entry to the Fort Grey Shipwreck Museum all day.

25 – 26 July
10am – 5pm daily

TORTEVAL SCARECROW FESTIVAL

Starting from Torteval Parish Church, walk the Scarecrow Trail through some of Torteval’s delightful lanes. Popular with both young and old, there are trail maps available so that you can find where the scarecrows are displayed. Food and drinks tents are set up in the fields in front of the church.

Upcoming Summer Shows:

19 – 20 AUGUST

THE WEST SHOW

Guernsey’s premier agricultural and horticultural show, plus a full programme of entertainment both in the arena and around the showground, including a funfair. Live music both evenings in the beer tent.

26 – 27 AUGUST

THE NORTH SHOW AND BATTLE OF FLOWERS

One of the main outdoor events in Guernsey’s summer calendar, the event takes place in Saumarez Park. The Battle of Flowers takes place in the afternoon of the second day.

SEAFRONT SUNDAYS

St Peter Port’s picturesque seafront becomes a busy market filled with local arts and crafts, produce, drinks and food on certain Sundays in the summer.

7 JUNE

ARTS GUERNSEY

A day to celebrate the talents of local crafters, musicians, performers and artists.

21 JUNE, 2 AUGUST, 30 AUGUST

EAT, DRINK AND BE LOCAL!

A celebration of local produce.

WHAT’S ON IN LEEDS AND YORKSHIRE

ABOVE: LEEDS. BELOW: TEMPLE NEWSAM ESTATE ©ISTOCKPHOTO

18 & 25 June 1pm – 2pm

DELPHINIUM WALK AND CREAM TEA

Temple Newsam Estate

Explore the Walled Gardens with the estate’s knowledgeable gardeners and learn about the National Plant Collections. Walk and talk will be followed by cream tea in the Lady Hartford Suite.

23 – 24 June

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE EXPERIENCE

Step back in time and uncover the fascinating connection between Florence Nightingale and the Gascoigne family of Lotherton Hall.

Start with a tour of the Hall, then view personal objects belonging to Florence Nightingale, items seldom seen by the public.

End your visit with tea served in the Hall’s historic drawing room.

Cost includes general admission to Lotherton Estate, where you can enjoy the beautiful gardens and grounds and visit Wildlife World.

11 July

THE GREAT LEEDS WALK

Whether you’re looking for a scenic stroll or a serious endurance test, take in the sights of Leeds at The Great Leeds Walk.

You can choose from three different distances to suit your needs: 10 miles, 18 miles or 25 miles.

Highlights along the route include Eccup Reservoir, Surprise View, Kirkstall Abbey, The Hollies, Seven Arches Aqueduct and much more.

Weekends 6.30pm - 8pm

THE LEEDS GHOST TOUR

A one-hour walking tour starting at the Corn Exchange entrance, The Leeds Ghost Tour is a walking theatre show with horror, history and hilarity, led by a ghostly nobleman: Lord Bartholomew Catch. *Check leedsghosttour.com for availability and days.*

THINGS TO DO...

Visit **Harewood House** for a woodland wonderland and adventure playscape.

Leeds’ great parks of **Roundhay, Golden Acre and Pudsey** also have wonderful family play areas.

For high-flying activity visit **Go Ape** at **Temple Newsam**.

The **Royal Armouries Museum** houses the national collection of arms and armour – enjoy daily live performances, large events like the jousting tournament, and five floors of educational displays.

Tropical World is one of the UK’s largest indoor tropical rainforest visitor attractions, with monkeys, porcupines, lizards and meerkats.

At **Hope Pastures**, horses, ponies and donkeys have a sanctuary where children can learn about animal welfare, social responsibility and help with the rescue of these animals.

Leeds Museums and Galleries offer a variety of toddler-friendly sessions across their venues.

Head to the Grade 1-listed **Kirkgate Market**, home to more than 400 stalls, where Michael Marks of Marks & Spencer first plied his trade.

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RANDALLS

ABOVE: REPLACING THE GUERNSEY FLAG
AT THE ANNUAL CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE ON 30 NOVEMBER.
RIGHT: RGLI ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN CHRIS OLIVER (LEFT) AND HONORARY SECRETARY COLIN VAUDIN.

GUERNSEY'S MOST IMPORTANT BUILDING OUTSIDE OF GUERNSEY

SIMON DE LA RUE REPORTS ON A GUERNSEY CHARITY'S PURCHASE OF A LITTLE FRENCH CAFE WITH A BIG STORY TO TELL

The scene of 'Guernsey's finest hour' – an otherwise unprepossessing little building in a village in northern France – has finally come into Guernsey ownership.

Dubbed by the project's leaders as 'Guernsey's most important building outside the Bailiwick', the former cafe at 16, La Rue Verte in Masnières, Hauts-de-France – which was the scene of several days of bloody, hand-to-hand fighting during the First World War – has been purchased and will now be refurbished by the Royal Guernsey Light Infantry Association. A substantial parcel of land adjacent to the tumble-down building will also be bought and will be transformed into a cultural and historical centre, if an ambitious funding campaign is successful.

The modest building has stood unoccupied for about 30 years and has been bought for 'a very reasonable sum' from the previous owner, whose grandparents once lived within.

In late November of 1917, the cafe became a refuge for isolated RGLI troops, as they battled to repel the largest German attack of the war, while British lines either side of them were pushed back. With 453 Guernseymen killed, missing or wounded in these exchanges, it is said that no family in Guernsey was unaffected by the losses.

'At the moment, it's a small, two-room cottage with a large loft that's almost derelict,' said association chairman Chris Oliver.

'The fabric of the building is what remains from the cafe that was there over a hundred years ago, and our aim is to stop it deteriorating, protect it and refurbish it on its original footprint so that it can last another hundred years. We also aim to erect an open-plan building of the same size beside it, which will connect to it and become a multi-use facility, opening out into a garden with typical Guernsey native trees and shrubs.'

The upper storey will incorporate accommodation, which will help to enable the association to expand on its already growing programme of cultural development between Guernsey and Masnières.

'We've twinned Masnières with St Peter Port,' Mr Oliver said, 'and we've got an annual student exchange, for which this cultural centre can be a focal point. We'll be preserving for heritage what is ostensibly the most important Guernsey building outside of Guernsey and bringing it into modern use. It will strengthen the ties between two communities linked by an incredibly sad past.'

The association is planning to ensure the site is as useful as it can be to the community of Masnières, so that it becomes a busy place all year round.

The charity's previous fundraising efforts have already enabled a piece of Guernsey granite to be used to construct a permanent memorial outside the building – unveiled nine years ago, on the 100th anniversary – which commemorates those who fell in the battle and have no known grave. In 2018, an identical 'sister memorial' was unveiled in the Sunken Garden in St Peter Port. Every year since, simultaneously at each memorial on 30 November, services of remembrance have been held.

The latest fundraising campaign was launched on 31 March at a ceremony at Government House in St Peter Port and within three weeks, more than half of the required funds had been pledged.

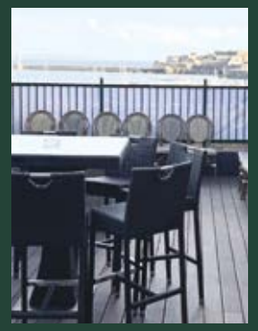
Mr Oliver said the money would be a valuable investment, and not just for the sake of preserving heritage.

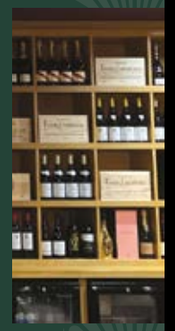
'In an age where we are seeing increased isolationism in the world, I think that encouraging the youth of tomorrow to share each other's cultures can only bring positive outcomes.'

THE FORMER CAFE WILL BECOME A CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HUB
FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF BOTH MASNIÈRES AND GUERNSEY.

CHRISTIES

ENJOY ANY OCCASION WITH OUR PRIVATE DINING ROOM





Christies restaurant is renowned for exceptional culinary offerings and impeccable service and has become a much-loved go-to destination for both locals and visitors.

Our private dining area is a firm favourite for frequent customers and is perfect for larger events and special occasions. Celebrations can be taken to a whole new level in spaces designed for creating unforgettable moments.

The elegant ambience and exclusivity of our private dining area means you are tucked away from the main restaurant. Our room and balcony exude sophistication and the private bar area ensures your guests can enjoy a wide selection of fine wines, spirits and handcrafted cocktails throughout the event.

Whether you are looking to host a corporate dinner, celebrate a milestone birthday, or toast to an engagement, our private dining spaces can be customised to suit your specific requirements. Our dedicated team of experienced and attentive employees will ensure every detail is flawlessly executed.

Special Features: Christies private dining room can accommodate up to 20 seated guests or up to 55 for standing receptions, free Wifi, two 65 inch TV screens and integrated music system for personal use.

To see our private dining menus please scan the QR code >

To book your next event, please call 01481 726624 or email manager@christies.gg

43 The Pollet, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 1WQ | www.thechristiesgroup.gg/christies

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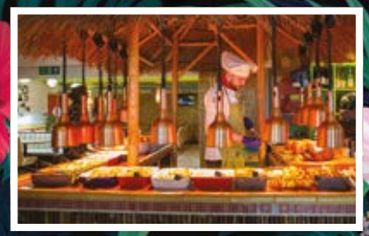
Crabby Jack's RESTAURANT

Crabby Jack's is the go-to venue for families in Guernsey who are looking for a place where the kids can let off some steam and the adults can kick back and relax. Our fun, friendly restaurant has both a great indoor area, for those less than perfectly sunny days and a fantastic outdoor area, overlooking beautiful Vazon Bay.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Book online **thechristiesgroup.gg/crabby-jacks**

Call **01481 257489** or Email **manager@crabbyjacks.gg**

Vazon Bay, Castel, Guernsey GY5 7BF

ABOVE L-R: CONSUMING A WELCOME CONSIGNMENT OF GUERNSEY TOMATOES. GUN TRAINING IN KENT; THE RGLI DURING THE BATTLE OF CAMBRAI, WITH 'NEW-FANGLED' TANKS IN THE BACKGROUND.

'EVERY FAMILY WAS IMPACTED'

WITH MOST OF GUERNSEY'S SOLDIERY GATHERED UP INTO ONE FIGHTING FORCE, A SINGLE, HEROIC STAND IN LATE 1917 LEFT THE ISLAND'S COMMUNITY DECIMATED, AS SIMON DE LA RUE REPORTS.

Grainy, sepia-toned images of men in mud with bayonets fixed might cause us to associate the First World War with notions of a bygone era, as if the events were somehow always historical.

But Royal Guernsey Light Infantry Association chairman Chris Oliver begins his account by saying that from the perspective of the men of Guernsey who went to fight in 'the Great War', this was a military conflict employing the very latest, cutting-edge weaponry.

'Our RGLI went to England and were specially trained in combat with this newfangled machine called a "tank"', he tells me.

'On 20 November 1917, they found themselves on the flat plains outside of the northern French town of Cambrai, as part of a 10km line with 472 of these machines, advancing against the Germans in order to take the town, which was a major communication, transport and supply chain hub.'

Originally in the second line of battle, the RGLI leapfrogged into the front line on the first day and saw significant success, taking a place called Bois de Neuf and seizing a quarry and some machine gun positions.

'As was typical in battle, they were withdrawn from the line for rest and relaxation and were able to base themselves a few kilometres away in a small village called Marcoing. Still resting, they were moved across the line a little way to the east at Masnières on 24 November. But the Germans were very good at regathering themselves and launching a counterattack, often while their opponents were still disorganised following what they had achieved.'

As shells rained down, RGLI personnel took shelter in the caverns and underground quarries beneath the church just north of the Napoleonic Saint Quentin Canal.

'Realising a counterattack was coming, the British commanders removed the RGLI from the caverns and sent them a few hundred yards to the south, across the traffic bridge over the canal, and along to a sleepy little lane called La Rue Verte, where they waited.'

On the morning of 30 November, the German attack arrived.

'If you go there today, this lane is barely changed,' says Chris.

'It has a few buildings on either side and is part of a small farming community. Well, the RGLI takes up position in the houses – which have mostly been abandoned as people have fled the fighting – and they start taking furniture and feather beds out of these houses and building barricades across the road, knowing the attack is coming. That morning, Lt Oliphant looks out with his binoculars and sees along the canal banks to the east, thousands of Bavarian soldiers advancing while the Germans step up their artillery and mortar fire on this little sub-village of La Rue Verte below the canal. Towers and buildings are hit, roofs are coming down, cobbles are being blown up, and men are taking shelter in the houses.'

'ON EITHER SIDE, THE TWO BRITISH REGIMENTS ARE FORCED BACKWARDS BUT THE RGLI HOLDS ON TO LA RUE VERTE AND IT BECOMES A "SALIENT" – A THUMBPRINT, IF YOU LIKE.'

Chris has studied carefully the two main sources for accounts of the events that followed, namely the War Diary – meticulously recorded day by day by senior admin staff known as 'regimental adjutants' – and a colloquial record from 1921 called The Norman Ten Hundred. This was published by the Guernsey Press in a Guernsey vernacular similar to that later employed by GB Edwards in The Book Of Ebenezer Le Page. The title was a reference to the thousand or so men who left this historically Norman land to fight for their duke, the king.

'These records tell of mortars landing and men just disappearing – literally disappearing – and men who have arms and legs shot off,' says Chris, 'and one man who's walking around with shrapnel stuck in his head. It's this terrible, horrible, gory picture of what's going on.'

The aim of the onslaught was to 'soften up' the defenders of the positions ahead of an attack and when the huge advancing army of German soldiers reached the first barricade at the junction of La Rue Verte and Rue du Moulin, which was manned by 'A' Company RGLI, hand-to-hand combat ensued which was destined to last for two and a half days.

'On either side, the two British regiments are forced backwards but the RGLI holds on to La Rue Verte and it becomes a "salient" – a thumbprint, if you like,' says Chris.

'We know from the War Diary that on the corner of Rue du Moulin and La Rue Verte is this small building, No.16, where so many men took shelter – it has a small cellar as well. The regimental adjutant records in the diary that 453 are killed, missing – which means either killed and never found again or taken prisoner – or wounded. So the effect of those three days was that the Germans were unable to take La Rue Verte but at the sacrifice of those men. So the building itself is at the core of that story.'

Already, the site has been permanently marked by the installation of a memorial which was unveiled on the 100th anniversary in 2017. The RGLI Trust raised the funds for that project, which used a piece of Guernsey granite gifted by quarrying company Ronez and dressed by Vaudin Stonemasons. No.16, in its now derelict state, is a few yards away.

'We know with certainty that there are men buried around there, for whom there is no known grave,' says Chris.

'They lie in the ground in that area but not in any Commonwealth War Grave. That piece of Guernsey granite now stands as part of that memorial and it has always been our big, hairy goal to purchase the building right beside it, preserve it, utilise it and add to it with something functional, so that we can continue the story of La Rue Verte and the RGLI.'

Attempting to picture the scene of this pivotal action that has come to be described as 'Guernsey's finest hour', I ask Chris if the hand-to-hand combat he refers to involves waves of Bavarian soldiers attempting physically to overrun British positions and being repelled by RGLI men with bayonets fixed.

TOP: A NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SHOWS THE AFTERMATH OF HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING IN LA RUE VERTE. NO.16 IS DEPICTED IN THE BACKGROUND.. ABOVE: AN EARLY MEMORIAL AT SMITH STREET, ST PETER PORT. ABOVE RIGHT: STRUCTURAL DAMAGE ON LA RUE VERTE.

‘THIS TIME, THERE’S NO HOLDING ON. WHEN THEY ARE EVENTUALLY WITHDRAWN FROM THE LINE – THIS REGIMENT OF OVER A THOUSAND MEN – AND THEY CALL THE ROLL CALL ON THE HAZEBROUCK RAILWAY LINE, ONLY 57 MEN ANSWER.’

‘It’s exactly that,’ he says. ‘It’s looking in the whites of men’s eyes, just as I’m sitting here today looking at you.’

Many prestigious medals were won that day, with men from Guernsey – who were perhaps fishermen or quarry workers before they left home – demonstrating their courage in the face of great danger.

‘For example, Sgt William Le Poidevin moves forward with some men and captures two German machine guns at the entrance to La Rue Verte,’ Chris tells me.

‘The other Germans run off and he finds himself with virtually no men at all, so he goes back to fetch some more and when he gets back, the machine guns have been reoccupied by the Germans. He fights them off a second time and retakes possession. His story is on a citation and is fully recorded at the RGLI museum at [St Peter Port’s] Castle Cornet.’

With the lines on either side of them having been pushed back, the RGLI troops were almost surrounded but not quite.

‘All during the battle, they’re taking men who are wounded out onto the canal path and down to the clearing station,’ says Chris.

‘When the Germans eventually give up and withdraw, the man in charge of the entire British division – who happens to be a Guernseyman, General de Lisle – decides to straighten the line by bringing the RGLI back. That’s why so many bodies were missing, because the area soon fell into German hands.’

General de Lisle later wrote to Guernsey’s Bailiff Edward Ozanne congratulating him on the conduct of the men of the RGLI, who ‘fought magnificently’ and expressing regret for the losses.

‘Guernsey has every reason to feel the greatest pride in her sons,’ he said.

But their work was far from over.

‘There was another large action six months later at the four-day Battle of Lys – the last German offensive, a massive onslaught – when the RGLI were again on the front line,’ says Chris.

‘This time, there’s no holding on. When they are eventually withdrawn from the line – this regiment of over a thousand men – and they call the roll call on the Hazebrouck railway line, only 57 men answer.’

For many years now, Chris – along with his fellow RGLI Trust members, now numbering 17 – has believed the impact of these events on the people of Guernsey has been somewhat under-appreciated.

‘For Guernsey, what gets lost a little bit is that families back here are only getting their news from the newspapers – no radio, no TV and certainly no internet – and via telegrams from the GPO,’ he says.

‘It’s around Christmas therefore that news of the losses at Masnières begins to come through, via hundreds of telegrams. It’s said – and I can well believe it – that there literally was not one family in Guernsey that wasn’t impacted by the losses at La Rue Verte. There was no social security at the time.

Bread-winners were lost. Many left the island and tried to make a new life overseas as a result of these events and Guernsey lives with the social and economic impacts right through until the 1930s, with a much smaller population. And then of course we know what happens in the early 1940s. To a large degree, the curtain of the German military occupation of 1940-45 hides the significant effects of the earlier conflict.’

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Vets for Pets
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Origins of the practice

Guernsey Vets for Pets is a practice with deep island roots, and what many people don't realise is that Vets4Pets was founded by Peter Watson right here in Guernsey back in 2001. The practice itself opened its doors in August 2004 under the leadership of Veterinary Surgeon, Dr Les Blerk, with a clear vision to deliver high-quality veterinary care without owners needing to travel off island.

Over the past two decades, that vision has become a reality. The practice has grown steadily alongside the community it serves and today stands as one of the most comprehensive long-standing veterinary facilities in the Channel Islands.

Showcasing expertise & facilities

Today, the practice is home to a team of 43, consisting of ten Veterinary Surgeons, nine Registered Veterinary Nurses, three Student Nurses, six Animal Care Assistants and one veterinary physiotherapist, with the team due to welcome three additional Vets very soon.

The veterinary team also includes two Advanced Practitioners, a distinction awarded to vets with a high level of additional training and experience. Plus, a number of non-clinical colleagues in various roles.

- **Dr Les Blerk is an Advanced Practitioner in Orthopaedic and soft tissue surgery, performing complex procedures that would traditionally require referral to mainland centres.**
- **Dr Raz Feldmesser, an Advanced Practitioner in Diagnostic Imaging, brings expertise in radiology, ultrasonography and CT imaging, and is currently completing a Master's degree in minimally invasive surgery.**

The practice is equipped with advanced diagnostic and surgical capabilities, including CT scanning, high-level ultrasound, dentistry suites, keyhole surgery and laparoscopic spays, as well as spinal and advanced soft tissue surgery. As a result, the majority of cases can be diagnosed and treated on island.

To further expand the range of care available on island, the practice hosts monthly advanced soft tissue surgery clinics with renowned soft tissue surgeon Dr Alasdair Hotston Moore, as well as monthly orthopaedic referral clinics with visiting specialist orthopaedic surgeon, Dr James Grierson. While complex cases can be referred off island when needed, the depth of local expertise means this is now seldom required.

For trusted, advanced veterinary care delivered on the island, choose **Guernsey Vets for Pets.**

Commitment to development & special interests

Continuous learning is central to the ethos of the practice. Several members of the veterinary team have completed, or are currently undertaking, postgraduate qualifications, ensuring patients benefit from the latest advances in veterinary medicine.

These include:

Dr Antje Ansorge, *Neurology certificate*

Dr Emmalize Theron, *Surgery certificate*

Dr Claire Demmer, *Advanced Veterinary Practice certificate*

Dr Vicky Babbe, *RCVS Certificate in Ophthalmology*

Dr Billie- Jo Chambers, special interests in dentistry and dermatology

Dr Veronica Czernik, *special interest in exotics*

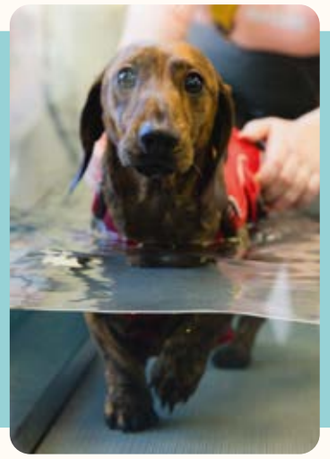
Dr Ariadna Diaz, *special interest in internal medicine and ultrasonography*

Dr Cerys Evans, *special interest in feline medicine*

In addition, the team's specialist interests allow pets to receive tailored care across a wide range of disciplines, including dermatology, dentistry, exotics, internal medicine, endoscopy as well as nursing certificates in anaesthesia and surgery.

They also offer a dedicated rehabilitation and pain management clinic, supporting pets through recovery from injury, surgery and chronic conditions. Working alongside the veterinary team, local Physiotherapist, Gayle Wiggall, provides tailored rehabilitation programmes, including laser therapy and hydrotherapy. The practice is equipped with an underwater treadmill, which plays a key role in helping patients rebuild strength, improve mobility and regain confidence.

Plus, they are available 24/7 for emergencies and offer through the night care for patients.



A local success story: back on his feet

When a young dachshund was brought into the practice unable to walk, the diagnosis was intervertebral disc disease (IVDD), a condition that often requires urgent specialist intervention. Thanks to on-island CT imaging and surgical expertise, the problem was identified quickly and surgery performed without the stress and delay of off-island travel to the UK. With dedicated nursing care and rehabilitation, the Dachshund made an excellent recovery and is now back to enjoying island life.

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SIZZLIN' SUMMER

By Amanda Eulenkamp

INTRODUCING THE WRITERS

Jessamy Baldwin

Philip Saunders

Ian Child

Rupert Diggins

JUST ONE FOR THE ROAD

This issue plunges us right into the heart of the British summer – if you're visiting Guernsey and its islands, you can expect long, sunny days on the beach followed by stunning sunsets and fabulous food.

Heading off the island the world is, quite literally, your oyster. But where to go?

For many, travelling closer to home this year may be on the agenda.

Just a short hop away is Jersey – bigger than our home island, its rugged cliffs and golden beaches combined with its British and French influences give it a character all of its own. Ian Child explores the island in a couple of days, giving some top tips of where to go and what to do.

Jessamy Baldwin shares her experience of Exeter, a city where Roman walls meet a vibrant modern rhythm. Its cathedral towers above lively streets, and the River Exe winds past waterside cafés and leafy paths that invite slow exploration. Read her suggestions on how to get the most out of a 48-hour stay.

From there, we head north to Haworth in Yorkshire, a village steeped in literary legacy. The moors stretch wide and windswept, echoing with the spirit of the Brontë sisters and offering a landscape that feels both dramatic and deeply intimate. Shaun Shackleton returns to his home country to describe the destination.

Further afield, I share my love of the Rhine Valley, drifting from Cologne to Rüdesheim along one of Europe's most storied waterways. Vine covered slopes, medieval castles, and riverside towns unfold like scenes from a timeless folktale, each bend revealing another glimpse of the region's rich cultural tapestry. I've also just returned from a long weekend in Paris (loving the direct flights), which inspired me to write about five of the best places to view the city from up high.

Aurigny Chief Commercial Officer Philip Saunders tells us more of his other life as a travel vlogger, including the inspiration behind his thirst for world events and why travel is more than just sightseeing.

And taking us to the top of the world, Rupert Diggins writes of the stark majesty of the Arctic, where ice, silence, and sky converge. His adventure may just spark your next one.

PORTELET BAY, JERSEY ©ISTOCKPHOTO

THRILLS & SPILLS ON THE EDGE OF THE ARCTIC

IMAGE ©RUPERT DIGGINS

KILPISJÄRVI, FINLAND. ©ISTOCKPHOTO

TRAVEL BLOGGER RUPERT DIGGINS JOURNEYS TO THE EDGE

Few places feel as far removed from everyday travel as the Arctic in midwinter. Earlier this year, travel blogger Rupert Diggins travelled to Kilpisjärvi, a remote village on the border of Finnish and Swedish Lapland, for a thrilling four-night Arctic itinerary set deep within the frozen tundra.

Despite the excitement, this trip felt slightly outside my comfort zone. I had so many questions. How many thermal layers did I need? Would the food be any good? And just how cold minus 30 degrees might feel. However by the time I left for the airport, I had decided to put those concerns to one side and approach the trip with enthusiasm rather than caution.

FLYING TO THE ARCTIC

Flights operate from a range of UK regional airports, including Gatwick, Birmingham, Bristol, and Leeds. With connections to these airports from Guernsey, this part of the Arctic is far more accessible than you may have imagined.

My flight, on a Boeing 737-800 was operated by Enter Air, and arrived into Enontekiö Airport in northern Finland. While pre-Christmas departures are largely geared towards families in search of Santa, the later winter season attracts a different kind of traveller, drawn by the prospect of thrills and adventure.

The flight takes around three-and-a-half hours. As you move further north, the shift in scenery is gradual but unmistakable, with dense forest giving way to a snow-covered landscape, frozen lakes and increasingly isolated settlements that appear to have been dusted with a coating of icing sugar.

ENONTEKIÖ: THE ARCTIC AIRPORT

Enontekiö Airport is about as far removed from a major international hub as you can imagine. Small, functional and refreshingly simple, it is your first real introduction to life in the Arctic.

On arrival, there can be a short wait outside before entering the terminal, so it is worth dressing for the conditions before landing. Once through immigration the luggage reclaim was unexpectedly hectic. It's not as if there are multiple flights arriving at once. I suggest you just stand back and allow the congestion to pass – there should be no rush hour on the edge of the Arctic Circle.

TRANSFERS AND GETTING ARCTIC READY

The journey to Kilpisjärvi takes place in two stages. After around 50 minutes, there is a stop at an equipment centre known as Suits and Boots, where thermal suits and boots are issued for the duration of the stay.

This is not a moment to rush. Getting the right fit is essential, as you will wear this, aside from in bed, pretty much throughout your trip. A mug of hot glögi afterwards provides a welcome breather before continuing on the final leg of the journey.

After a further 90 minutes you arrive in the border village of Kilpisjärvi which will be your home for the next four nights.

ABOVE L-R: ALL IMAGES ©RUPERT DIGGINS
OPPOSITE PAGE: ICE FISHING, REINDEER FARM ©ISTOCKPHOTO

WHERE TO STAY IN LAPLAND

Accommodation in Kilpisjärvi is centred around the Tundrea Resort, which provides a choice between traditional rustic lodges and the more contemporary Wau Houses.

All accommodation is on a full-board basis with excellent continental buffet choices at breakfast, lunch and dinner, plus there is an à la carte menu should you wish. Despite the location, the WiFi is surprisingly good throughout. That said, of all the places in the world, this is a four-night stay where you should just switch off and enjoy nature at its best.

I was staying in one of only three Wau Houses which is most definitely a 'Wow' on arrival. Built over two floors these glass igloos come with a lounge area, fully-equipped kitchen, bathroom and even your own sauna! The bedroom looks out at the night sky through a glass dome. When there is snow, it is not a problem. The heated roof will clear your view!

WELCOME MEETING

After arrival and time to settle in, a short welcome meeting takes place in a nearby kota, a traditional Sámi wooden shelter with a central firepit.

This is not only a great chance to make new friends but also provides an introduction to the itinerary, with each day focused on a different Arctic experience.

ARCTIC EXCURSIONS

Ice fishing - Snowmobiling across Lake Kilpisjärvi is a straightforward but memorable experience once you get used to handling the bikes. The route takes you over vast frozen terrain with uninterrupted views in every direction.

The highlight is stopping mid lake beneath Mount Saana to try ice fishing.

You will learn how to drill through the thick ice and then wait in complete silence for that elusive bite. It is a simple activity, but the setting and conditions make it feel very special, especially when, as the sun rises, you are sitting on reindeer skins with a small fishing rod and a hot drink to hand in sub-zero temperatures.

Reindeer farm - A visit to a traditional reindeer farm provides a closer look at Sámi culture and the role reindeer still play in daily life. You are able to feed the animals with their favourite snack, lichen, and learn how they are managed throughout the seasons, including the challenges of Arctic winters.

The visit is rounded off with a short sleigh ride around the farm, which is gentle and unhurried, offering a chance to take in the surroundings without the intensity of the snowmobiles.

Night safari - The Northern Lights snowmobile night safari takes place after dark and begins with an exhilarating ride across frozen lakes and tundra, guided only by headlights. After around an hour, we stopped in a secluded clearing and retreated into a small refuge kota for a hot drink.

At first, clouds obscured any view of the Aurora. But by the time we set off again, it had begun to clear. Within moments, the first movement appeared: a pale green arc, faint at first, then deepening and widening across the horizon.

The Aurora gradually unfolded, then danced before my eyes in shifting bands, sometimes edged with red and violet. It was the moment I had come for, and it did not disappoint.

Three borders - The final excursion is a sunrise snowmobile ride to the point where Finland, Sweden and Norway meet. The journey itself is the main attraction, with the pale pink sky and early morning light reflecting off the snow and temperatures well below freezing.

The border point is marked simply, but the sense of location is striking when you realise you are standing in three countries at once. It is a long ride in cold conditions, but it is worth every moment as you travel across the landscape making it one of the most raw and unforgettable journeys.

WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS?

One of the most common questions when planning a trip like this is simple: when is the best time to see the Northern Lights?

The honest answer is that there is no guarantee. The Aurora depends on solar activity, cloud cover and a bit of luck. Forecasting beyond a few hours is difficult, and even the experts rely on probability rather than certainty. That said, January to March is widely considered the best time to visit and, from my experience, they are best seen on a cold clear night from about 10pm, but of course this can vary depending on your location.

A useful tip is to download the 'My Aurora Forecast' app. During my visit, it proved surprisingly reliable within a 24-hour window and helped build anticipation ahead of potential sightings. And when it does happen, it is extraordinary. You can see the lights with the naked eye but it's only when you take out your camera phone that you can truly appreciate their beauty.

WHAT TO PACK FOR THE ARCTIC

Thermal base layers are essential. While outerwear is provided, items such as long johns and thermal tops make a significant difference. Gloves, hats, sunglasses, wool socks and a snood are also highly recommended, along with a head torch for navigating dark evenings.

The provision of thermal suits and boots means you need far fewer outfits than expected. Warmth and practicality take priority over everything else.

ARE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS WORTH A VISIT?

This is more than just a trip to see the Northern Lights. It is an opportunity to savour one of the most remote and beautiful parts of the world, to step away from everyday life and immerse yourself in something completely different.

Even if the Aurora does not appear, the landscapes, the activities and the atmosphere make this an unforgettable experience. And if it does, you will witness something truly extraordinary in one of the most stunning and isolated corners of the Arctic Circle.

MORE INFORMATION

This 'Snowmobile Voyager"' itinerary was operated by specialist tour operator Transun.

Contact your local travel agent or visit transun.co.uk

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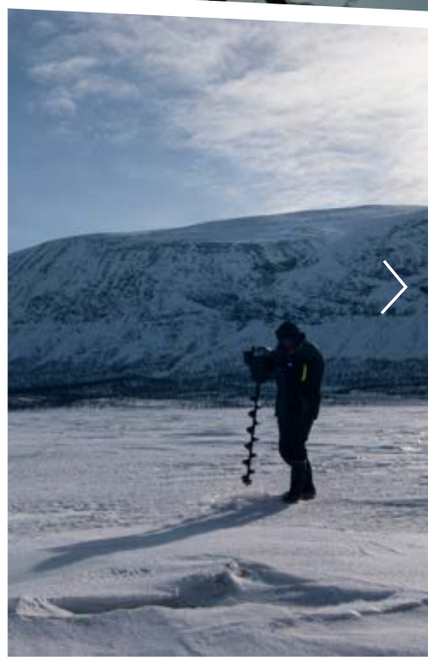
Rupert Diggins is an award-winning UK travel writer, blogger, and the founder of justonefortheroad.com



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48 HOURS IN EXETER

JESSAMY BALDWIN EXPLORES THE CULTURE, COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE OF DEVON'S CAPITAL CITY

Looking for a UK city break that blends history, nature and a quietly cool food scene? Exeter delivers all three in just 48 hours.

Compact yet characterful, this Devon gem offers everything from medieval intrigue to riverside downtime, with the Jurassic Coast just a short hop away. It's the kind of place where you can pack in plenty without feeling rushed.

Beneath its red sandstone walls and Gothic cathedral lies a lively, modern city filled with independent shops, relaxed eateries and scenic green spaces. Whether you're visiting as a couple, with family or flying solo, Exeter makes for an easy, rewarding escape.

DAY ONE

Start your morning with a speciality coffee from **The Exploding Bakery** (their pastries are worth the queue) before heading to one of Exeter's most unique attractions: the **Underground Passages**. A guided tour through these medieval tunnels offers a fascinating (and slightly eerie) glimpse into the city's past.

Surface for fresh air with a stroll along **Northernhay Gardens**, one of England's oldest public parks, before walking over to **Rougemont Gardens** and **Exeter Castle** for elevated views across the city. For lunch, book a table at **Rendezvous Wine Bar**, a long-standing favourite known for its intimate setting and European-inspired plates. Spend your afternoon browsing the independent shops along **Magdalen Road**, a local favourite filled with delis, boutiques and artisan finds.

As evening sets in, head to **The Flat** for inventive, seasonal pizzas (consistently rated among the UK's best), followed by a nightcap at **The Monkey Suit**, a low-lit cocktail bar with a laid-back vibe.

DAY TWO

Ease into the day with brunch at **Sacred Grounds** near the cathedral, then make your way to the **Quay**, a lively stretch perfect for a slower pace.

Rent a bike and follow the scenic **Exe Estuary Trail**, or simply wander the waterside, stopping at antique shops and galleries along the way. For something a little different, book a sauna session at the **Exeter Quay Sauna**, where you can alternate between the heat and a brisk, invigorating dip.

Lunch calls for something casual: try **Glorious Art House** for hearty, creative dishes in a colourful setting. Afterwards, take a gentle cruise along the canal or settle into a deckchair with a drink to watch the boats drift by.

Round off your trip with dinner at **Stage**, a small but exceptional restaurant offering a seasonal sharing menu that showcases the best local produce. It's a fitting finale to a city that quietly impresses.

OTHER NEARBY SIGHTS VIA CAR/TRAIN:

Dawlish Warren (20 min train): a sandy beach backed by dunes and nature reserves. Ideal for a classic seaside fix.

Haldon Forest Park (15 min drive): scenic walking and cycling trails with panoramic views over Devon.

Exmouth (25 min train): a lively coastal town where the River Exe meets the sea. Perfect for water sports or sunset walks.

LUXURY PICK

Elevate your stay with an afternoon at **Lympstone Manor**, a five-star country house hotel just outside Exeter. Expect Michelin-starred dining, immaculate grounds and estuary views. Perfect for a long lunch or special-occasion dinner.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY

Take the kids to **Crealy Theme Park & Resort** (just 15 minutes from the city centre), where you'll find rides, soft play, animals and live shows.

IMAGES CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: EXETER CATHEDRAL. ©ISTOCKPHOTO. THE EXPLODING BAKERY. ©TRIPADVISOR. THE QUAY. ©ISTOCKPHOTO. TOWN CENTRE DINING. ©GETTYIMAGES. THE GLORIOUS ART HOUSE. ©GLORIOUS ART HOUSE FACEBOOK. SHOPPING; JURASSIC COAST. ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

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Jesse Byrne

Strategist

As a strategist, Jesse understands what moves markets and what moves people. His focus on the evolving relationship between technology and consumer behaviour shapes both his strategic thinking and his leadership of the agency's AI steering committee.

The New Search Party

How AI is changing the way consumers find brands

Not long ago, if you wanted to find the best Airbnb in a city you'd never visited, you'd type something into Google, receive a list of ten websites, and embark on the dispiriting ritual of consumer research. Twenty tabs, purpled links, stars averaging out to a forensically useless 3.7, and a suspiciously glowing review from the host's cousin.

For brands, the search era presented an opening. SEO, search engine optimisation, emerged as the discipline of rising above it all: the art of ensuring that when someone went looking, they found you first. It's useful to think of SEO as stocking the shelf - brands jostling for eyeline, competing to be the first link a browsing consumer lands on. The new frontier, AI search, is less the shelf, more the shopkeeper.

GEO, generative engine optimisation, is the practice of earning that recommendation. Where SEO asks 'how do we get found?', GEO asks something subtler: 'how do we get chosen?'.

Because when users employ ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, or any large language model in want of a recommendation, it doesn't return a list. It returns a verdict. The research has been done for you, the tabs are already closed, and the consumer arrives to find the decision halfway made. Somewhere in that verdict are three or four names.

Which changes what it means to be visible. The brands that surface in this environment aren't necessarily the loudest. They're the ones that AI systems can read, verify, and summarise without difficulty.

The AI bot, it turns out, is a fairly unforgiving reader. It wants specific positioning over warm but weightless language, substantiated claims over marketing assertions, and content structured so that a lifted paragraph still makes sense in isolation. Vague, self-congratulatory copy that sounds impressive and says nothing doesn't just underperform here. It renders a brand invisible to the conversations shaping consumer decisions.

There's something almost diagnostic about that. For years, brands have navigated on confidence and polish, dressing up thin propositions in attractive language and assuming their audience would follow along. GEO is less forgiving.

"Passionate about people." "Committed to excellence." "Redefining the experience."

Brand platitudes of this sort are as meaningless to consumers as they are inscrutable to AI models.

If the system can't discern what you mean, what you do, or why you're credible, it will move on. Unsubstantiated claims don't just fail to impress; they actively obscure. And a brand that can't be understood can't be recommended.

In that sense, GEO is less a new problem than an old one made urgent. A long overdue reckoning with the question every brand should have been asking anyway: do we actually know what we stand for, and can we prove it?

This presents a crucial opportunity for businesses to look hard at how clearly and credibly their brand is articulated. Precise, provable, punchy. A clarity that comes from doing the legwork of brand positioning, that no amount of "we put people at the heart of everything we do" can substitute for.

The brands that will surface in the recommendation economy are the ones that mean what they say, and can show their working.

It's a question we're building a practice around at TPA, working with clients to understand how AI models perceive their brand, where the gaps are, and what it would take to surface in human-AI interactions. The work looks different for every business, but the starting point is usually the same: does your content actually say what you think it does?

The way consumers find things has always evolved: from word of mouth, to the printed page, to the search bar. Each shift has reshuffled who gets found and who gets forgotten. GEO is the latest reshuffle, and the brands that will weather it are the ones that have something clear to say and the evidence to back it up. The tabs are closing.

The verdict is forming. Will your brand be in it?

ABOVE L-R: HAWORTH RAILWAY SIGN;
KEIGHLEY & WORTH VALLEY RAILWAY; MAIN STREET, HAWORTH;
THE BRONTË PARSONAGE MUSEUM SIGN. ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

BRONTË COUNTRY

SHAUN SHACKLETON EXPLORES HAWORTH, HOME OF THE BRONTË FAMILY

'The next station is Keighley,' crackled the train intercom. There was none of that in my day. Back then, the only signal that your train from Leeds was pulling into your home station were the twin gasometers down by Marley. Sadly, long gone.

Stepping onto the platform like I'd done dozens of times before, today I wasn't here for my hometown. Rather, I was here for her more wildly beautiful sibling, Haworth, waiting patiently on the edge of the moors four miles away.

I could have walked across town and caught a bus up, or even a cab, but there's really only one way to arrive in Haworth. There may not be Hansom cabs anymore, but there are steam trains. The five-mile-long Keighley & Worth Valley Railway was built in 1862. Many of the mills that lined the tracks are no more (including British Mohair Spinners where, aged 17, I worked as a bobbin sorter for £54 a week) but a few remain as dark satanic reminders that the woollen industry was the reason the line was built. The mills needed coal and the trains fetched thousands of tons of the stuff up the valley to keep the mules, throstles and jennies moving by steam power – and also it transported the finished textiles out.

I crossed over the bridge onto the Worth Valley platform, a strawberries and cream-painted film set for everything from Yanks and The Railway Children to Pink Floyd's The Wall and Peaky Blinders. A stop off at The Old Parcel Office Cafe and Bar for a pint and a bite to eat is recommended.

Thunder, steam and smoke and iron wheels on steel rails. The train doesn't go fast. But you don't want it to. All the better to watch the valley pass by, the rows of lozenge-coloured Millstone Grit-built terraces clinging to its sides, the stations of Ingrow, Damems and Oakworth, each one beautifully painted, planted with flowers and trolleys laden with trunks and vintage luggage and completed with enamelled tin signs advertising Robertson's Marmalade, Fry's Chocolate and Stephen's Inks.

Disembarking at Haworth and through the ticket office, I headed over the footbridge and climbed the steep hill of Butt Lane, past the park and its bandstand and onto Main Street. Cobbles like rows of loaves, the stagger of shops, pubs, cafes and guest houses wends its way from The Old Registry to St Michael and All Angels Church, where the Rev. Patrick Brontë was the rector.

Up the steps, through a snicket alongside the church, more cobbles take you past The Old School Room, where New York punk legend Patti Smith performed in 2013, and to the Brontë Parsonage Museum. This one-time home of the Brontë family opened as a museum in 1928. Jane Eyre, Wuthering Heights and The Tenant of Wildfell Hall were all written here.

It has the world's largest collection of Brontë material and some of the rooms have been restored to how they would have looked when the family lived there.

On display are fascinating artefacts such as original manuscripts, the writing desks of Charlotte and Emily, Anne's collection of pebbles and the clothes and tiny tomes made for Branwell's toy soldiers, what the poet Ted Hughes called 'the midget hand-made books / the elvish lacework / the dwarfish fairy-work shoes'.

Emily herself wrote about the home in the poem, A Little While:

The house is old, the trees are bare,

Moonless above bends twilight's dome;

But what on earth is half so dear,

So longed for, as the hearth of home?

ANNE, EMILY AND CHARLOTTE,
PAINTED BY BRANWELL AROUND 1834.

THE VILLAGE OF HAWORTH

The museum has won many awards and the staff are friendly and knowledgeable. An essential stop-off for anyone wanting to know more about the family.

Another must-see is the tumble and tangle, the rooks and the guardian trees of the graveyard outside, final resting place for Branwell, Emily, and Charlotte. After dark it's even better.

At the top of Main Street you'll find many shops – vintage Britannica at Mrs Beighton's Sweet Shop, books and records at T Venables, real ale at The Haworth Steam Brewing Co. as well as The Cabinet of Curiosities, where Branwell bought his laudanum.

Obviously they don't sell opiates nowadays, but it seems they sell everything else: from oils, creams, balms and salves to unguents, soaps, perfumes, books and botanicals. The interior is lit by chandeliers and every glass and mahogany shelf and cabinet is full. A step into the past.

Across the road is The Black Bull, another of Branwell's haunts, and on the stairs they have a replica of his chair. In fact, there is no shortage of pubs in Haworth. As well as the Steam Brewing Co and Bull there's The King's Arms, The White Horse, The Sun out on West Lane, The Old Hall at the bottom of Main Street and the Mill Hey Brew House opposite the train station. As I hadn't had a pint of Taylor's Ram Tam in many years I nipped into my old haunt, The Fleece Inn. The jukebox, pool room and brass band practising next door may have all gone, but the open fire is still there, as well as the warm welcome. And the Ram Tam is now called Landlord Dark. Still a great drop, though.

Cafes, tearooms and restaurants are also plentiful, offering everything from cream teas and sandwiches to homemade cakes and biscuits and three-course dinners. Oh, and there are no fewer than three fish and chip shops for a true taste of the north.

ABOVE: DERELICT FARMHOUSE AT TOP WITHINS. ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

No visit to Haworth is complete without lacing up your walking boots and heading out onto the moors. I set off on a four-hour, eight mile circular hike via the flagged path just beyond the parsonage that leads to Penistone Hill (where they built a full-sized replica of the parsonage and graveyard for the 2016 TV film, To Walk Invisible), then onto Brontë Waterfalls.

A little and a lone green lane

That opened on a common wide;

A distant, dreamy, dim blue chain

Of mountains circling every side;

A Little While by Emily Brontë

This takes you up to Top Withins, a ruined farmhouse widely believed to be the inspiration for the location of the Earnshaw home in Wuthering Heights, though it bears little resemblance to the house described in the novel. This is how Emily introduces the house... 'Wuthering Heights is the name of Mr Heathcliff's dwelling. "Wuthering" being a significant provincial adjective, descriptive of the atmospheric tumult to which its station is exposed in stormy weather. Pure, bracing ventilation they must have up there, at all times, indeed: one may guess the power of the north wind, blowing over the edge, by the excessive slant of a few, stunted firs at the end of the house; and by a range of gaunt thorns all stretching their limbs one way, as if craving alms of the sun.'

All these years later and Emily's weather was still here as I followed the crooked, well-worn path across the camouflage-patched heather, following signs written in English and Japanese.

The names of the places on Haworth Moor were once only spoken, now they are written on digital maps: to the north, Old Bess, Cold Knoll, Bully Trees Farm and Scar Top; to the east, Black Leech, Upper Marsh and Cuckoo Park; to the south, Deep Nitch, Bodkin and Cock Hill; and to the west, Walshaw Dean, Crow Hill and the Alcomden Stones. They sound like regions in the Shipping Forecast (the mooring forecast?) spoken on a whispering wireless. And on this day they were all sunk under a deep Pennine squall. I have been up here in high summer sun, in snow and rain and in howling hoolies, and whatever the weather, the place is magical.

'Moors

Are a stage for the performance of heaven

Any audience is incidental'.

Moors by Ted Hughes

After a rest at Top Withins, with its side room converted into a bothy and its two sycamores – often nicknamed Heathcliff and Cathy – take the path and then Tarmac'd lane into Stanbury, with its three pubs – The Friendly, The Old Silent Inn and, of course, The Wuthering Heights. The latter two have food and fires. Perfect after a trek.

From here you could take the footpath down into the valley behind the village to view the ruins of Griffe Mill, like some great stone ship grounded among trees, or, heading east on Sun Street back to Haworth, you could divert down to the settlement of Lumbfoot, or as it's known locally, The Independent Duchy of Lumbfoot, which must be the only place in the county of Yorkshire to be twinned with Lhasa in Tibet.

Walking back to Haworth in the dark, I'll leave the last words to Sylvia Plath, from her poem Wuthering Heights:

'Now, in valleys narrow

And black as purses,
the house lights

Gleam like small change.'

BELOW: HAWORTH VILLAGE. ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

RIGHT: VIEW OVER PARIS FROM SACRÉ-COEUR. ALL IMAGES©ISTOCKPHOTO

FIVE TOP SPOTS TO ENJOY

A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF PARIS

BY AMANDA EULENKAMP

VIEW FROM EIFFEL TOWER

EIFFEL TOWER

I'm going to start with probably the most famous Parisian landmark: the Eiffel Tower. Views from the tower are, quite simply, stunning. It is advisable to book tickets in advance of your visit (toureiffel.paris/en is the official website), and the earlier the better, as some do sell out. Tickets are available to walk up or to take the elevator – tickets to the second floor via the elevator also include access to the first floor, but you cannot add on to go to the summit. You can even include a glass of champagne!

The second floor (where I've been) gives you a wonderful view of the city, plus you can see the tower above you. Visiting during the day is an amazing experience, but do go at night. Seeing the light show dazzle around you is spectacular, as are the views of the city lit up.

Last ascent is at 10.45pm.

GALERIES LAFAYETTE PARIS HAUSSMANN (THE COUPOLE STORE)

There are several Galeries Lafayette in the city, so make sure you head to the correct department store. The rooftop terrace offers a panoramic view of Paris, including the Eiffel Tower, the nearby Opera Garnier, and Sacré-Coeur. It's free to enter, although you may be tempted by all the luxury goods on sale as you head up the escalators to the eighth floor!

Don't miss the Glasswalk which is accessible on the third floor. The nine-metre long glass walkway is suspended in mid-air at a height of 16m, and will immerse you in the heart of the Coupole, an Art Nouveau architectural jewel of a roof. You will need to book a time spot (there is no charge). Visits are limited to five minutes.

VIEW FROM GALERIES LAFAYETTE PARIS HAUSSMANN TERRACE

SACRÉ-COEUR

The view over Paris from Sacré-Coeur in Montmartre is breath-taking. There are numerous steps in front of the Basilica where you can stop, wander, and take in the sights.

However, if you want to go right to the top, then you can climb the nearly 300 narrow steps leading up to the dome for a unique 360-degree panoramic view of the city. While it is free to enter Sacré-Coeur, you will need a ticket for the Dome Tour (children up to 15 five euros, adults eight euros). Please note, there is no elevator access.

ARC DE TRIOMPHE

Although not as tall as some of the other places in this list, the Arc de Triomphe's superb position in the centre of Place Charles de Gaulle, where 12 grand avenues converge in a star-shaped pattern, offers different views of the city.

There are 284 steps to climb (the first 240 are in a spiral staircase). The mezzanine level comprises a museum hall plus a gift shop, so you can rest awhile before heading up the last 40+ steps to reach the panoramic terrace. See paris-arc-de-triomphe.fr/en/discover/the-panorama for information and to book tickets (charges apply).

ARC DE TRIOMPHE VIEWS

TOUR MONTPARNASSE

Paris's tallest building, the Tour Montparnasse gave unrivalled views (in my opinion) of the Eiffel Tower. I first went in 1985 (for a wonderful dinner with a view) and again last year.

I use the past tense because the tower was vacated and closed on 31 March this year for extensive renovation work and will remain closed for several years. It will be interesting to see what the new development entails.

But it still deserves its spot in the top five, not least for the good memories!

VIEW FROM TOUR MONTPARNASSE

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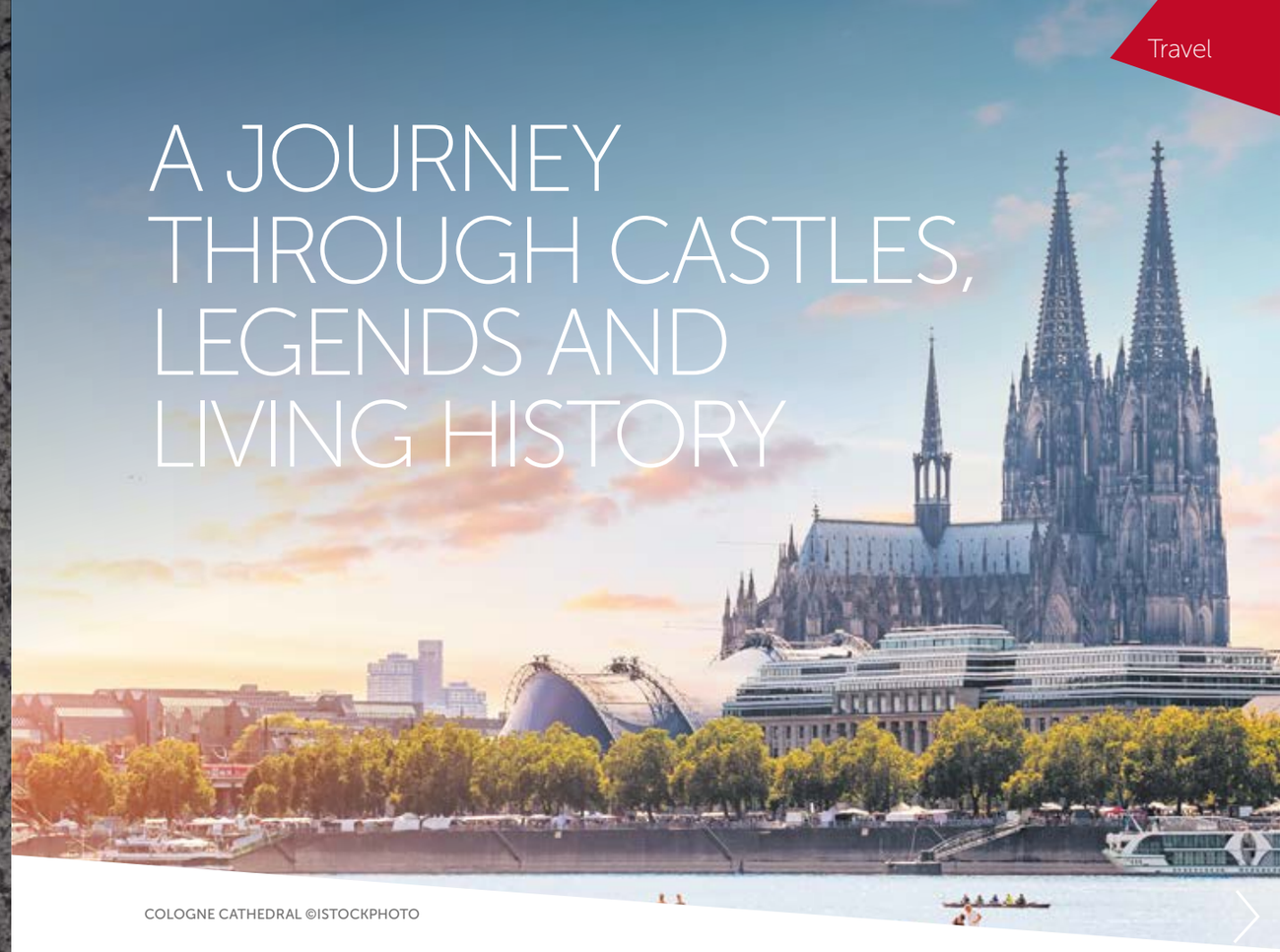
A JOURNEY THROUGH CASTLES, LEGENDS AND LIVING HISTORY



COLOGNE CATHEDRAL ©ISTOCKPHOTO

AMANDA EULENKAMP EXPLORES THE RHINE VALLEY FROM COLOGNE TO RÜDESHEIM AM RHEIN

I fell in love with the Rhine more than 40 years ago, and the feeling has never left me. There's something irresistible about this river — its quiet power, its bends and moods, the way it threads together centuries of history.

The stretch between Cologne and Rüdesheim am Rhein – the part I know best – is a tapestry of contrasts: ancient castles perched on cliffs, trains squeezing through the narrow space between hillside and water, riverboats gliding past barges carrying the cargo that keeps Germany moving. Even today, the Rhine transports an astonishing share of the country's inland freight — 86% as of early 2022, roughly 200m. tonnes crossing the German-Dutch border. It's a working river, a romantic river, and a river that tells stories if you're willing to listen.

COLOGNE: WHERE MY JOURNEY BEGINS

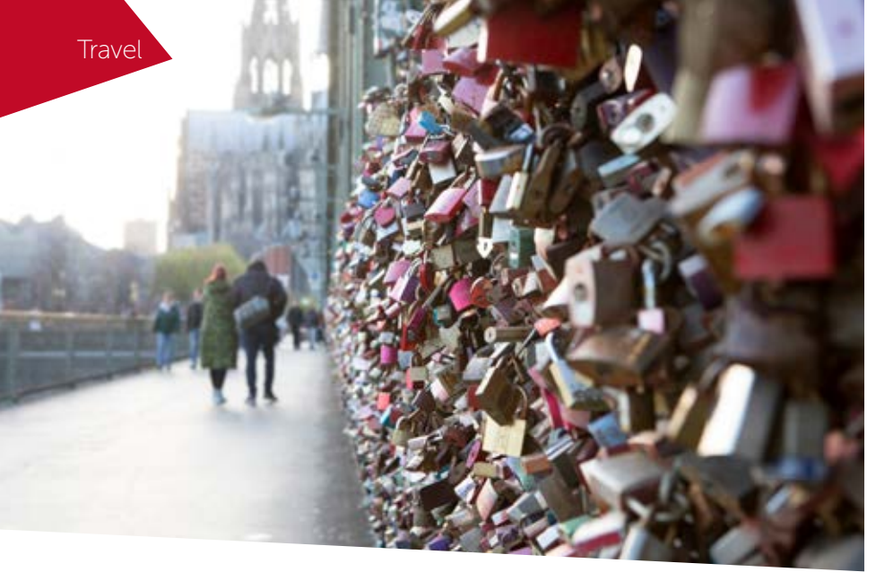
Few images stir the heart quite like the Rhine flowing beneath the Hohenzollern Bridge, with Cologne Cathedral rising behind it in all its Gothic majesty. My former father-in-law, who was born and grew up in Cologne, used to tell stories of jumping from city bridges into the river Rhine as a child — I'm not sure if it was the Hohenzollern Bridge, but it's something unimaginable now, with around 1,500 trains crossing it daily, along with crowds of pedestrians and cyclists. The bridge is famous for its thousands of love locks, but for me, it's the views that matter: the skyline, the river, the sense of arrival.

The Cathedral — Kölner Dom — is always on my itinerary. Inside, the atmosphere is almost otherworldly. If you're brave enough, climb the 533 steps to the South Tower's viewing platform, 330 feet above the city. The narrow spiral staircase is not for the faint hearted; I once froze halfway up, but the view was worth every shaky step.

Nearby, the Römisch-Germanisches Museum sits atop a Roman urban settlement, a reminder of Cologne's ancient roots and one worth visiting.

For the best panorama of Cologne, cross the river to the KölnTriangle. A fast lift whisks you to the 28th floor, and from there a short climb leads to a glass encased observation deck offering 360 degree views of the city and the Rhine curving away into the distance.

Cologne's green heart is the Rheinpark, created in 1957 from 48 hectares of wartime rubble.



L-R: HOHENZOLLERN BRIDGE PADLOCK, SCHLOSS DRACHENBURG.
OPPOSITE PAGE CLOCKWISE L-R: LORELEI (LORELY) ROCK RÜDESHEIM DROSSELGASSE KD RIVER CRUISE.
ALL IMAGES ©ISTOCKPHOTO

Today it's a peaceful expanse of lawns, water features — including 14 listed ornamental fountains — and flower beds. From here, the cable car glides across the river to the Zoo and Botanical Garden. You can even get married in one of the cable cars, should the mood strike.

Wander the Altstadt, where narrow lanes and colourful houses evoke the city's past. It's remarkable to remember that 90–95% of the historic centre was destroyed during WWII. Instead of modernising, planners chose to reconstruct the medieval street layout and rebuild landmark structures close to their original locations. The Cathedral, though damaged, was one of the few buildings to survive.

For a sweet interlude, the Chocolate Museum awaits on the riverbank. Its cocoa tree model and 'Time Travel of Cocoa' exhibition are delightful, and the café's cakes and hot chocolate — paired with Rhine views — are irresistible. Stock up in the gift shop before leaving.

No visit to Cologne is complete without a stop at Café Reichard am Dom. Open since 1855, it's busy, bustling, and absolutely essential if you want to experience true continental café culture. And of course, you must try Kölsch — the crisp, pale beer brewed only within 50km of Cologne. Served in slender 200ml Stange glasses, it arrives via a Köbes (waiter), who marks your coaster each time you accept another. My favourite spots are Früh am Dom and Peters Brauhaus, both lively, traditional, and full of character.

RÜDESHEIM CABLE CARS. ©ISTOCKPHOTO

KÖNIGSWINTER AND THE DRACHENFELS

About 25 miles south of Cologne lies Königswinter, a charming town at the foot of the Drachenfels. The mountain's ruined castle can be reached by Germany's oldest cog railway (opened 1883), with electric railcars operating since 1953. The 1,520 metre journey climbs to 289 metres, where a viewing terrace offers sweeping vistas toward Unkel and the Rolandsbogen arch. If the weather turns, a glass cube provides shelter without sacrificing the view.

You can also hike up — well maintained trails wind through the hillside — and reward yourself at the Drachenfels restaurant at the summit. I recommend taking the railway up and walking down; it's the perfect way to 'walk off' your meal.

Legend says a dragon once lived in a cave here, slain by Siegfried of the Nibelungenlied. The mountain's stone was quarried from 1267 onward to build Cologne Cathedral, while nearby Schloss Drachenburg, built between 1882 and 1884, is one of Germany's most striking 19th century castle constructions.

KOBLENZ AND THE MEETING OF THE RIVERS

Further south, Koblenz sits where the Moselle meets the Rhine — a city of wine, fortresses, and river-bound adventures. It's an ideal base for hiking, cycling, or cruising past the castles and palaces that line the riverbanks. The Moselle's terraced vineyards rise almost vertically, some so steep that vines can only be planted on narrow stone walled terraces.

KÖLN TRIANGLE. ©ISTOCKPHOTO

THE LORELEY: LEGEND AND LANDSCAPE

No stretch of the Rhine has more tales sung and written about it than the Loreley, a 125 metre slate rock that rises above a tight bend in the river. This is one of the most dangerous sections for shipping, with whirlpools and shallows that have wrecked many vessels. Even today, the river's currents here demand respect.

The viewing platform offers a magnificent panorama of St. Goarshausen, St. Goar, and the castles of Katz and Rheinfels.

The legend of the Loreley — immortalised by Brentano and Heinrich Heine — tells of a maiden who sat on the rock, combing her golden hair and singing sailors to their doom:

'She combs it with a golden comb
and sings a song;
it has a wondrous,
powerful melody.'

RÜDESHEIM: VINEYARDS, CASTLES AND COFFEE WITH A KICK

Rüdesheim may be unabashedly touristy, but it has earned its popularity. With three castles, half-timbered houses, and vineyards stretching across the hills, it embodies the essence of the Rhine Valley. Take the cable car over the vineyards to the Niederwalddenkmal, the monumental tribute to the founding of the German Empire in 1871. Germania, 41 feet tall, holds the Imperial Crown and Sword, symbolising unity.

Don't miss the Asbach Visitor Centre, where the famed brandy founded in 1892 is celebrated with tastings and tours.

Head to the Drosselgasse, the famously narrow street bordered with restaurants and bars, and order a Rüdesheimer coffee. Prepared tableside with flambéed Asbach, strong coffee, whipped cream, and chocolate shavings, it's theatre in a cup.

And for lovers of Christmas magic, Käthe Wohlfahrt's shop near the cable car station is a treasure trove of ornaments, nutcrackers, and decorations. I still cherish the pieces I've bought there over the years.

TRAVELLING THE RHINE

Whether by KD river cruise or the scenic West Rhine Valley Railway, the journey between Koblenz and Rüdesheim — part of the UNESCO World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley — is unforgettable. You can take the high speed line between Cologne and Frankfurt, or opt for the slower, curving route along the river. It's here, between castles and vineyards, legends and landscapes, that the Rhine reveals its soul.

Alternatively, hire a car, which will give you the freedom to stop at the various villages along the route.

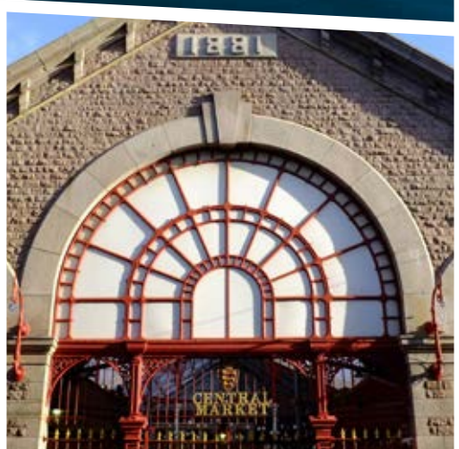
MOSELLE VINEYARDS. ©ISTOCKPHOTO

UTILISING THE PARIS ROUTE FOR ONWARD TRAVEL TO GERMANY

Aurigny's direct flight to Paris has opened up the European rail network for islanders. Cologne is around three and a half hours by train from the French capital. While I haven't used the route myself (my travels along the Rhine have always been by car), last summer my son and his partner took in the Rhine as part of a longer train journey.

From Paris, they headed to Brussels, then Cologne, Frankfurt and Colmar in France, before circling back to CDG for their flight home. They said that trains were punctual and clean.

48 HOURS IN JERSEY



IAN CHILD EXPLORES OUR SISTER ISLE

There is a reason Jersey is known as the sunniest spot in the British Isles. This compact island — just nine miles by five — enjoyed more than 2,300 hours of sunshine in 2025, bathing its rugged coastline and golden beaches in a near-constant glow.

But Jersey's appeal extends far beyond its enviable climate. With dramatic cliffs, sweeping sandy bays and crystalline waters, it offers a natural playground equally suited to relaxation and adventure. Its location, closer to France than mainland Britain, lends the island a distinctive character — where British tradition meets French flair in its cuisine, culture and history.

To make the most of a short stay, consider hiring a car; many of the island's highlights are spread across its parishes. However, Jersey's reliable bus network provides a convenient alternative, linking Jersey Airport with the capital, St Helier, and beyond.

DAY ONE

Ease into island life with breakfast in the heart of St Helier at **Locke's** café. Expect fresh, seasonal food — think perfectly poached eggs on sourdough, accompanied by locally-sourced sausages and a pot of Earl Grey.

From here, wander through the cobbled streets surrounding **King Street**, where independent boutiques sit alongside familiar high-street names. The historic **Central Market** is a must-visit, its vibrant stalls offering everything from artisan produce to handcrafted goods. Music enthusiasts should make a beeline for **SeeDee Jons**, a haven for vinyl collectors, while those with a sweet tooth can indulge in freshly baked treats from **Dough**.

In the afternoon, venture beyond the capital to **Jersey Zoo**, founded in 1959 by conservationist Gerald Durrell. Set within 32 acres of tranquil parkland, the zoo is home to an extraordinary collection of wildlife — from lemurs and orangutans to vibrant birdlife — while championing global conservation efforts.

Alternatively, head to **La Mare Wine Estate** for a guided tasting. Here, visitors can sample locally-produced wines, as well as island-crafted spirits including gin and vodka, all while learning about Jersey's agricultural heritage.

As evening falls, make your way to the sweeping sands of St Ouen's Bay for dinner at **El Tico**. This laid-back beachfront restaurant pairs global flavours with exceptional local seafood — best enjoyed alongside a spectacular sunset.

For a final stop, retreat to the **Old Smugglers Inn**, a historic pub tucked into Ouaisné Bay. Once fishermen's cottages dating back to the 13th century, it now offers a cosy setting for a nightcap of real ale or fine wine.

DAY TWO

Begin the day with a refreshing dip at the tidal pools of **Havre des Pas**. Built in 1895, this charming seaside spot is perfect for an early morning swim as the sun rises over the bay.

Afterwards, stroll to **The Good Egg** for a relaxed brunch by the sea.

Continue east to the picturesque **Gorey**, dominated by the imposing **Mont Orgueil Castle**. More than 800 years old, the castle tells the story of Jersey's strategic importance through centuries of conflict. Climb its winding staircases to be rewarded with panoramic views across the coastline.

For lunch, stop at **Rhona's at the Beach**, famed for its indulgent fish finger sandwiches — an island favourite.

In the afternoon, delve into more recent history at the **Jersey War Tunnels**. Built during the World War II occupation, this underground complex offers a powerful and moving insight into life on the island between 1940 and 1945.

Round off your stay with dinner overlooking St Aubin's Bay at **The Salty Dog Café, Bar & Bistro**. Its relaxed atmosphere and sharing plates make it the perfect place to reflect on your island escape.

For one last drink, return to St Helier and step into **The Lamplighter**. This traditional pub, with its historic façade depicting Britannia, offers a fittingly atmospheric end to 48 hours in Jersey — an island that blends sunshine, history and coastal beauty in equal measure.

WHERE TO STAY

High budget – The Royal Yacht (4 Stars) (St Helier) or The Atlantic (4 Stars) (St Brelade)

Medium budget – Hotel De Normandie (St Helier) or Ommaroo Hotel (3 Stars) (Havre Des Pas, St Helier)

Low budget – Alister Guest House (St Helier) or Mornington Hotel (2 Stars) (St Helier)

HOW TO GET THERE

The best way to get from Jersey Airport to the island's main town – St Helier – is onboard the No. 15 bus. A single trip will cost you £2.75 if paying by card (or £3.00 with cash). Journey time is approximately 30 minutes, and all the double-deckers include built-in luggage racks.

IMAGES CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: WESTERN LOWLAND GORILLA, JERSEY ZOO; ST OUEN'S BAY; MONT ORGUEIL CASTLE, GOREY; CENTRAL MARKET; JERSEY WAR TUNNELS; ST AUBIN. ©ISTOCKPHOTO.

DISCOVER **JERSEY**

Day Return Boat Trips

Islands Unlimited sail one of the prettiest day return boat trips in the British Isles 5 days a week between Guernsey and Jersey, with up to 13 return crossings a week.

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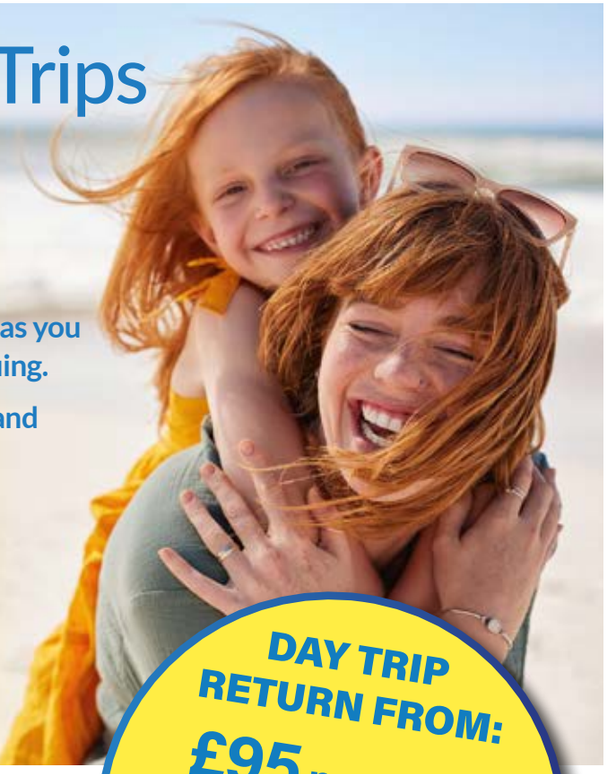
Guernsey ⟷ Jersey

Outbound 7am | Return 6.35pm

Kindly note that schedule variations may apply.



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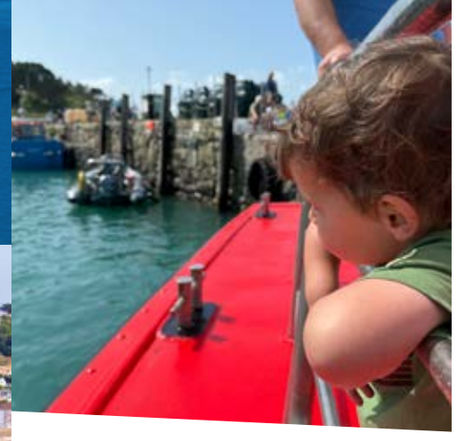

ABOVE L-R: ARRIVING IN HERM; LOOKING FOR THE BULL; SEARCHING FOR SHELLS ON SHELL BEACH. ALL IMAGES ©ISLAND FAMILIES.

A PROPER LITTLE ADVENTURE

THE SHIFT IN PACE THAT IS HERM FEELS ALMOST MAGICAL, SAYS NATALIE MYERS FROM ISLANDFAMILIES.

With four kids in the IslandFamilies' house, we've been more times than I can count, but every visit still feels like a proper little adventure.

The 20-minute boat ride across is half the excitement for youngsters as they watch Guernsey get smaller as the wind and sea spray flies through their hair. And if you're really lucky, you might just spot some dolphins playing in the wake as you go.

One of the first things you'll notice is the complete absence of cars. The kids can walk ahead of you without being told to tuck in, or stop to investigate whatever catches their eye along the way. Unsurprisingly, it's freeing as a parent and I feel like it allows you to be a touch more present with one less thing on your mind.

Our first stop is always ice cream. Now called Grace & Grocery, the ice cream parlour boasts an incredible 17 flavours this year. I'd be lying if I said we didn't swing by multiple times if it's sunny!

Take a stroll north along the top of Fisherman's Beach and stop for a selfie with the iconic bull sign (if you know you know). In the background is the beautiful Fisherman's Cottage – an extremely popular place to stay and a personal bucket list item of mine. We love spending time on Fisherman's Beach – there's soft, dry sand at the top (perfect for beach games and sunbathing), and some wonderful rock pools as the tide goes down.

When tummies start to rumble and ice cream isn't going to fill the gap, we tend to make our way to Shell Beach. The walk itself is part of the experience – up and over the northern common; it's not too long but makes for great exploration. Sometimes we take a picnic, other times we have a lovely lunch in the sunshine at Shell Beach Café – the sandwich fillings are delicious and they do a really great value kids meal deal too!

The water at Shell Beach is crystal clear on a good day, and the whole bay really does feel like something out of a postcard. My kids can easily spend hours there without a single complaint. We build sandcastles, hunt for shells (of course), paddle in the shallows, and sometimes just sit and watch the boats go by. You get a good view of Sark from here and there's often kayakers to watch in the distance.

The paths further around the coastline are all manageable for young children, though sometimes a little encouragement is needed on the hill but nothing a little snack bribe won't fix. What I particularly love is how simple it all is. There are no arcades, no loud attractions, no pressure to spend money every five minutes. Just space, fresh air, and time together.

You'll soon reach Belvoir Bay and you can either carry on around the coast past Puffin Bay, or head up and down Harbour Hill, stopping for an obligatory photo on the tree trunk chair. We like to go this way as the kids love to see Herm's fire station, and take a walk through Valley Garden on the way down.

Regardless of where your return boat is going from, we like to head to the gift shop – a real Aladdin's cave of trinkets and toys (I would spend all of my pocket money here as a child) – before heading down to the harbour/Rosaire steps and watching the boat arrive.

Nothing beats heading home with kids who are tired, sandy, and full of stories and ice cream. I always feel like a day trip to Herm is a proper day together making memories as opposed to filling time in the holidays. So if you're wondering whether it's worth taking your children to Herm, I'd say absolutely. It's more about making your own fun than signing up to organised activities, but that's what kids are so good at.

TIP: Be careful of 'Herm burn' – whether it's the sun reflecting off the beautiful white sand or the breeze that can be deceiving, many people get sunburnt in Herm, so please take sun cream with you.

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.

ALL IMAGES: ©VISIT ALDERNEY.

ALDERNEY AWAITS:

A SUMMER OF SEA AIR, CELEBRATION AND ESCAPE

Alderney in summer feels like a place apart. The northernmost of the Channel Islands, it has a character all its own: rugged yet welcoming, unspoiled and rich in history and wildlife.

In the warmer months, and especially during the 'Alderney Week' festival, the island fills with colour, creativity, and a strong sense of community.

Arriving by Aurigny's 17-seater Twin Otter plane is all part of the experience. As the aircraft descends, cliffs give way to clear blue water, sandy bays sit between rocky outcrops, and a patchwork of green spreads across the island. It's a small island – but that's part of the appeal – everything is close by and easy to reach from the moment you land.

Summer in Alderney brings long evenings and a natural pull outdoors. Braye Beach, with its wide stretch of pale sand and calm water, is a favourite for swimming, walking or simply watching the tide. A short distance away, Saye, Arch and Corblets beaches each offer something different, from sheltered sand to rolling surf and open views. Even in peak season, it rarely feels crowded.

There's plenty to explore beyond the coastline. Walking routes cross open land, pass historic forts and follow cliff paths busy with seabirds, before leading into quiet lanes lined with wildflowers. Cycling is just as easy – distances are short, traffic is light, and it's a relaxed way to see the island at your own pace.

Wildlife is part of everyday life on Alderney. Boat trips to Burhou and Les Étacs offer the chance to see puffins and gannets, while dolphins and seals are often spotted along the coast. After dusk, the island's blonde hedgehogs can be spotted in gardens and along quiet lanes.

Alderney Week, held in early August, is a highlight of the summer season. What began as a local tradition has grown into a week-long programme that attracts visitors from across the Channel Islands and beyond.

Each day brings something different. Streets fill with music and colour, costumes appear, and the island's creative side is on full display. The Cavalcade through St Anne town is one of the main events, with floats and performers drawing crowds from across the islands. Alongside it are beach activities, fun competitions, live music and evening gatherings, all open to anyone who wants to join in.

Food is a big part of the experience. Summer menus make the most of fresh seafood and local produce, with plenty of relaxed outdoor dining. During Alderney Week, things become even more informal, with pop-up stalls, barbecues and long evenings spent outside.

What truly sets Alderney apart is its warm welcome and laid-back appeal. Even in its busiest week, the island has an unhurried pace. Nothing feels rushed. There is time for a coffee in St Anne, a walk along the coast, or an unplanned stop to take in the view. From the moment you arrive, there is a sense of feeling part of the island whether it is chatting with locals or meeting others discovering the island for the first time.

For those seeking a summer escape that blends natural beauty, a strong sense of community, and thrill of discovery, Alderney offers something genuinely rare. It is a destination where time slows, and each moment unfolds at its own gentle pace for you to enjoy. Long after you've left, Alderney lingers in your memory, leaving you with a quiet certainty that one day you will return.

—

visitalderney.com

ALDERNEY WEEK, HELD IN EARLY AUGUST, IS A HIGHLIGHT OF THE SUMMER SEASON. WHAT BEGAN AS A LOCAL TRADITION HAS GROWN INTO A WEEK-LONG PROGRAMME THAT ATTRACTS VISITORS FROM ACROSS THE CHANNEL ISLANDS AND BEYOND.

RIDUNAFEST

Enjoy an unforgettable music experience while supporting Alderney's charitable causes.

14 & 15 August,
see *ridunafest.com*.

THE ALDERNEY CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Alderney Chamber Music Festival is returning for another celebration of musical masterpieces performed by some of the world's finest young musicians.

'Join us as we explore the mysteries of night-time, the beauties of nature, and meet some secretive musical siblings,' said Sam Staples, one of the organisers.

Also making reappearances are the ever popular 'Bach and Coffee' concert, a fun final cocktail concert and an interactive musical workshop for children, which this year features an exciting trip to outer space.

chamber music festival
Alderney
AUGUST 12-16 2026

The music festival runs from 13 to 17 August. Tickets are available from the Visitors Centre, Victoria Street, Alderney, or by calling 07781410595.

Find out more on our website: acmf.co.uk

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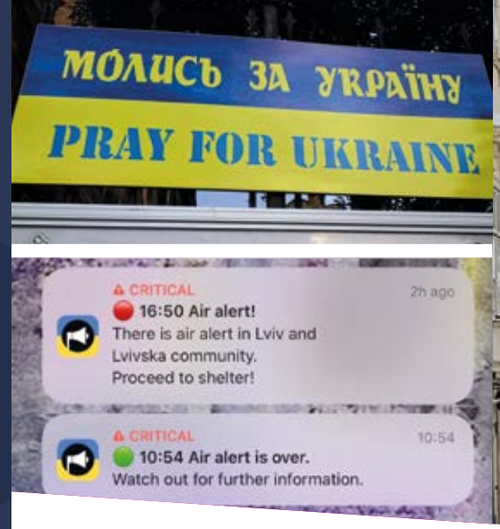

ABOVE: UKRAINIAN SIGN, AIR RAID ALERT APP.
RIGHT: DOWNTOWN LVIV IN WINTER. ALL IMAGES ©PHILIP SAUNDERS

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

HOW MY FATHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT TO WITNESS THE WORLD'S DEFINING MOMENTS HELPED SHAPE MY TRAVEL VLOGS

Shooting distinctive travel films that capture history as it unfolds is one of Philip Saunders' creative passions in his spare time and on holiday.

Philip, who serves as Aurigny's Chief Commercial Officer, travels where others don't and brings a rare perspective to his work — one forged by a lifetime of being in the right place at the right time.

In a discussion with En Voyage, Philip reveals how a personal fascination with being at the heart of historic events has produced some of the most compelling vlogs in his YouTube back catalogue.

Ever since my earliest years, I have been building a richly populated treasure chest of memories — vivid, close-up encounters with some of the most significant milestones in modern history.

My father deserves much of the credit. He was determined that his family would be well-informed about the world and thought nothing of pulling me out of bed late at night if the news warranted it. Those shared moments forged a tight bond between us that has lasted until now, as well as planting deep within me a fascination with contemporary events — the kind that quietly take their place in history while you're watching them unfold.

In August 1974, at the age of seven, I sat in front of the television and watched US President Nixon resign over the Watergate scandal, live on BBC1. In truth, I'm not entirely sure I grasped who he was or what he had done — in either his professional or covert activities.

Nevertheless, I was caught hook, line and sinker into a world of proactive investigation into major events as they happened and with a strong appetite to experience such events for myself.

The following summer brought something altogether more wondrous. In July 1975, I watched live as a US Apollo spacecraft and a Soviet Soyuz capsule docked in orbit, and a Russian cosmonaut and an American astronaut shook hands in space for the very first time. I was transfixed.

Looking back, I often wonder whether that first brush with the Soviet space programme motivated my enduring fascination with Russia and Eastern Europe. These were destinations that would later become far more than recurring themes in my thoughts — they became part of my life itself, as I lived and worked for British Airways in both Moscow and St Petersburg during the early 1990s.

That ongoing fascination has taken me to many places, but nothing has tested me quite like my more recent visits to wartime Ukraine — the most demanding and, at times, harrowing assignments I have undertaken for Travel In The Know.

In late September 2025, I decided to embark on my second wartime trip to this country.

My purpose was straightforward, if not simple: to bring back eyewitness accounts from Europe's largest military conflict since World War Two, and to tell a nation's story — its suffering, but also its hopes — in a way that feels rather different from the mainstream media's version of events.

The journey announced itself without delay. At the border crossing between Poland and Ukraine, our bus — a Flixbus, that instantly recognisable flash of green that criss-crosses the motorway networks of Britain and Europe carrying budget-conscious travellers from city to city — sat motionless for well over five hours while checks were carried out on every passenger on board.

It was an uncomfortable wait, but a revealing one.

ABOVE L-R: UKRAINE SOUVENIRS; CENTRE OF LVIV; ATLAS CAFE; FUNERAL PROCESSION; COMMEMORATIVE GUN SALUTE; SANDBAGS PROTECT MAJOR BUILDINGS.

My fellow travellers were a fascinating cross-section of humanity, and talking with them raised more questions than answers. Many were young Ukrainian women — men aged 18 to 60 had been barred from leaving the country under martial law — returning home for the first time since fleeing abroad, their expressions a mixture of resolve and quiet apprehension.

There was a small number of tourists (I was, I should say, not entirely alone in that category).

And there were one or two others whose granite features and quiet intensity suggested they were heading to Kyiv for rather more purposeful reasons — to volunteer at the front. One young, bearded American was, it emerged, carrying a firearm and ammunition. Polish customs relieved him of both long before we crossed into Ukraine.

At first sight, this busy, cosmopolitan, Central European city seemed a world away from the front line — largely at peace, almost defiant in its normality. But that impression can be dangerously misleading.

It was only after arriving that I realised, without having planned it, that I had reached Lviv on 1 October — Defenders Day, a national commemoration observed across Ukraine. Armed with that knowledge, I felt compelled to pay my own respects at the city's Field of Mars, where row upon row of graves stretch further than the eye can see, each one dressed in the national colours of blue and yellow, each one marking a life given to the fight.

Standing there, the weight of what this country is enduring becomes impossible to ignore. Friends and family moved quietly between the graves, tending them with care and dignity, honouring those taken from them far too soon. There was overwhelming grief everywhere, but also something harder — anger, bitterness, and a quiet, steely resolve.

The walk back to the city centre was sombre. Yet I was equally determined to experience everything Lviv has to offer — a small but deliberate celebration of Ukrainian culture.

My first stop was the Tourism Office. And yes, not only was it open, but it was staffed by a team of multilingual professionals ready to reassure me that visitors were still coming — particularly, it seemed, from Britain. I also discovered that a young British student was on work experience in that very office. It was his day off. We never got to meet, but the detail stayed with me.

In time-honoured tradition, I was furnished with colourful brochures and restaurant recommendations. But there was one addition you would not find elsewhere: a reminder to download the app that issues real-time alerts for air raid warnings across the country, so that you know when to seek out a shelter. That single detail cuts through any illusion of normality. It could, quite simply, save your life.

The city centre is a masterclass in Central European elegance, its streets and squares drawing on a rich heritage shaped by successive rulers — Austro-Hungarian, Polish, Russian, Soviet, and now, proudly Ukrainian.

The ideal place to begin discovering Lviv's architectural riches is Rynok Square — Market Square in English — the beating heart of the old town and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Renaissance, Baroque and Gothic styles sit side by side around its perimeter that rewards unhurried exploration and frequent coffee breaks.

The square and its immediate surroundings offer an exceptionally good choice of cafés and restaurants, many of them serving the kind of hearty, honest Ukrainian cooking that the country does so well and that the outside world knows far too little about.

My own favourite is the Atlas restaurant, an old tavern that unfolds across a series of grand adjoining dining rooms, each one crowned with impressive vaulted ceilings. The food matches the setting entirely.

I began with borsch — Ukraine's national soup — a deep, jewel-like purple, its colour drawn from beetroot, its body rich with meat, and its surface finished with a generous dollop of sour cream. It was everything a bowl of soup should be.

I followed it with a platter of salo, one of Ukraine's most cherished culinary symbols: cured pork fat, presented in three variations — raw, salted and smoked — alongside slices of dark Ukrainian black bread. It is not a dish that asks for forgiveness from the waistline. But it is deeply, unapologetically delicious!

No matter the season, Lviv rewards its visitors handsomely. In my view, this is a city that rivals the great jewels of Central Europe — Kraków, Prague, Bratislava — as a bucket-list destination in its own right.

And yet the war is never entirely out of sight: sandbags protecting major monuments; generators whirring and humming outside restaurants to prevent interruption to service; and lots of military uniforms. And then, without warning, the air raid siren sounds. These tableaux of everyday life freeze momentarily, before the city exhales a collective sigh of relief and carries on once again.

After a day that was equal parts thought-provoking and utterly absorbing, I boarded the night train heading further east — to Kyiv. But that, as they say, is an entirely different story.

What I can say is how grateful I remain to my parents for nurturing this compulsion in me to witness history first-hand.

And on reflection, it strikes me just how dramatically the world of storytelling has changed since those first formative colour images flickered across our television screen.

In the '70s, my window on global events was framed by just three terrestrial channels, each picture conjured from a cathode ray tube — three electron guns firing at a phosphor-coated screen, blending reds, greens and blues into something resembling the world beyond our living room. It felt, even then, like a kind of magic.

And now? Now it is me behind the camera — and thousands of other creators too — each of us with our own channel, our own audience, and our own small corner of YouTube from which to make sense of the world. The technology has changed beyond all recognition. The impulse, I would argue, has not.

It is my sincere hope that these vlogs from Ukraine serve a useful purpose — that they keep this country in the minds of those who watch, and offer some small testament to the warmth, hospitality, and determination of its people.

You can find Philip's vlogs on his 'Travel In The Know' channel on YouTube

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WOMEN, WEALTH AND LEADERSHIP

BY CATHERINE MOORE AND DIANA RODRIGUEZ, GUERNSEY PRIVATE WEALTH TEAM, OGIER

Women now own an estimated US$60tn in assets globally and, by 2030, are expected to control 40%–45% of retail financial assets across the United States and Europe (according to statistics published by McKinsey & Company in 2025).

Alongside the marked growth in female wealth generators, a significant amount of that wealth sits within families, prompting a rethink of governance and planning so they better reflect who will lead, decide and manage.

As women increasingly govern, grow and transfer wealth, advisers can add real value by reflecting how they approach risk, values, succession and legacy in practice. Below are some of the areas in which we see that momentum most clearly among our clients.

THE GROWING INFLUENCE OF WOMEN IN FAMILY BUSINESSES

In family businesses, more women are stepping into leadership roles, whether day to day or strategically over the long term. Around 18% of family businesses are now led by women, with the highest representation in Europe and Central Asia, as well as Canada, according to KPMG research on generational change in family enterprise. Beyond a shift in succession norms, this reflects a growing recognition that women often bring a long-term, values-led lens to strategy, ownership and continuity.

Research also links female leadership in family firms with stronger prospects of surviving beyond the founder generation, with diplomacy and disciplined risk management helping to preserve cohesion over time.

In practice, we see rising demand for family governance advice and for stress-testing structures, so they work under pressure, with female clients often leading this work. Strong family governance can strengthen decision-making, reduce friction and support continuity in an increasingly complex world.

For women in family businesses, whether as shareholders or executives, legal advice can shape outcomes at the moments that matter most. We see this clearly in practice. Shareholding structures that do not reflect a woman's real role can leave her exposed at transition. Trusts drafted around outdated assumptions can conflict with modern-day priorities, including those of the next generation. Shareholder agreements written without her decision-making in mind can restrict the very choices she is best placed to make.

For advisers, engaging early with female family members on their terms and with a clear view of their priorities is now central to advice that is genuinely fit for purpose.

ENTREPRENEURS

Female founders are building high-growth businesses across the economy, and many are doing so while navigating persistent funding and negotiating gaps. In the UK, all-female founding teams received less than 3% of venture capital investment in 2023, according to research by the British Business Bank.

Early legal advice can help founders address these issues, strengthening capital strategy, negotiation, governance and risk management.

RECIPIENTS OF WEALTH

Women commonly become wealth holders through inheritance, divorce or widowhood.

When a woman becomes the primary steward of family wealth, she often inherits structures that are unfamiliar, complex or not designed with her in mind. With the right support, that transition can also be a chance to build confidence, simplify decision-making and align wealth with what matters most.

These moments also create a window for clear, early planning to include governance, philanthropy and the values that will guide how wealth is used across generations.

At these pivotal points, advice that combines technical precision with sensitivity can support a smooth transition and give the wealth holder and her wider family greater clarity and stability.

LOOKING AHEAD

Open conversations about succession and inheritance remain one of the most valuable, and underused, tools for families with significant wealth. As women increasingly become the primary wealth holder, advisers can add real value by facilitating structured dialogue that clarifies expectations and supports an orderly transfer of both assets and responsibility.

This shift invites thoughtful adaptation, including listening closely, engaging earlier, and designing advice around the realities of how women govern, create and transfer wealth.

Women's growing influence over family wealth is reshaping legacy, succession and stewardship. The decisions made now will shape family outcomes for decades, creating scope for stronger governance, clearer transitions and genuinely values-led impact. Advisers who bring insight, empathy and robust structures to these conversations will be best placed to support the women at the heart of those decisions.

Catherine Moore is a partner and Diana Rodriguez is counsel in Ogier's Private Wealth team in Guernsey. For more information visit www.ogier.com.

ADVERTORIAL

OPERA COMPLETES ACQUISITIONS OF ACCURO AND MERITUS

Opera has acquired Accuro and Meritus Trust Company, its fourth and fifth acquisitions, concluding the first wave of growth under its five-year transformation programme, Project Overture.

Accuro is a leading trust and private office business known for its value-based culture, technical expertise and client service with offices in Jersey, Geneva, London and Mauritius. Meritus, a Bermuda-based trust firm, serves families across the Americas and internationally, specialising in family governance, cross-border trust administration and estate planning.

Following completion, Opera operates across eight jurisdictions, with combined assets under administration exceeding $81bn and a global team of 600 professionals. Accuro CEO, Xavier Isaac, has joined the Opera board as an executive director.

'Completing the acquisitions of Accuro and Meritus marks a defining moment for Opera,' said Kim Sgarlata, group CEO and executive director of Opera. 'This isn't about scale for its own sake. It's about bringing together the right businesses, at the right time, with shared values and long-term ownership, to build a stronger, more resilient foundation.

'With this first stage complete, our focus now shifts to listening, learning, and integrating with care. Because what we build next matters more than what we've just completed.'

Opera is majority owned by Pula, the family office of Stephen Lansdown CBE, co-founder of Hargreaves Lansdown.

BANK ASTON GROUP TO EXPAND INTO JERSEY

James Bennett

The Bank Aston Group, owner of Bank Aston, Britain's newest bank and a growing presence in Guernsey, has announced plans to expand into Jersey.

Aston Currency Management, the group's payment, foreign exchange and virtual accounts business, will lead the charge with a view to establishing a presence in the market prior to considering opening a Bank Aston locally. Offices and key hires have already been identified, and the expectation is that the FX business will launch in Jersey before the end of the year.

Aston CM is already a high-performance business. It was set up in Guernsey in September 2023 and moved into profitability within three months. Bank Aston is set to follow in Guernsey in July and the company said it would 'logically be looking to other well-regulated jurisdictions as part of its expansion'.

'Bank Aston and the Aston Group want to be an offshore banking leader. Our move to Jersey is part of a wider plan to deliver on this vision,' said James Bennett, Aston Currency Management CEO and one of the founders of the group.

'We know that many of the legacy banking players are looking to leave the Channel Islands and that the family offices, trusts and fiduciaries left behind really value the flexibility, services and speed we can offer.'

With a rapidly-expanding client base that has doubled in number in the last 12 months alone, supported by having local roots in the Channel Islands, Aston CM is providing more options for fast account opening, employment opportunities and the continued development of the local financial services sector.

WALKERS CELEBRATES 25 YEARS IN EUROPE

L-R: Hughie Wong, Fraser Hern, Jonathan Sheehan

Walkers is celebrating 25 years of operating in Europe, since the opening of its London office – its first international one – in 2001. Since then, and particularly over the last decade, the firm has invested significantly into its London, Ireland, Jersey and Guernsey businesses.

'This year is particularly meaningful for our Channel Islands practice as we mark 20 years in Jersey and 10 years in Guernsey,' said Fraser Hern, head of Walkers' Channel Islands business. 'Our Channel Islands offices form a crucial part of our European platform, supporting clients on complex multi-jurisdictional matters while remaining closely connected to the wider Walkers network. These milestones reflect not only the strength of our local teams, but the benefits of operating as part of an integrated European business.'

FOCUS ON GROWTH WITH SUNTERA GLOBAL'S OFFICE MOVE

Suntera Global has moved its two Guernsey teams into one new office at Plaza House in Admiral Park.

The new space will bring together more than 130 people – uniting teams that were previously split across two sites, following the acquisitions of Carey Commercial and Nedgroup Trust. The local group offers a broad range of fund administration, corporate services, private wealth and family office services.

'This move highlights Suntera's long-term commitment to Guernsey as a leading international finance centre, while also bringing our team together under one roof to foster a greater collaborative and supportive environment to work in,' said Guernsey's managing director, Stuart Simon, who recently took over the role following the retirement of Jim Gilligan.

'It's a really exciting opportunity for us to operate in a modern, flexible office space and, as a building with high energy efficiency ratings, it also aligns well with our own group-wide environmental, social and governance strategy.'

Mr Simon has more than 20 years' experience in the international financial services industry, as a former member of the Carey Commercial team, and fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

'This is another significant milestone for our Guernsey team and reflects our confidence in the jurisdiction and its continued importance within our global strategy,' said David Hudson, CEO of Suntera Global.

'Bringing our people together in such a high-quality, purpose-built space is about more than simply moving offices, it's about investing in an environment that enables collaboration, innovation and a really positive employee experience.

'I'm incredibly proud of the work our Guernsey colleagues have done to reach this point, and I'm excited to see how this new space supports the next phase of our growth.'

NEW RAWLINSON & HUNTER GUERNSEY BOUGHT BY BUTTERFIELD

Butterfield has agreed to buy Rawlinson & Hunter in Guernsey, the independently-owned Guernsey member firm of the Rawlinson & Hunter international network.

Butterfield said that the deal would further expand the bank's Channel Islands' presence and strengthen its trust and fiduciary offering with the addition of approximately 50 qualified colleagues in Guernsey, 71 client groups and $9bn of assets under administration.

'R&H Guernsey is a great addition to our growing private trust business, which is a significant fee revenue generator for Butterfield,' said Michael Collins, Butterfield's chairman and chief executive officer.

'This acquisition will increase Butterfield's presence as a leading provider of private trust services in Guernsey and globally. It also demonstrates our commitment to grow through strategic M&A in jurisdictions where we have both scale and market leadership.'

Alasdair Cross, senior partner of R&H Guernsey, said: 'Butterfield is a well-known leader in the trust industry and we look forward to working with them to provide our clients with the same high quality of service and continuity they have enjoyed under current ownership.'

Butterfield has been establishing and administering fiduciary structures for clients for more than 85 years, with private trusts across its network worth more than $130bn in assets, administered by a team of 280 people.

The transaction, which is expected to close in the first half of the year and is subject to customary closing conditions, including regulatory approvals, relates solely to the R&H Guernsey entity and does not include any other R&H member firms or network interests.

SKIPTON RENEWS IOD EVENT SERIES SPONSORSHIP

Skipton International has renewed its sponsorship of the Institute of Directors' 2026 Event Series, marking a third consecutive year of partnership.

The 2026 series will deliver a year-round programme designed to support directors and senior leaders across Guernsey as they navigate an increasingly complex and fast-changing business environment.

It will include practical, discussion-led workshops focused on core leadership and governance skills, alongside networking events that bring local decision-makers together. The programme will also feature thought-provoking sessions that explore the current issues affecting the island's business community, supported by guest speakers and panel discussions that encourage open, informed debate.

'We are proud to extend our support of the IoD Event Series. It creates a platform for leaders to collaborate, share meaningful insights, and strengthen the quality of leadership across Guernsey,' said Susan Fouquier, CEO of Skipton International. 'Our continued partnership with the IoD reflects our long-term commitment to championing a resilient and sustainable business community.'

IoD Guernsey chairman Glen Tonks said: 'We are delighted to continue our partnership with Skipton International. Their consistent support has helped us strengthen the programme, and we look forward to building on that momentum in 2026.'

L-R Susan Fouquier & Jo Huxtable.

Visit IoD Guernsey's website for dates.

TCS INTRODUCES NEW CARBON ACCOUNTING SERVICE

TCS has launched a Carbon Accounting Service designed to help businesses measure, understand and report their carbon emissions. The service comes as sustainability reporting and carbon disclosure are becoming more prominent across a wide range of sectors.

It covers carbon footprint measurement, reporting support and longer-term carbon management, giving companies a framework for understanding emissions data over time.

As expectations around environmental transparency continue to grow, businesses are under increasing pressure to understand their emissions data and how it may need to be reported. While many formal requirements apply primarily to larger organisations, smaller businesses are also being affected through supply chains, procurement processes and stakeholder expectations.

The Carbon Accounting Service includes carbon footprint measurement, analysis of benchmark performance, carbon reduction plans and net-zero pathways, alongside support for impact assessments and communications linked to sustainability activity.

Millie Goubert, Operations Manager at TCS, said: 'Understanding carbon data, measurement and disclosure is no longer a 'nice to have' but an important part of being prepared for how businesses are asked to operate and report.

'Businesses need a realistic starting point and support to understand what is expected of them. The earlier they begin to measure and understand their emissions, the better placed they are to start making a positive impact.'

The new service is aimed at organisations looking to better understand their emissions and prepare for changing expectations around environmental reporting.

OBSIDIAN TEAM INTEGRATED INTO PRESCIENT BUSINESS

South African company Prescient Group has wholly acquired Obsidian Fund Services in Guernsey.

Obsidian has become part of Prescient's fund services arm, Prescient Fund Services. The entire Obsidian team, led by CEO Jody Newark, will be integrated into the Prescient business.

Obsidian provides a range of fund administration services from Guernsey, including fund accounting, compliance, financial reporting, governance and investor services.

The team in Guernsey will continue to provide full-service fund administration, supporting a wide range of private assets funds, and setting up regulated investment management entities and protected cell structures.

'Guernsey is a leading jurisdiction for private equity and other private assets funds, and it makes enormous sense for Prescient Fund Services to have a presence on the island, working with an established and respected team like that at Obsidian,' said Prescient Fund Services CEO Craig Mockford.

'We are confident that this partnership will bring new opportunities for Prescient Fund Services and our wider client base as we continue to build on our global private equity capabilities.'

Jody Newark added: 'This is an exciting new development for our clients as we join a larger fund administration group which shares our values. We look forward to continuing to deliver the same high level of service to our customers under the Prescient brand.'

A new journey into retirement

By Paul McCormick, Director & Senior Financial Planner at Gower

Retirement used to be a destination. You worked, you stopped, and a new chapter began overnight. Today, that idea is being redefined and for many, it's becoming something far more flexible, personal and empowering. Retirement is no longer a single moment in time, it's a transition.

A changing landscape

Across the UK and the Channel Islands, we're generally living longer, healthier lives. At the same time, working patterns are evolving. Together, these shifts are reshaping how we think about later life.

For many people, particularly those in their late 40s and 50s, this presents a unique opportunity. With pensions and savings accumulating, they're no longer tied to a traditional "stop work at 65" model. Instead, they can shape retirement around their lifestyle, goals and ambitions. This shift isn't just theoretical. It's already happening.

Retirement, reimagined

One of the themes I now see on a regular basis is how people are choosing to step away from full-time work gradually, rather than all at once.

That might mean:

- Reducing working hours
- Taking on more flexible roles
- Pursuing a second, less demanding career
- Creating more time for travel, family or personal interests

Rather than a cliff edge, retirement is becoming a phase, one that evolves over time. For those who can balance continued income with greater freedom, this approach offers the best of both worlds; financial security alongside a more fulfilling lifestyle.

Why planning matters more than ever

While this new flexibility is exciting, it also brings new challenges. A longer, more gradual retirement means your finances need to work harder and smarter.

Questions that may once have felt distant are now essential:

- How much income will you need, and for how long?
- Are your investments aligned with your future plans?
- Do you have the right pension structure in place?
- Can your career support a phased transition?

These aren't just questions for those nearing retirement. They're relevant at every stage of working life. Greater choice brings greater responsibility. The earlier you start planning, the more control you have.

Turning uncertainty into confidence

The good news is that people can be more engaged with their finances than ever before. Awareness is growing, and so is the desire to make informed decisions. What's changing is the mindset.

A future shaped by choice

As society adapts to longer lives and evolving careers, retirement will continue to change. But one thing remains constant: the importance of planning ahead.

By understanding your options and taking a proactive approach, you can turn uncertainty into clarity and create a retirement that works for you. Because today, retirement isn't the end of the journey. It's a new way of travelling.

01481 737926 | paul.mccormick@gower.gg | gower.gg

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EMPLOYMENT RISK AS A BOARD ISSUE:

WHY HR CAN NO LONGER SIT BELOW THE LINE

BY CARLY PARROTT, HEAD OF EMPLOYMENT, CAREY OLSEN, GUERNSEY

For many Guernsey boards, employment matters still sit in a familiar box: important, but operational. Something for HR, management, or — if things go truly sideways — for the lawyers. That approach is increasingly out of step with reality. In a small jurisdiction like Guernsey, employment risk has become a **governance issue**, not an administrative one, and boards that fail to recognise this do so at their peril.

The reason is scale. In larger jurisdictions, an employment claim may be absorbed into the background noise of corporate life. In Guernsey, everything is louder. A discrimination complaint, senior exit or cultural misstep can echo far beyond the Tribunal room, carrying reputational impact often wildly disproportionate to the legal sums at stake. When everyone knows everyone, employment disputes don't stay 'internal' for very long.

Yet boards often only engage once a problem has crystallised — when a grievance lands, a dismissal is contemplated or the regulator starts asking questions. At that point, options have narrowed and risks have hardened. The real opportunity for boards lies much earlier, in the uncomfortable but essential habit of asking the right employment questions **before** the proverbial hits the fan.

One of the most common blind spots is senior management. Boards tend to assume that risk flows upwards: if leadership is good, the culture must be sound. In practice, it's often the opposite. Allegations involving senior individuals — bullying, harassment, discrimination or 'whistleblowing' retaliation (particularly without statutory protection) — present the most acute governance risk of all. The legal exposure may be manageable (often at a price), but the optics rarely are. Boards should be probing how senior behaviour is monitored, challenged and, where necessary, corrected. A culture that protects rainmakers at the expense of standards is not a defensible position when matters surface.

Then there's the issue of exits. Guernsey sees its share of 'quiet' departures dressed up as resignations or mutual agreements and contained in confidential compromise agreements. Boards may reassure themselves that commercial pragmatism has prevailed. But patterns matter. Repeated settlements, particularly involving similar complaints or protected grounds, are a flashing amber light. Even if each individual case is legally contained, collectively they can point to systemic issues — and systemic issues are board-level concerns.

Employment risk also extends into strategy. Workforce planning, succession, restructuring and immigration status all intersect with Guernsey's regulatory and social environment in ways boards cannot afford to ignore. Sudden organisational change, at any level, especially when poorly managed and/or badly communicated, is fertile ground for claims. Boards that push for agility and growth should be asking whether people risks have been properly mapped, or whether they are simply being deferred.

So, what should boards actually be doing? Not micromanaging HR, but **elevating employment risks to the same level of scrutiny as financial, regulatory and operational risks**. That means regular reporting on grievances, turnover, sickness absence and settlement trends — not just when something explodes. It means stress-testing decisions through both a legal and reputational lens. And it means creating space for uncomfortable conversations about culture, power and accountability. **Workplace culture is a governance issue**.

In Guernsey, employment disputes rarely turn on obscure points of law. They turn on judgment, fairness and the narratives that develop around them. Boards that treat HR as a back-office function miss the point. People risk is business risk — and in a small island environment, it is often the risk that travels fastest.

In short, if employment issues are only reaching the boardroom when something has already gone wrong, then the board is already on the back foot. The smarter move is to bring those conversations upstairs sooner — before they become tomorrow's cautionary tale, retold over coffee across the island.

BOARDS SHOULD BE PROBING HOW SENIOR BEHAVIOUR IS MONITORED, CHALLENGED AND, WHERE NECESSARY, CORRECTED.

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IS IT TIME TO LEAVE THE BUSINESS?

For many entrepreneurs, the sale or succession of a business is the culmination of years of making the right decisions. But the exit itself is not a single event, it's a transition that reshapes wealth, identity and future purpose.

Robert Pickford, Relationship Manager at Julius Baer, explores how to successfully navigate this moment by preparing for it long before the deal is done.

STEP 1: BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR A PURPOSEFUL EXIT

A successful business exit begins with clarity. Before considering valuation or deal structures, business owners must first ask themselves what they truly want from the process: is the goal to maximise financial return, preserve a legacy, or create freedom for the next chapter? That may seem like a personal decision, but it has wider ramifications, especially in family-owned businesses. Family dynamics have an impact in these cases, so open conversations about expectations, wealth distribution and future roles help avoid misunderstandings at a later stage.

Alongside this, the business itself must be prepared to stand independently. Strong governance, a capable management team, and streamlined operations signal resilience to potential buyers.

Building a business that can continue to thrive beyond its founder is a process that starts early.

STEP 2: EXECUTING THE TRANSACTION WITH CONFIDENCE

A well-executed exit typically unfolds across several phases, from ensuring legal and financial readiness to presenting a compelling narrative to potential buyers. While financial performance is essential, it's the story behind the business that shapes value. Buyers want to understand not just what the company has achieved, but where it can go next.

Equally important is the choice of partner, the right buyer is not always the highest bidder, but the one whose vision aligns with the founder's objectives for the business, its employees and its legacy.

STEP 3: WHAT CAN GO WRONG AND HOW TO GET IT RIGHT

Even the most promising exits can falter without careful planning. Common pitfalls include underestimating the time required, neglecting tax implications or failing to prepare the business for scrutiny. Valuation can be another stumbling block, knowing a company's true value is crucial, but emotional attachment and pride can cloud judgement.

The solution lies in early, coordinated planning – engaging with experienced advisors well in advance ensures that legal, financial and personal considerations are aligned. With the right guidance, risks can be anticipated and mitigated, turning uncertainty into opportunity.

STEP 4: LIFE BEYOND THE EXIT

What happens after the deal is done is often the least discussed aspect of an exit, because the shift from building a business to managing wealth can be disorientating, causing many entrepreneurs to ask themselves: 'What now?'

Structuring wealth effectively, defining long-term goals and establishing a clear investment strategy are essential steps in transforming liquidity into lasting security and impact. Beyond finances, there's also the question of purpose. At Julius Baer, this is often framed through the four Ts of philanthropy – time, talent, treasure and ties – recognising that impact is not defined by capital alone. Whether through a new venture, mentoring, or dedicating time to meaningful causes, those who take a thoughtful approach to this next chapter are often the ones who achieve not only a successful transaction, but a truly successful transition.

Read Julius Baer's full guide to How to Prepare for Your Business Exit by visiting: *juliusbaer.com/insights*

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La Fosse Cottage

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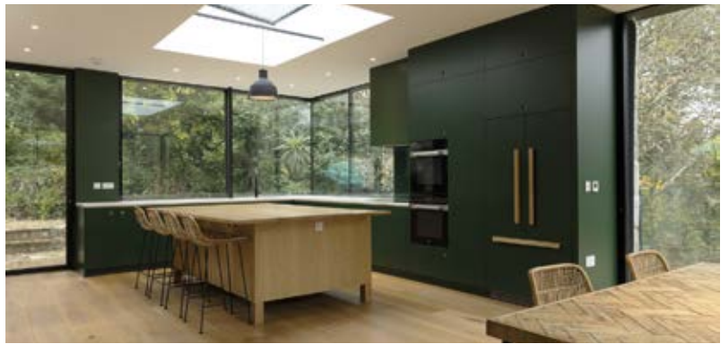
Our renovation of this important, protected, 17th-century Guernsey granite cottage – listed for sale in April 2026 – more than doubled the amount of living space. The sleek but delicate new forms both preserve and contrast with the charm and character of the protected cottage, framing its beautiful natural environment while creating bright, light living spaces. The scheme honours the listed cottage and its setting while introducing bold, exciting, sustainable, contemporary design.



The Georgian Villa

On site, completing autumn 2026

Sensitively updating and upgrading this Georgian gem, our design extends it into the 21st century, enhancing the existing historic building and complementing it with new additions. The scheme reintroduces and restores traditional detailing and replaces or converts tired 20th-century extensions and outbuildings, creating contemporary equivalents with greater energy efficiency, aesthetic appeal and potential for practical use. A kitchen/living/dining extension to the rear draws natural light deep into the heart of the historic home.

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BUILT IN THE ISLANDS. BACKED FOR WHAT'S NEXT.

AN INTERVIEW WITH OLLY DUQUEMIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AND STEVE BREHAUT, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Resolution IT has long supported businesses across Guernsey and Jersey with local teams and strong relationships. While the brand is now changing to Zenzero, much of what clients value day to day remains exactly the same.

The difference lies not in who clients work with, but in what now sits behind that local presence.

'Clients will still work with the same people they know and trust,' says Steve. 'What's changed is the depth of expertise available when needed. Being part of Zenzero means specialist support in cyber security, data and AI can be accessed far more quickly as requirements grow.'

That shift comes as island businesses face increasing regulatory, cyber and competitive pressures alongside rapid technological change. Historically, those challenges sometimes meant turning to multiple providers or looking off island for specialist projects. Today, that barrier has largely disappeared.

'Previously, there were natural limits to what could be delivered locally,' explains Olly. 'Now we can support organisations end to end, from day-to-day managed IT through to advanced cyber assurance, enterprise data platforms, and governed AI adoption, all through a team that already understands the business. It simplifies things for clients and gives much clearer accountability.'

Over the last two years that expanded capability has already delivered clear benefits to Channel Island businesses. Zenzero has added significant value by helping organisations respond effectively to cyber incidents, automating complex workstreams, and unlocking data insights that were previously out of reach. This, in turn, has enabled businesses to operate more securely and efficiently, allowing them to deliver greater value, resilience, and insight led services to their own clients.

'The same applies to automation and AI,' Steve adds. 'It's not about big, disruptive projects. It's about sensible use cases, automating repetitive tasks, improving insight from data, and rolling tools out in a governed way so they genuinely help people do their jobs better.'

Importantly, this growth in capability hasn't come at the expense of local teams. Zenzero's Channel Islands presence continues to be built around investment in people rather than centralisation elsewhere.

'Our teams here are gaining access to more training, certifications, and exposure to complex projects across the wider group,' says Steve. 'That develops skills locally, which benefits clients directly. You still get local delivery and local understanding, just with more depth behind it when required.'

Today, the Channel Islands operation of around 75 staff is supported by a wider group of 800+ IT professionals. For clients, that balance offers reassurance: familiarity paired with resilience.

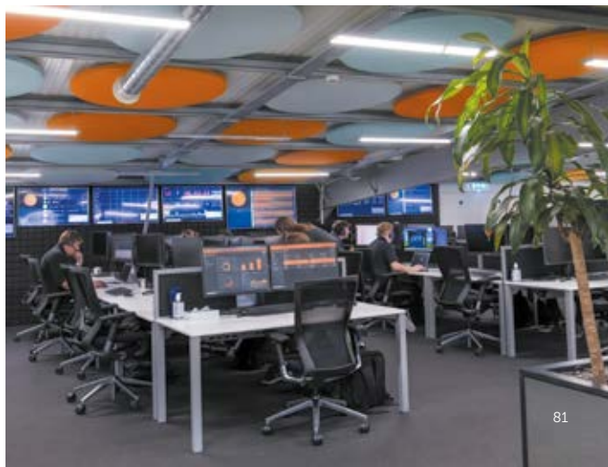
Beyond technology, Zenzero also remains committed to the islands themselves. The business continues to support local schools and charities, runs a pan island invention competition for primary pupils, offers work experience opportunities, and backs a range of community and sporting initiatives. Sustainability also plays a growing role, with efforts underway to measure and reduce environmental impact as part of wider group initiatives.

Looking ahead, the aim is simple: to ensure island businesses don't outgrow their technology partner.

'Being built in the islands and backed by a wider group gives us, and our clients, confidence,' Olly says.

'AS OUR CLIENTS' REQUIREMENTS BECOME MORE COMPLEX, WHETHER THAT'S AROUND CYBER RESILIENCE, DATA MATURITY, OR AI, THEY CAN STAY WITH A PARTNER THEY ALREADY TRUST, KNOWING THE CAPABILITY IS THERE TO SUPPORT THEM LOCALLY.'

Zenzero's evolution is about continuity as much as change: the same local teams, backed by deeper capability and the confidence to face what's next.



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A FRAGMENTING WORLD, NOT A FAILING ONE

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

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY, DON'T LET IT GET AWAY.

U2, Beautiful Day, 2000

It does not take long, reading 24/7 curated headlines, to feel that the world has become more complicated. Conflict, political tension, technological disruption and shifting economic alliances all appear to be happening at once. Arguably, this has always been the case; we simply did not see it so clearly.

Ian Bremmer, a leading geopolitical analyst, has identified what he believes are the most significant global risks for 2026. Read individually, they are unsettling. Viewed together, they look less like isolated threats and more like a system in transition, a world that is changing rather than breaking.

His central observation is that we are entering a period where global leadership is less certain, cooperation is more selective and domestic pressures increasingly shape international policy. Nowhere is this more visible than in what he describes as an 'American political revolution', a United States becoming more inward-looking, less predictable and more focused on domestic priorities.

This is not entirely new. Late US entry into World War II remains a powerful example of isolationist instinct. The difference today is visibility. Events unfold in real time, often without context, amplifying a sense of instability. Recent tensions in Iran, reminiscent of a modern form of gunboat diplomacy, illustrate how quickly risks can emerge outside established frameworks.

Running through Bremmer's analysis is a second, more structural shift: the fragmentation of the global economic system. For three decades, globalisation drove efficiency, lowered costs and supported growth. That model is now evolving. Trade is increasingly shaped by political alignment, supply chains are being reconfigured and regional blocs are gaining influence.

He points to China's emergence as what he calls an 'electrostate', a country that has quietly mastered many of the technologies likely to define the next century, from electric vehicles and batteries to artificial intelligence. The West, by contrast, assumed the durability of its intellectual property advantage, underpinned by global frameworks such as the World Trade Organization.

What is striking, in hindsight, is how little weight was given to the likely outcome: sustained exposure to world-class education and technology, combined with determined commercial execution, would eventually close that gap. The result is not just competition on quality, but on speed. If a product is not right today, a faster, cheaper and better version may follow within months.

This is not the end of globalisation, but a reorganisation of it. For investors, that matters. Capital is becoming more selective, and regions such as India, Southeast Asia and parts of Europe are playing an increasingly important role.

Overlaying all of this is artificial intelligence. Bremmer warns that AI, under pressure to justify extraordinary valuations, risks becoming extractive rather than empowering. Where social media captured attention, AI has the potential to shape thought itself.

There is also a competitive dimension. China, operating with fewer constraints, is developing AI using real-world, unsanitised data, accelerating both speed and decision-making capability. It is a sobering consideration for many knowledge-based industries.

AI is also highly energy intensive, linking technological progress directly to energy security. Recent disruption in the Strait of Hormuz is a reminder of how sensitive the global economy remains to hydrocarbon supply.

Taken together, these forces describe a world that is less predictable and more complex. Complexity, however, does not mean uninvestable.

History offers perspective. Every period of disruption feels unique, yet economies adapt, innovation continues and markets move forward. The underlying drivers of long-term growth, human ingenuity, capital allocation and the pursuit of better solutions, remain intact. The difference now may simply be the pace.

The implication is not to predict every turn, but to build portfolios that can participate in long-term structural trends while remaining resilient to short-term volatility. That may involve exposure to regions benefiting from shifting trade dynamics, sectors supporting energy demand and assets that provide protection in uncertain periods.

Bremmer's risks are not just warnings; they are signposts. They point to where the world may be heading and, by extension, where future opportunities may lie.

Headlines will always lean towards the dramatic. The reality is more nuanced.

It is still a beautiful day. Just a more complicated one.

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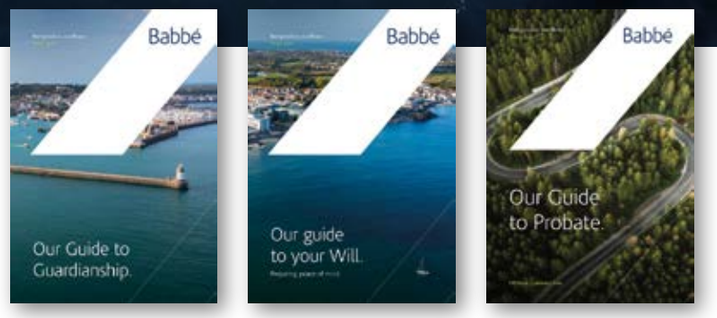

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Business

OUTSMARTING FORCED HEIRSHIP

BY MARI WARNICH, ASSOCIATE, BABBÉ

OFFSHORE TRUSTS AND FIREWALL LEGISLATION

Offshore trusts are widely used in international estate planning to protect and manage family wealth. A trust is created when a person (the settlor) transfers assets to a trustee, who then holds and manages those assets for the benefit of others. When a trust is set up in a country outside the settlor's home country, it is known as an offshore trust.

One major benefit of using an offshore trust is the protection offered by firewall legislation. Firewall laws are designed to stop foreign inheritance laws from interfering with how the trust operates. This is especially important where forced heirship rules apply.

WHAT IS AN OFFSHORE TRUST?

An offshore trust is usually created in a jurisdiction such as Guernsey, Jersey, the Cayman Islands or the British Virgin Islands. These jurisdictions have well-developed trust legislation and experienced court systems.

Offshore trusts are often used for estate and succession planning. They allow assets to be held for future generations and give flexibility in how beneficiaries benefit. Instead of setting out fixed shares, as is often required under forced heirship regimes, the settlor can allow the trustees to decide who receives benefits, when, and in what amounts. This level of flexibility is not always available in countries whose inheritance laws are subject to forced heirship.

THE PROBLEM OF FORCED HEIRSHIP

In many countries, people do not have full freedom to decide how their estate will be divided after death. Forced heirship laws require that certain family members — usually children and spouses — must receive fixed shares of the estate.

These rules can conflict with estate plans involving trusts, particularly where the settlor wishes to treat beneficiaries differently or protect wealth over the long term. Family members may try to argue that assets placed into a trust should still be shared in line with forced heirship rules under the settlor's home law.

HOW FIREWALL LEGISLATION HELPS

Firewall legislation was introduced to deal with these problems. Its purpose is to protect offshore trusts from claims based on forced heirship laws in the home country of the person setting up the trust. Firewall laws generally state that all questions about a trust — such as whether it is valid, how it is managed, and how assets are distributed — must be decided under the law of the offshore jurisdiction.

THESE LAWS OFTEN PROVIDE THAT:

- Foreign court judgments based on forced heirship cannot be enforced against the trust.
- A trust cannot be challenged simply because it conflicts with foreign inheritance laws.
- Trustees are protected if they refuse to follow foreign court orders that go against local trust law.

This gives people establishing trusts greater confidence that their wishes will be respected and followed.

LIMITS TO PROTECTION

Firewall legislation provides strong protection, but it is not unlimited. It will not protect a trust that has been set up to avoid paying creditors or to escape legal obligations. Trusts must still be created properly and for genuine estate planning purposes.

CONCLUSION

Offshore trusts, supported by strong firewall legislation, are a useful tool for international estate planning. They help protect trust assets from forced heirship claims and foreign legal challenges. By using these structures, individuals can put estate plans in place that reflect their wishes and allow wealth to be managed and passed on in a controlled and flexible way.

IMAGE: ©ISTOCKPHOTO

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STABILITY AS A STRATEGY:

WHY GUERNSEY'S OFFER MATTERS MORE THAN EVER

BY PAUL BEALE, TAX PARTNER AND HEAD OF FAMILY OFFICES AND PRIVATE CLIENTS FOR KPMG IN THE CROWN DEPENDENCIES.

The past few years have seen a marked increase in wealthy families leaving the UK and seeking a new home elsewhere.

I have previously written about the many factors influencing this trend: the normalisation of remote working, changing fiscal policy, broader societal challenges and the visible strain on public services. While each case is individual, a consistent driver in the majority of relocation discussions has been the UK's evolving tax regime.

Although the abolition of the non dom regime has not always been acknowledged explicitly by the Chancellor or wider Government as a catalyst, there is little doubt that it has substantially accelerated interest in relocation. What we are seeing is a combination of structured scenario planning alongside immediate exits, as families seek long term certainty in an increasingly uncertain environment.

In that context, Guernsey has featured prominently in many relocation conversations. The island's new arrivals tax cap and standard charge regimes remain particularly attractive from a fiscal perspective, especially when combined with ease of entry relative to other jurisdictions, proximity to the UK, and a shared cultural and legal heritage. Crucially, Guernsey offers clarity: individuals understand the rules, how they will be taxed, and what is required to establish residence — an increasingly rare commodity in international tax planning.

Of course, Guernsey has not been alone in appealing to high net worth families. For several years, Dubai and the wider Middle East have proven popular alternatives, particularly for those seeking a faster pace of life or operating active businesses requiring international connectivity. In many cases, the demographic profile has differed from those historically attracted to the Channel Islands, often younger, more commercially active individuals in senior executive or entrepreneurial roles.

However, the international landscape has shifted materially in recent months. Escalating regional conflict, heightened geopolitical tension involving Iran, and the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza have prompted many families in the Middle East to reassess their long term plans. Without seeking to benefit from the misfortune of others, it is reasonable, and indeed responsible, for Guernsey to recognise that the core pillars of our proposition are amplified during periods such as these.

No jurisdiction is immune from global conflict or macroeconomic disruption, and Guernsey is not without its own challenges. That said, the island offers a compelling alternative grounded in political stability, personal safety, and institutional continuity.

OUR PRIVATE WEALTH INDUSTRY IS LONG ESTABLISHED, DEEPLY EXPERIENCED, AND INTERNATIONALLY RESPECTED. THE CONCEPT OF SECURITY IS NOT A MARKETING SLOGAN HERE; IT IS A LIVED REALITY FOR RESIDENTS AND AN ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTIC OF THE ISLAND'S PROPOSITION.

Our private wealth industry is long established, deeply experienced, and internationally respected. The concept of security is not a marketing slogan here; it is a lived reality for residents and an essential characteristic of the island's proposition.

As a result, we increasingly find ourselves speaking to individuals who have already relocated to the Middle East and are now reassessing what attributes they value most highly. Some are actively planning an onward move; others are putting contingency arrangements in place. A recurring theme in these discussions is the requirement to remain outside the UK for at least five complete tax years in order to avoid the pitfalls of temporary non residence and the risk of undoing much of the planning undertaken to date. That need for continuity and credibility places a premium on jurisdictions that can offer a long term, stable base rather than a short term solution.

Against this backdrop, it is worth reminding ourselves why Guernsey has been so successful over several decades and asking whether we are doing enough to position ourselves proactively for the next phase of international mobility.

The island's strengths are well rehearsed, but they bear repeating. The new arrivals tax cap remains simple, transparent and internationally competitive. The standard charge continues to provide flexibility for individuals with multiple centres of life, allowing them to manage their affairs efficiently without the complexity seen elsewhere. Our company and trust law frameworks are world class, facilitating sophisticated yet robust structuring that is administered by an exceptionally experienced and well regulated professional community.

Beyond technical excellence, Guernsey's attractiveness lies in its coherence. The island is easy to understand, easy to navigate and, importantly, easy to live in. Regulation is proportionate and well respected internationally. Political decision making is pragmatic rather than ideological. For families seeking calm, continuity and control, these qualities matter as much as headline tax rates.

It was therefore encouraging to see that recent speculation around a fundamental overhaul of our corporate tax regime did not come to fruition. While I fully appreciate the fiscal pressures faced by many governments and the temptation to see global instability as an opportunity to increase tax caps or rates it would, in my view, be counter intuitive for Guernsey to take a reactive approach.

Stability is one of our greatest assets. It is a key differentiator in conversations with internationally mobile families, many of whom have experienced sudden and material rule changes elsewhere. While the absolute quantum of tax caps is often less significant than outsiders might assume, confidence in the regime is critical. People value jurisdictions that make occasional, well signalled, incremental adjustments over those that respond to external pressure with knee-jerk reform.

In the current climate, the power of Guernsey's message lies not in radical change, but in consistency. Our reputation has been built on trust: trust in the legal system, trust in the regulatory environment, trust that rules will not shift without warning. Undermining that perception, however unintentionally, would dilute precisely the qualities that make the island attractive at a time when many are seeking a safe harbour.

As international mobility continues to evolve, Guernsey is well placed to remain a jurisdiction of choice for globally minded families. The challenge, and the opportunity, is to ensure that we continue to tell our story clearly, confidently and honestly, anchored in the stability that has long defined the island, and which matters now more than ever.

ESCALATING REGIONAL CONFLICT, HEIGHTENED GEOPOLITICAL TENSION INVOLVING IRAN, AND THE ONGOING HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN GAZA HAVE PROMPTED MANY FAMILIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO REASSESS THEIR LONGTERM PLANS.

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I'M AN ISLANDER

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

ADVERTORIAL

I have lived in Guernsey for more than a decade now, but it felt like home from the day I landed here.

Our island charmed me with its warm weather, safe surroundings, and of course, the endless beautiful sea views. I also love the fact that everyone seemed to know everyone. It took me a while, but now when I walk down the High Street, I too say hello to a number of people on my journey.

However, there is one thing about Guernsey that can be a challenge upon moving here, and that is the differences compared to the UK. Not that it is challenging to get used to island life; rather to find out what you need to know.

I think many non-islanders (or even new islanders) are aware that our tax system is not the same as that in the UK. But there are other differences, such as the structure of the government, our healthcare system, pensions and benefits system, and of course, the filter in turn (which is wonderful). It was also a shock to discover there was no McDonald's!

And while much of the information is available online once you know where to look, it isn't overly easy when you first get here, particularly in relation to financial differences, even with the various AI tools now at our disposal.

One challenge I faced at the start of my career as a financial adviser was finding out Guernsey-specific information. Not the headline rules that apply to all, as these are relatively easily found; but the niche 'applies to one client every five years' kind of information.

Online research of any topic will generally lead you to details and information relating to our mainland friends, which makes sense since said rules apply to around 67 million people. Our rules apply to only 64 thousand people, and even inserting 'Guernsey' in the search function doesn't always yield results.

Why am I writing about this? Well, I have realised the importance of our local advisers to those who are new (and old) to the island. Such advisers have built up a wealth of Guernsey-specific knowledge – gathered from Government resources, case studies, industry contacts, and even the asking of many questions over the years.

Having now worked in financial advice for longer than I care to admit to myself, I can answer most questions I get from any newcomer straight away, and I also have a pack of information that I know is immediately useful for all newbies, about topics that they may not even have considered when relocating.

I still recall when I moved to Guernsey that I was told there was no NHS, and to me this translated to no public health service at all. I imagined dramatic events unfolding, similar to those US based medical dramas where patients were forced to leave hospital, or trade a kidney to afford care.

I now know that this is not the case, and most secondary health care is provided by the States, including excellent and inclusive maternity services. That said, with one hospital on the island, private health insurance is generally worth considering for those who can afford it.

Our different tax rules can impact upon ongoing suitability of investments and bank accounts, so these should be reviewed when moving to the island. While some UK investments may remain an option, there may be offshore-based investments that are much more tax efficient for a non-UK resident.

In addition, some insurance products (including life insurance), that may have been purchased when living in the UK, may not be valid to Guernsey residents. It would be sensible to check these to ensure any future claim would be valid and consider new policies if not.

Pensions also need to be considered, both in the short term and longer term, and it is likely that contributions into non-Guernsey pensions should be ceased after a while, or they become tax inefficient or potentially fraudulent!

And these are just some of the areas that differ. There are of course many other considerations.

So, what would I recommend to a new island resident? Well, I would suggest initially visiting an independent financial adviser and insurance broker. They will be able to review your financial situation and existing plans holistically, and then, if required, assist with making changes or setting up new plans suitable for the new island.

Network Insurance & Financial Planning Limited can offer holistic independent financial and insurance advice, so if you're new(ish) to Guernsey and fancy a free consultation, please get in touch with us at advice@network.gg or give us a call on 01481 701400. One of our advisers will be delighted to chat you through our island's quirks.

I still miss McDonald's though!

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 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.

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.

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
enquiries@locateguernsey.com

Locate Guernsey
A better life for you

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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

T: +44 (0)1481 220011
E: enquiries@locateguernsey.com
W: locateguernsey.com

Supporting You in Architecture and Building a Sustainable Future.

Who are we?

We are one of Guernsey's most experienced architectural design practices. Founded by the charismatic Peter Falla in 1985, the practice has gone from strength to strength, building a balanced and supportive team with a wealth of knowledge, experience and skills.

Design

At PF+A, great design goes beyond aesthetics. Every project blends bold, timeless architecture with functionality and sustainability, creating environments that enhance how people live, work, and connect. Our skills extend to interior design, delivering cohesive, inspiring spaces where architecture and interiors blend together seamlessly.

Every detail is carefully considered, from spatial planning and material selection to lighting and finishes, ensuring that each space is not only visually striking but also practical, comfortable.

Community & People

Collaboration is at the core of PF+A's work. Clients and stakeholders are involved at every stage, ensuring designs resonate visually, functionally, and emotionally. The firm values relationships built on fairness, respect, and transparency. PF+A combines expertise across architecture and interior design with a collaborative, curious team culture. Their diverse skill set allows them to tackle complex projects across all sectors, delivering thoughtful, innovative solutions.

Sustainability

Sustainability is integral to PF+A's ethos. The practice actively reduces its carbon footprint, sources materials responsibly and partners with like minded businesses. For PF+A, sustainability is a mindset that shapes architecture, interiors and how the business operates - creating positive impact both locally for its people and globally for the planet.

Contact Us :

contact@pfaarchitecture.com 01481 712633

FROM GLOBAL CHAOS TO ISLAND CALM:

WHY GUERNSEY CONTINUES TO SHINE

LES GOUIES MANOR

BY SIMON JONES, SWOFFERS OPEN MARKET NEGOTIATOR

We live in a time of continued and increasing global political and financial uncertainty. Turn on any news channel and you'll be left in no doubt by Messrs Peston, Bradby et al that things have, even though it might not have seemed possible, actually gone from bad to worse. War in the Middle East and Ukraine, social unrest almost every day, politicians seemingly incapable of telling the truth (or worse), the list goes on and on.

Contrast that with newspaper headlines such as 'Hospice raffling electric car', 'Parish anger over missed bin collection' or my personal favourite... 'GSPCA rescues kestrel but not plastic peregrine!'. All genuine Guernsey Press headlines in recent years. Life is clearly a great deal less stressful in Guernsey!

It's not surprising that Guernsey continues to grow in popularity as one of the most appealing relocation destinations. Yes, Guernsey is famous for its beautiful beaches; sandy ones, pebbly ones, some near a pub, others very secluded, but there is so much more to this beautiful island. The health system is fabulous; you'll very often be the only person in the waiting room if you attend A&E, you'll usually be able to get a same day GP appointment and see a dentist within a couple of days. We look after our island too; Guernsey has a 70% recycling rate, one of the highest in Europe. There is almost full employment, only about 250 people are out of work, which is one of the reasons that the island has no debt, substantial reserves and, therefore, a very low tax regime.

BUENA VISTA

Unlike most countries, in Guernsey there is no VAT, no capital gains or inheritance tax. Income tax is charged at a flat 20% after generous personal allowances with further tax caps available to those relocating to the island. Property taxes are low; document duty starts at 2.25%, rising to a maximum of 7% on purchases of >£5m, compared to the UK where you pay 12% on any purchase over £1.5m.

Guernsey operates a split residential property market. The Local/Open Market was borne out of housing controls introduced after WWII, designed to protect housing for Guernsey residents. In 1957, some larger, higher value homes were exempted from housing controls, allowing them to be purchased by non-residents. These homes formed what we know today as The Open Market. The Local/Open Market was formalised in the 1960s.

Since its inception, the Open Market has demonstrated resilience and momentum, fuelled by those wishing to partake in Guernsey's vibrant community, enjoy the relaxed way of life and the benefits of a very safe, and low tax, environment. Activity has remained consistently strong, with well-presented properties continuing to attract significant interest. 2025 saw a record £198m of Open Market transactions and 2026 has started equally strongly with Q1 sales of £51m and many more in the pipeline.

Swoffers has played a central role in this success. As the market leader in Guernsey's Open Market since 1972, the firm combines decades of experience with an in-depth understanding of both local dynamics and the needs of relocating buyers. Swoffers has been instrumental in the sale of many of the island's most prestigious homes, and year after year handles more than 60% of all Open Market transactions - an unrivalled share that reflects both trust and performance.

For those considering a move to Guernsey, or for homeowners thinking about selling, expert guidance is essential in a competitive and fast-moving market. Swoffers offers a highly regarded service designed to deliver results, whether you are searching for your ideal home or looking to maximise the value of your property.

To begin your Guernsey journey, contact Swoffers on 01481 711 766, register at www.swoffers.co.uk or simply email sales@swoffers.co.uk.

ADVERTORIAL

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Luxury living in Guernsey

Albecq House, Castel

Open Market - Guernsey

Old Mill New Development, St Martin
6 bedrooms | 5 bathrooms
£4,950,000

- Over 6,000 sq ft
- Substantial brand new home.
- Close to St. Peter Port & St. Martin's amenities

A cornerstone of the Guernsey real estate market for more than five decades, the team at Swoffers brings a wealth of knowledge, ensuring that clients receive expert advice tailored to their specific needs.

Swoffers' proven track record means clients can trust us to sell their property, or find a new one, with ease and confidence. Whether you're looking for a luxury home, a quaint cottage, or a modern apartment, view the largest selection of Local, and Open Market properties at **www.swoffers.co.uk**, or contact our team today on **01481 711766**.

Scan the QR code to view Guernsey's largest selection of Local & Open Market properties

Albecq House, Castel
6 bedrooms | 5 bathrooms
£9,250,000

- Substantial detached family home set on an elevated and private plot
- Breathtaking panoramic sea views with stunning sunset aspects
- Recently renovated and thoughtfully extended to an exceptional standard

Open Market - Guernsey

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WHEN A DAY NEVER HAPPENED

By Julian Turian and Natalie Chamberlain from LTS Tax Limited

Whilst we may not always want to go to the UK, the reality of living in Guernsey is that sometimes this is unavoidable. Whether it's spending a night in Gatwick as you head off on your holidays, or requiring medical treatment that isn't available in Guernsey, or your flight back to Guernsey is cancelled.

HMRC recognises that sometimes presence in the UK isn't voluntary. In UK tax terms a UK day is usually counted based on presence at midnight. However, in limited situations HMRC will permit a day to not count toward the various day count tests for UK tax residence purposes. The two scenarios where days may be disregarded for UK residence purposes are if you are present at midnight in the UK due to transiting through the UK or as a result of exceptional circumstances.

For Guernsey residents managing nights spent in the UK, these exemptions from the usual day count can be of vital importance.

Transit Days

The first situation where a day may be disregarded is where you transit through the UK as an international passenger. Catching a flight from Guernsey to Gatwick, for example staying overnight at an airport hotel and leaving the UK the next day should not count toward a night spent in the UK.

The transit day provisions will also apply if you are required to travel through the UK to transit. For example, if you were to fly into Gatwick, travel to Heathrow and stay overnight at Heathrow airport before catching an international flight, that should still qualify as a transit day and not be a day for UK tax residence purposes.

However, it is essential that your sole purpose for being in the UK in both situations, is to transit. If you were to undertake any activity unconnected with your transit (for example going into London for dinner or having a business meeting at the airport) then that will not be a transit day and will count as a UK day for the purpose of determining tax residence.

Exceptional Days

Up to 60 days spent in the UK due to "exceptional circumstances" may be excluded from an individual's day counts for UK tax residence purposes, subject to meeting HMRC's strict conditions.

The exceptional reason must be beyond your control and prevent you from leaving the UK.

Whilst HMRC do provide some examples of what may be considered exceptional and what will not these do tend to be extreme circumstances which are of little help to most individuals who find themselves in the UK unexpectedly.

In the unlikely event of the aircraft having a technical issue or fog preventing landing in your chosen destination, this is unlikely to be considered exceptional. Life threatening illness and war are likely to be considered exceptional. For anything in between the position is less clear!

HMRC Examples – Exceptional Circumstances

Exceptional

- Unconscious and airlifted to the UK following a boating accident
- A minor child having a life threatening accident whilst at summer camp in the UK
- Hospitalisation in the UK following a car crash
- Returning to the UK because Foreign and Commonwealth Office advises against travel to a particular jurisdiction (e.g. as a result of the war in Ukraine).

Not exceptional

- Ordinary "life events" such as birth, marriage, divorce and death
- Choosing to come to the UK for medical treatment
- Travel disruption such as a missed flight, train delays or car breakdown.

Whilst HMRC generally take a very narrow view on what qualifies as "exceptional", the UK courts are a little more generous and a tax case concerning exceptional days was concluded in the taxpayer's favour at the Court of Appeal in 2025. The key findings of this case are that:

- each night of presence in the UK should be analysed separately
- feeling morally required to be in the UK is sufficient to be "prevented from leaving the UK"
- the circumstances need to be exceptional for the individual not for society as a whole
- travelling to the UK for an exceptional reason can qualify for exceptional circumstances

Whilst at present there are no ongoing cases in relation to exceptional circumstances, HMRC are likely unhappy at this perceived widening of the scope to claim exceptional days and there are presently believed to be several tax cases heading to Tax Tribunal as HMRC seek to narrow the scope for claiming exceptional days.

The conservative advice for anyone counting UK days is always to include a buffer in the yearly plan to cover unforeseen circumstances and to count all nights in the UK, bar transit nights, toward your maximum for the year. If this exceeds your UK residence threshold, consider exceptional days, of which up to 60 may be claimed in a tax year but do be aware of likely HMRC scrutiny, especially if substantial tax is in point.

Guernsey / UK Double Tax Treaty

If you are UK tax resident in a tax year, all may not be lost if you are also Guernsey tax resident at the same time as the Guernsey/UK double tax treaty may provide some income tax and capital gains tax protection.

Article 4 of the treaty provides a tiebreaker matrix to determine treaty residence where an individual is tax resident in both the UK and Guernsey, at the same time.

The tiebreaker, very broadly, determines treaty residence via the four steps below. As soon as a step is met conclusively in the favour of either jurisdiction, that is the treaty residence determination.

1. The jurisdiction where you have a permanent home available.
2. The jurisdiction where your centre of vital interests is based (these being financial and personal interests).
3. The jurisdiction of habitual residence.
4. Where HMRC and the Guernsey Revenue determine residence.

Thus, a Guernsey tax resident individual, who only has a permanent home available in Guernsey, is likely to be treaty tax resident in Guernsey, even if they are considered UK tax resident under UK tax legislation.

This is important as in the broadest terms, the tax treaty should cede taxing rights to Guernsey in respect of most income sources and capital gains (where it is not UK property related). To rely upon the treaty, relief needs to be claimed in writing to HMRC.

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.

EXCELLENCE IN AESTHETIC SURGERY:

12 YEARS OF TRUST CARE WITH MR MOHAMMAD JABERANSARI, GMC, MD, PHD, MRCSED, CONSULTANT PLASTIC SURGEON

IMAGE ©GETTYIMAGES

ADVERTORIAL

The Guernsey Laser & Aesthetic Clinic – which was established 20 years ago – is proud to highlight the continued success and expansion of its surgical services under the leadership of Mr Jaberansari, a highly experienced plastic surgeon dedicated to delivering natural, refined results.

For the past 12 years, Mr Jaberansari has been carrying out detailed aesthetic consultations, guiding patients through personalised treatment plans tailored to their individual goals. Over the last six years, he has been actively performing surgical procedures, building a strong reputation for precision, safety, and patient-centred care.

MR JABERANSARI

ADVANCED SURGICAL PROCEDURES

Mr Jaberansari offers a range of procedures designed to restore confidence and enhance natural beauty, including:

- Facelift surgery
- Blepharoplasty (eye bag surgery)
- Breast lift procedures
- Mini tummy tucks
- And many more

All procedures are carried out under local anaesthetic, allowing patients to benefit from shorter recovery times and reduced procedural risk, while maintaining the highest standards of comfort and safety.

INTRODUCING OUR LATEST LIPOSUCTION TECHNOLOGY

We are also pleased to announce the arrival of our latest state-of-the-art liposuction machine. This advanced technology enables targeted body contouring across multiple areas, including:

- Abdomen
- Arms
- Thighs
- Chin
- And other treatment areas

EXPERTISE IN THREAD LIFTING

In addition to surgical procedures, Mr Jaberansari is an experienced trainer in both COG and PDO thread techniques. His expertise in these advanced, minimally invasive lifting treatments reflects his commitment to innovation and professional development within aesthetic medicine.

A DEDICATED AND EXPERIENCED TEAM

Behind every successful procedure is a skilled and supportive team. Our experienced clinical staff work closely with Mr Jaberansari to ensure every patients receives attentive care, professional guidance, and a safe, welcoming environment throughout their journey.

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:
Debbie Smethurst, BACN
E: **glac@cwgsy.net**
T: **07781 123662**
W: **www.glac.gg**

Beautiful you
GUERNSEY LASER AND AESTHETIC CLINIC

HIGH-FLYING APPOINTMENTS

IOD GUERNSEY

Pictured L-R: Patrick Cunningham, Glen Tonks, Richard Davey, Rob Winter.

Pictured L-R: Mayna Jackson-Gill, Louis Pike, Jesufemi Ayoola, Lauren Blake, Alexandra Bevis, Olivia Harman.

The Institute of Directors (IoD) in Guernsey has appointed three new members to its main committee, bringing expertise in digital technology, risk and compliance, and financial services to strengthen the board's breadth at a pivotal time for the island's business community.

Joining the committee are Patrick Cunningham, director of Indulge Media; Rob Winter, head of risk & compliance at Guernsey Electricity; and Richard Davey, director and head of finance business partners (CLS EMEA) at CSC.

Glen Tonks, chair of IoD Guernsey, said: 'We're delighted to welcome Patrick, Rob and Richard to the committee. Each of them brings a distinct perspective, from digital innovation and AI adoption, to risk governance and financial leadership. Together, they add real depth to the team. Guernsey's business community is navigating a period of significant change, and having voices like theirs at committee level will help the IoD stay connected to the issues that matter most.'

The IoD Emerging Leaders has also announced a number of new appointments to its committee, bringing experience from energy, fiduciary services, consulting, risk and compliance, and investment management to support the next generation of business leadership in Guernsey.

Joining the committee are Lauren Blake, Group Head of Sales at Island Energy Group; Olivia Harman, Assistant Manager at Imperium Trust Company; Louis Pike, Manager in BDO's Management Consulting practice; Jesufemi Ayoola, Head of Risk and Compliance at Stonehage Fleming; and Alexandra Bevis, Investment Manager at Canaccord Wealth.

Mayna Jackson-Gill, Digital Marketing Executive at Indulge Media, will also join in a committee support role, working alongside the Committee as part of a structured development pathway.

Euan Melrose, Chair of IoD Guernsey Emerging Leaders, said: 'We're delighted to welcome Lauren, Olivia, Louis, Jesufemi, Alexandra and Mayna to the Emerging Leaders. Each of them brings a fresh perspective and valuable experience, reflecting the strength of emerging talent across Guernsey's business community. These appointments will help ensure the Committee continues to represent a diverse range of sectors, skills and ideas as we support and develop the island's future leaders.'

SAVILLS

Matt Birch has joined Savills' Guernsey commercial team as a director.

He has 22 years' post-qualification experience as a chartered surveyor and has practiced in Guernsey and in the UK.

Tony Rowbotham, head of commercial at Savills, said, 'We are delighted that Matt has joined us, bringing his knowledge, expertise and reputation, which will allow us to expand the services we provide to our clients.'

SITUATIONS RECRUITMENT

Gemma Le Page has been promoted to Recruitment Manager at Situations Recruitment.

She has been at the firm for seven years, and in her new position will oversee both permanent staff placements and Situations' temp desk.

MD Melissa Campbell said: 'This a well-deserved achievement that recognises the hard work, professionalism, and impact that Gemma has had on the business.'

BEYOND OWNERSHIP:

WHY TRUSTEES ARE TURNING TO INDEPENDENT YACHT MANAGEMENT

BY GILES SEDGMAN, HEAD OF YACHT MANAGEMENT AT PRAXIS

ADVERTORIAL

For trustees, a superyacht is not just a high-value asset held within a structure. It is a complex operating enterprise, with regulatory, financial and reputational exposures that sit alongside wider fiduciary responsibilities.

As ownership structures have become more sophisticated, with vessels sitting alongside operating businesses, investment portfolios and other real assets, trustees and family offices are reassessing whether traditional oversight is sufficient. Yachts demand many of the controls associated with operating businesses, but often without equivalent governance frameworks.

Unlike passive holdings, a yacht is a mobile, highly regulated operating asset. It employs crew, operates across jurisdictions and carries significant safety obligations, often facing scrutiny from multiple regulators.

For fiduciaries, this creates a governance challenge: while oversight of the ownership structure may be well established, the vessel's operational complexity can introduce risks outside traditional trust administration.

WHERE GOVERNANCE GAPS CAN ARISE

In many ownership structures, trustees provide fiduciary oversight, legal and tax advisers establish the structure, and captains manage day-to-day operations, but accountability can fragment over time without formal coordination between those roles.

This can lead to:

- fragmented information flows between vessel and ownership structure
- limited documentation to evidence fiduciary oversight
- unclear escalation protocols for operational or compliance issues
- reactive decision-making in time-sensitive situations

Operational issues at sea can require fast decisions with financial, regulatory or reputational consequences, often outside formal reporting cycles. Without a clear control framework, risks may only surface once they are costly or sensitive.

WHY INDEPENDENCE MATTERS

Independence in yacht management can be as important as technical capability. Where operational oversight is distinct from ownership administration, reporting lines are clearer, conflicts reduced and risks surfaced more objectively - providing governance assurance for fiduciaries.

Rather than replacing the captain or wider adviser group, an independent yacht manager can act as a coordinating layer, helping ensure risks are identified and mitigated, escalated appropriately and documented consistently.

WHAT STRUCTURED OVERSIGHT LOOKS LIKE IN PRACTICE

A professional yacht management framework can bring discipline and continuity across technical, operational and administrative matters.

In practice, trustees and family offices typically look for an oversight framework that strengthens visibility, accountability and evidencing of decisions, while leaving day-to-day command with the captain.

- regular updates from the vessel, in a format trustees can rely on
- clear approval rules for spend and contracts, supported by budget and cash oversight
- checks that safety and regulatory requirements are being met, with evidence
- good record-keeping so key decisions are documented and easy to follow

Where appropriate, the yacht manager may also act as Designated Person Ashore under the International Safety Management Code, providing a formal route for escalation of safety and compliance matters.

PROTECTING REPUTATION AS WELL AS VALUE

Superyachts are highly visible assets, and incidents, regulatory findings or weak documentation can quickly affect the vessel, the wider ownership structure and the beneficial owner. Governance therefore needs to extend beyond preservation and performance into risk management and reputational protection.

A GOVERNANCE LENS FOR A COMPLEX ASSET

For trustees, independent yacht management tailored to the individual requirements of the vessel and ownership structure is increasingly a solution to strengthen visibility, accountability and fiduciary defensibility around a uniquely complex asset.

At Praxis, we work alongside trustees, family offices, private and corporate owners and advisers to help bring structure, clarity and independent oversight to yacht ownership.

To find out more contact giles.sedgman@praxisgroup.com or visit www.praxisgroup.com/services/yacht-services

This article is intended to provide a general overview. 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

HIGH-FLYING APPOINTMENTS

CHERRY GODFREY

Steve Moullin has joined Cherry Godfrey's commercial insurance team as Head of Commercial Insurance. With nearly 40 years' experience in the insurance industry, Mr Moullin brings a wealth of local knowledge, leadership, and technical expertise to the role.

Ian Stewart, Group Director of Insurance at Cherry Godfrey, said: 'Steve is a fantastic addition to the Cherry Godfrey team. 'His reputation within the Guernsey insurance market speaks for itself, and we are proud to welcome someone with such deep-rooted experience and strong client relationships. As we continue to grow our commercial offering, Steve's leadership will be instrumental in developing our proposition further and ensuring businesses receive the highest level of service and expertise.'

GRANT THORNTON

Grant Thornton has made a series of senior promotions across its Channel Island offices.

In Jersey, Henry Armelin has been promoted to tax director and Lucinda Overbury and James Tinnelly to tax associate director, while in Guernsey, Danielle Almond has been promoted to audit associate director.

'Our people are at the heart of everything we do, and these promotions reflect the dedication, expertise and collaborative spirit that drive our firm forward. Grant Thornton is a reflection of its team, and I am delighted to congratulate these individuals on their promotion,' said Adam Budworth, Grant Thornton managing partner.

KPMG

Lisa Aune has been promoted to director within the firm's restructuring practice. She has more than 20 years' experience in Jersey's finance industry, re-joining KPMG's restructuring team in April 2023.

In her role, she has responsibility for the operational management of the team and oversees all restructuring and insolvency engagements across the Crown Dependencies.

Linda Johnson, advisory partner at KPMG in the Crown Dependencies said: 'Lisa's promotion to Director is richly deserved. She brings deep technical expertise, strong operational leadership and a clear focus on delivering high-quality outcomes for clients across the Crown Dependencies. Since re-joining KPMG, Lisa has played a key role in strengthening our restructuring offering, and we are delighted to recognise her contribution at director level.'

RIHOY & SON

Rihoy & Son has made two appointments to its board of directors, further strengthening its leadership team.

Jim Anderson has been appointed contracts director after joining the business as construction manager, where he has been responsible for leading the delivery of the company's mid-sized projects. Chris Naftel has been appointed projects director, moving from his previous role as contracts manager.

'These appointments recognise the contribution both Jim and Chris have made to the company and the value of their experience within our senior team. Strengthening the board ensures we continue to deliver high-quality construction projects for our clients and support the long-term development of the business,' said Dan Taylor, managing director of Rihoy & Son.

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HIGH-FLYING APPOINTMENTS

BABBÉ

Pictured: Left - David Doutney. Right (top to bottom) - Nick Howell, Rosanna Wright, Tillie Graham.

Advocate David Doutney has been promoted to partner at Babbé.

With more than 12 years' experience in litigation, including cross-border insolvency, company and shareholder disputes and contentious trust matters, he has previously worked at leading firms in Australia and the Cayman Islands. He passed the Guernsey Bar exams in 2023 and was admitted as an Advocate of the Royal Court of Guernsey in 2024.

Todd McGuffin, Partner & Head of Disputes & Risk said: 'Since joining the firm, David has consistently demonstrated exceptional legal skill, sound judgement, and an unwavering commitment to client service. He has earned the trust and respect of clients and colleagues alike and has made significant contributions to the growth and success of the firm.

'Further, our Disputes & Risk team members have really grown professionally in the last six months. In the autumn Nick Howell, Senior Associate, was admitted as an Advocate of the Royal Court having successfully completed the Certificat d'Etudes Juridiques Françaises et Normandes from the University of Caen, Normandy and the Guernsey Bar Exams.

'Additionally, we have also celebrated the hard work of our two new Associates, Rosanna Wright and Tillie Graham. They both successfully completed the SQE route to qualification and become the first two Associates to qualify under the first training contracts awarded by the firm.

'I am delighted for Nick, Rosanna and Tillie and the continued professional depth they offer to our clients, both old and new.'

OGIER

Dispute resolution expert Heidi Sandy has been promoted to partner at Ogier in Guernsey.

An Advocate of the Royal Court of Guernsey, Heidi has brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the team since joining Ogier in 2020.

Mathew Newman, co-head of dispute resolution in Guernsey, said: 'Heidi has a fantastic reputation for her technical expertise, commercial judgement and commitment to clients and colleagues alike. Her promotion to partner is a well-deserved recognition of her contribution to the firm and I am excited to see her step into this next phase of her career.'

HFL

Anna Botzenhardt has joined HFL's Private Client team as a Client Services Director.

She brings extensive expertise in administering fiduciary structures for high-net-worth individuals and families, with particular experience in cross-border tax planning and family governance.

Marina Mauger, Deputy Managing Director, said: 'We are delighted to welcome Anna to HFL. Her depth of experience in complex private client structures and her strong focus on governance and long-term planning make her an excellent addition to our team. Anna's collaborative approach and commitment to delivering tailored, high-quality solutions will further strengthen our private client offering.'

BEDELL CRISTIN

Alexander Hawkins has joined Bedell Cristin as the firm's new head of international private client in Guernsey.

He is well known in the Guernsey market, having practised with a competitor firm since 2020, and has completed his Guernsey law exams and is due to be sworn as a Guernsey advocate.

Nancy Chien, Co-Global Managing Partner at Bedell Cristin, and the firm's Head of International Private Client, said: 'We are delighted to have Alexander join the firm and strengthen our Guernsey private client offering. His background both onshore and offshore, and his connections in the London, Switzerland and local market in Guernsey, make him the perfect person to spearhead our Guernsey practice.'

AMHERST PLACE

Restoring Character for Modern Living

By James Gavey, Director, JGA

Some projects remain memorable for their completed form and finishes; others, for the journey it took to achieve them. Amherst Place is one of those rare undertakings where both the process and the outcome leave an enduring impression.

From the beginning, it was evident that this was no ordinary commission. Dating to the 1800s, Amherst Place is a substantial Georgian residence distinguished by its architectural integrity and enduring presence. The central challenge lay in reconciling the demands of modern family life with the essential qualities that define its character and significance.

That principle guided every decision. Our ambition was to ensure that the new interventions felt integral, complementary rather than competitive, to the original structure. The design introduced a sensitive yet substantial extension and a comprehensive internal reconfiguration. Most notably, a double wing addition to the north reinstated the house's lost symmetry by mirroring its southern wing. Gentle, curving walls within the new wing softened the architectural language, allowing the contemporary elements to sit harmoniously alongside the historic fabric.

As with many period properties, the true scope of work only emerged once construction was underway. What began as a careful restoration soon evolved into a more extensive reconstruction. Opening up the building revealed significant structural deterioration: decayed joist ends, failed lintels, and compromised timber work. To achieve the level of quality the clients envisioned, it became necessary to broaden the scope far beyond initial expectations.

Essentially, the house was stripped down to its four walls. Large sections of the ground and first floor structures were replaced, internal partitions rebuilt, and new wall linings introduced throughout. It was a demanding and meticulous process, one that reinforced a core belief: rigorous planning and technical precision at the outset are the foundations of efficient and coherent construction.

Contract administration also proved necessary here. For me, its purpose extends well beyond overseeing progress and administering the contract. It involves safeguarding the design vision, navigating unforeseen complexities with calm authority, and fostering clear communication among the contractor, engineers, and consultant team to maintain momentum and clarity.

Reflecting on Amherst Place now, I see it as a project that encapsulates the best of what we strive for in architectural practice: a deeply respectful dialogue between past and present, realised through thoughtful planning, technical discipline, and genuine collaboration. The result is not only a beautifully revitalised home but also a testament to what can be achieved when craft, care, and history coexist in balance.

ABOVE L-R: A SELECTION OF ICONIC PARIS WATERING HOLES.
RIGHT: THREE LONDON PUBS. BELOW: LOCAL ARTIST LOUISE LE PELLEY.

À LA VÔTRE

FROM GUERNSEY TO THE BIG CITY

'PARIS IS ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA,' AUDREY HEPBURN ONCE SAID... AND ARTIST LOUISE LE PELLEY IS VERY MUCH INCLINED TO AGREE.

Having started out with a series of local pub paintings shortly after lockdown under the alter ego @guernseypubs, my appetite for projects has since expanded to include pubs and bars from around the world.

When London's French Consulate put out a call for French artists to exhibit on the iconic Cromwell Road, I knew it was an opportunity I couldn't resist - a perfect excuse to inject a little Parisian 'je ne sais quoi' into my portfolio.

I sent off my proposal, tried not to think about it too much... and then came the news: accepted. Which is when the real fun began.

Since then, I've been pacing the streets of London and Paris with a paintbrush in hand, very much on the prowl for iconic watering holes to include in À La Vôtre – Cheers. The exhibition takes place on Cromwell Road in South Kensington, directly opposite the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Natural History Museum, and just a short stroll from the Institut Français.

AU CHIEN QUI FUME, PARIS

Growing up in Guernsey with a French mum and a Guernsey dad, I've always been drawn to telling stories across cultures. After studying modern languages at university and later completing a second degree in marketing, I decided to treat myself to some painting supplies... and the rest is history.

À La Vôtre is a collection of scenes that feel instantly recognisable: café terraces glowing in the evening light, pubs mid-open mic session, half-finished drinks, chairs pulled out at odd angles, the occasional abandoned crisp packet. Nothing monumental is happening and yet everything is.

CAFÉ DE FLORE, PARIS

There's definitely cinematic influence in there but it's more along the line of Ratatouille or The Aristocats than an Audrey classic. I like to bring out a slightly idealised version of Paris and London where the lighting is always perfect and every place feels effortlessly charming... even when I sneak in a bin or an errant seagull.

Having exhibited in Germany in 2024, my work now moves between Guernsey, London, and Paris, which might sound very glamorous until you factor in hauling paint supplies everywhere and attempting to stay within the luggage allowance. That said, every trip still feels like a small adventure. 'À La Vôtre – Cheers' is my way of tying those places together.

Over the past two years, I've painted everything from brilliantly named Parisian institutions like Au Chien qui Fume and Au Pied de Cochon to iconic London pubs such as The Sherlock Holmes and The Princess Louise.

Each one comes with its own personality... and, importantly, its own cast of pub dogs.

I LIKE TO BRING OUT A SLIGHTLY IDEALISED VERSION OF PARIS AND LONDON WHERE THE LIGHTING IS ALWAYS PERFECT AND EVERY PLACE FEELS EFFORTLESSLY CHARMING... EVEN WHEN I SNEAK IN A BIN OR AN ERRANT SEAGULL.

THE SHERLOCK HOLMES, LONDON

I've also developed a slight weakness for art shops along the way. L. Cornelissen & Son in London and Charvin Arts in Paris being particular favourites. Paint shopping is, without question, my kryptonite.

But speaking of superpowers, being born between cultures has always felt special. This exhibition leans into that feeling of longing for the other over distances. Representing France is an honour, but the Guernsey flag is always up my sleeve! We're an island that understands good food and good company... something that didn't go unnoticed by Victor Hugo or Renoir, either!

At its core, À La Vôtre isn't highbrow or complicated art. It's about the people you end up next to on a night out, the places you keep going back to and the moments that linger long after you've said you're leaving. In a world that's increasingly glued to screens, I like to think of it as a gentle reminder to look up and to connect.

If people see themselves or special shared moments in the paintings I capture, that's perfect.

So yes, Paris is always a good idea... but it's even better with a bit of Guernsey and London thrown in.

Cheers to that.

You can see Louise's exhibition at the French Consulate in Kensington, London, from 12 June until 7 August.

CELEBRATING LIBERATION DAY

A SELECTION OF IMAGES COURTESY OF THE GUERNSEY PRESS.

ALL IMAGES: ©GUERNSEY PRESS.

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If you're looking to refresh your home, I offer both complete room or home styling, as well as sourcing individual pieces to elevate your space in a way that feels natural, considered and true to you.

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KICKING DOWN BARRIERS

BY NICKY WILL, GUERNSEY SPORTS COMMISSION

Women and girls football has seen unprecedented growth in recent years. Once constrained by limited investment, visibility and opportunities, the women's game is now attracting record-breaking audiences, increased media coverage and growing sponsorship. New opportunities are emerging across every corner of the game.

And Guernsey is riding that wave too.

There are opportunities for girls and women across all ages, from Wildcats for girls aged 5-11, Girls Squad for those aged 12-14, the Girls Academy, and weekly all-female Just Play sessions at Victoria Park. Some clubs now have dedicated girls' teams and GFC Ladies have successfully completed their first season in the Southern Region Women's Football League Division 1 South, which is in Tier 6 of the football pyramid.

It's a far cry from when the Guernsey Football Association appointed its first Women and Girls development officer in 2014.

'I was just delivering in primary schools basically, going and doing lunch clubs and just creating that rapport with girls out in the community,' said Joelle Priaulx, then Pengelley, who took on the role straight out of university.

'The women's league was the only all-female football at the time; we still had five clubs playing 11-a-side then, but then it dropped to four and then dropped to seven-a-side and then 2016 was our last Murrati and women's football just died locally because there wasn't any girls' provision. The women were reaching a certain age and just stopping and there weren't any youngsters coming through to fill it.'

She made it her mission to improve things.

'The difficulty we had when we first started was that there weren't enough girls in the same age group to create teams to play matches, so it was more about giving them the exposure, having a ball and learning the skills.

'It's just taken off from there really. There are now teachers in schools that are doing it themselves. We're not having to intervene and do everything ourselves. There are lunchtime clubs. Every school has got a football pitch and one day a week it's girls-only on that football pitch. They're rotating it to give girls access to football within school time so that's a big shift.

'That has then evolved into Wildcats and Girls Squad and having the Girls Academy. And it has grown into what we have now which replicates the boys' pathway. It's taken a long time but there's definitely demand and enough girls out there that we now have to select players for the girls academy and not invite people and beg them to come along and make up numbers.'

Scarlett Kenneally has taken over where Joelle left off. As well as encouraging more girls and women to enjoy the game she's also been a key player in the GFC Ladies squad who enjoyed a successful first season playing in England after dominating the Jersey League the year before.

'It was a bit of a culture shock to begin with, but the ladies settled into the season really well. It is a big commitment, but it is what we begged for, wanted and needed,' said Scarlett.

'This has pushed everyone to be better. To fight for shirts, to fight for starting positions to fight to even be in the squad. You look at the Muratti squad, there are so many people pushing and looking to make it into that squad, so I know they are having a really hard time selecting a training squad let alone 16 to play.'

Manchester United captain and England Lioness Maya Le Tissier remains a big inspiration to young local players but in recent years Syndey Schreimaier and Chloe Ingrouille have also shown that Guernsey girls have something special.

'So much has been built and now it's visible so everyone can see what they could achieve. With the likes of Chloe and previously Sydney moving to the UK to pursue a life in football and having that relationship with a team in the UK and taking it to that next level, there's younger girls that are looking to do exactly the same thing; nothing is off-limits, nothing is impossible anymore because they can see it's been done,' said Joelle.

With the women's game projecting 38% global fan growth by 2030 – reaching over 800m. fans worldwide – and the possibility of the Women's World Cup being hosted by England and the Home Nations in 2035, the opportunities are there to be grabbed.

'That's great but it's 10 years away. There could be girls at Wildcats now that could play in that World Cup so it's really about how can we create that environment for them right now to reflect positively in the future,' said Joelle.

The Guernsey Football Association can feel justifiably proud that the women's game is in safe hands. It's not only growing, it's helping to reshape the sport itself.

'NOTHING IS OFF LIMITS, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE ANYMORE BECAUSE THEY CAN SEE IT'S BEEN DONE.'

DELAYED BUT PLAYED

It was very much a case of better late than never when it came to the 2025 Channel Islands Men's Golf Championship final as a stunning showdown made it worth the wait.

Postponed from the original date in August of last year due to an injury sustained by Jersey champion Sam Quail, his meeting with Guernsey counterpart Lewis Marley finally went ahead in April and it showcased both the high standard of golf in both Bailiwicks as well as the scenic La Moye Golf Club course overlooking Jersey's west coast with the other Channel Islands in the distance.

Home advantage helped Quail settle the quicker of the two in the first round of the match played on a Saturday afternoon and just when Marley was getting a foothold in the contest, the Jerseyman holed a pivotal par putt from long range on the ninth hole which saw momentum swing back in his favour.

Quail played some superb golf to open up a 6-up lead and although Marley got one hole back late in the day, he was left with a mountain to climb in Sunday morning's second and concluding round.

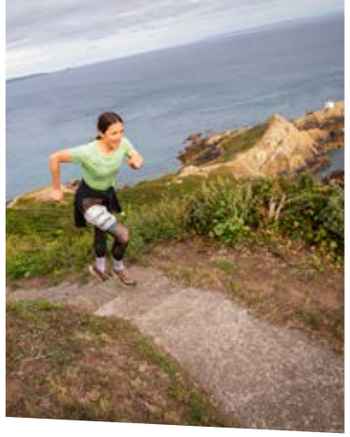
With nothing to lose, the Guernseyman went on the attack and produced some sensational golf, firing eight birdies in 16 holes to close the gap to one with two to play and with a genuine chance of pulling off a miraculous comeback.

However, Quail had continued to play well himself, holing several more long putts at crucial times, and he would have the final word when he drained a birdie attempt from 30ft on the 17th green – the 35th hole of the match – to clinch a 2 & 1 victory and his first Channel Islands title.

'As a whole I thought I played very steadily throughout both days. I think Lewis was absolutely unbelievable today [Sunday] and took me all the way. I really, really had to dig deep today, so a massive fair play to him,' said Quail.

Marley added: 'I couldn't have asked to play any better today [Sunday] – eight birdies and only the one bogey. If you'd offered me that I'd have bitten your hand off.

'My attitude was make as many birdies as possible and just attack everything I can, and try to get the putter working as well as it could have done – and I putted the best I ever have.'



ABOVE L-R: CARA COETZEE REACHES THE SUMMIT OF JERBOURG STEPS IN THE ALL TERRAIN CHALLENGE HILL CLIMB ©LUKE LE PREVOST; GUERNSEY MARATHON START ©GUERNSEY PRESS; GU36 RECORD-HOLDER TIAAN ERWEE CRUISING ALONG THE SOUTH COAST ©PETER FRANKLAND.

RUNNING, GUERNSEY STYLE

The stunning scenery and coastal views of Guernsey have become a selling point for some fairly rigorous running challenges, writes Guernsey Press sports reporter, Jamie Ingrouille.

The Sure Guernsey Marathon's slogan reads, 'an island perfectly shaped to run', the round-island GU36 prides itself on the 'beautifully rugged cliffs', and the seven-day All Terrain Challenge also showcases the Bailiwick's charm, concluding with an iconic Herm finale.

For anyone who enjoys beautiful backdrops with a side of blood, sweat and tears, these three events – unfolding in a relatively short window between April and July – are clearly among the best the island has to offer.

The scale of this year's **Sure Guernsey Marathon** was especially breath-taking.

Beyond its 26.2-mile distance, it featured a record 251 finishers for the full marathon, around 600 people tackling the distance in relay legs, and for good measure 218 taking on the mile relay.

Around half of those tackling the full distance are visitors, with France's Guillaume Ruel setting an impressive benchmark with his course record of 2hrs 24min. 58sec.

English veteran Harriet Carr, who lowered the women's record to 2-56-09, sold the race well in her winner's interview.

'I target the Major marathons, so I've done five out of the six – the only one I haven't done is Tokyo – but I have to admit this is the most beautiful course I've ever run,' she said.

After the intimidating start up Le Val des Terres, the marathon follows a largely flat route hugging the island's main coastal roads with only the odd detour.

Local and visiting runners alike have paid tribute to the amount of support on course, especially down the lovely west coast.

The event has been going since 2020 in its current format and will be back on Sunday 18 April 2027, with entry available on guernseymarathon.com. Will it be bigger and better again?

The GU36 (Guernsey Ultra 36) is an even longer, though arguably more relaxed, cousin of the marathon featuring around 100 runners annually.

These runners must take on a much more restrained pace for the 36-miler, which covers a clockwise lap of the island but instead utilises the coastal trails.

After a gentle road start from the Liberation Monument, the course heads onto the rugged cliff paths leading up to the Portelet checkpoint at 16 miles, packed with tasty snacks to help sustain runners.

A similar checkpoint at Rousse ensures runners are prepared for the final 11 miles heading back to the Monument.

The ultra takes place annually in mid-May and always prompts the question: can anyone challenge Tiaan Erwee's course record?

The South African national, who was based in Guernsey for several years, went round the rock in a staggering 4-06-10 in 2023.

The women's record of 5-33-58 was set by Guernsey athlete Louise Smith two years before that.

Visit greenrockevents.com/the-race for more information.

The All Terrain Challenge is another animal but still attracts triple-figure entries.

This year's 30th anniversary edition runs from Sunday 19 to Saturday 25 July and is set to be the last under stalwart Geoff King's organisation. But it is hoped that a new organiser will step in to save the event's future.

Taking notes from cycling's Grand Tours, but much more attainable, it tasks runners with seven consecutive daily stages of varied terrains and distances towards a time-based general classification. There's even a leader's jersey – which has been yellow, but often changes.

But you won't find anything like the infamous Col du Galibier, with the 8km Icart Loop cliff run presenting the longest stage for many competitors.

As runners of all abilities defy growing fatigue over the week, the event's splitting into different divisions will mean that they all have something to fight for.

More information is available on the event's Facebook page.

LTS TAX CONTINUES SUPPORT FOR THE BATHING POOLS AT LA VALLETTE

LTS Tax has agreed a renewed sponsorship package of £4,000 per year on a rolling three-year basis to support the work of Vive La Vallette, the local charity involved in supporting the facilities that serve the Bathing Pools.

The Bathing Pools operates on a community-first reinvestment model, generating income through the café, events and corporate partnerships rather than relying on public funding. This approach has enabled the project to grow while maintaining free public swimming, year-round access and a strong focus on wellbeing and inclusivity.

'We're pleased to continue supporting The Bathing Pools,' said Paul O'Neill, Managing Director of LTS Tax. 'It's a fantastic community space where people can come together, whether that's for leisure, events or simply to enjoy the surroundings.'

Helen Bonner-Morgan, Operations Director at Vive La Vallette, said: 'Support from organisations like LTS has been fundamental to what we've achieved at La Vallette. It has helped us build, shape and sustain a facility that's for everyone.'

Helen Bonner-Morgan, Operations Director at Vive La Vallette, and Natalie Chamberlain, Executive Director at LTS Tax.

GUERNSEY'S AIR DISPLAY: A COMMUNITY EVENT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Red Arrows, Battle of Britain Air Display ©Guernsey Press.

For over 60 years, Guernsey's annual Battle of Britain Air Display has brought thousands of people together to enjoy one of the island's most memorable community events.

A free-to-attend event, the Display commemorates the service and sacrifice of RAF aircrew; supports the preservation of historic aircraft; inspires the next generation of engineers, scientists and aviators; and helps raise funds for the Guernsey branch of the RAF Association, which supports former and serving personnel.

It also delivers wider benefits to the island by attracting visitors, supporting local businesses and showcasing Guernsey as a place to visit. Building on the success of the new evening timeslot, where feedback has been strongly positive, with reports of families being able to enjoy the display together and many being able to watch for the first time in years, the Guernsey Air Display Foundation wants to secure more funding to enable future generations to continue to enjoy and be inspired by this wonderful event.

One of the pillars of the Display is to educate and inspire young people about aviation and military history, engineering challenges the aviation industry faces, as well as military and civilian career opportunities.

Enjoyed by locals and visitors every year, the Display remains a much-loved part of island life.

Guernsey's Air Display takes play on Wednesday 9 September, 6.30pm – 8pm. See guernseyairdisplay.com for further information.

PLAQUES AT LE PLATON MARK OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Two new plaques have been unveiled at Le Platon residential home, marking the dedication of some of the many people who worked to build it into one of the island's pre-eminent dementia care homes.

The first of the plaques was dedicated to former director Bryan Mauger and late chairman Jurat Mike Tanguy, while the second commemorated the late architect Mitch Sneddon, who worked on transforming the home with the addition of the new wing, which opened in 2024.

They were unveiled by former Bailiff Sir Richard Collas, patron of the home, at a ceremony which also marked the re-naming of the new wing, which has been named in memory of Mr Tanguy and Mr Mauger.

'I do believe that the island has something miraculous here at Le Platon,' said Sir Richard in a short speech.

Bryan Mauger (left) and Sir Richard Collas ©Guernsey Press.

'It is thanks to some remarkable people that [home manager] Hazel Robins and her team are able to carry out the amazing, caring work they do here day and night, every day of the year.'

The home has a history dating back more than 100 years, making it the island's oldest operating care home.

HOW LITTLE QUILTS BIG HUGS IS SPREADING KINDNESS WITH THE COOP COMMUNITY FUND

'Little Quilts Big Hugs' is a new Guernsey charity that makes and donates handmade quilts to islanders who need an extra hug.

'Little Quilts Big Hugs' was hatched from an idea to support families whose critically ill children were receiving treatment in Southampton and who were being helped through the Priaulx Premature Baby Foundation (PPBF). The charity felt that their siblings also needed extra hugs while they were away from home during such a difficult time in their young lives.

As more and more quilters joined the project and the pile of quilts grew, the charity approached Les Bourgs Hospice to offer hugs to bereaved children who were needing support while grieving the loss of a family member. Both charities were thrilled to receive the first bundles of quilts when the charity launched in October 2025.

The smallest preemie quilts can be used to cover incubators, diffusing bright hospital lights, and are given to the family to keep. Baby quilts are a little larger and can become play mats or tummy time mats besides being that all-important huggable blanket. Children's quilts are larger again and wrap around the child giving comfort and those special cosy hugs.

Sometimes the simplest ideas have the greatest impact.

Supported by the Coop Community Fund, Little Quilts Big Hugs is a Guernsey-based charity proving just how powerful community-led projects can be. In less than a year, the initiative has grown from a single idea into a network of volunteers stitching comfort, care and connection into every quilt they create.

With funding from the Coop Community Fund that has helped turn passion into action, Little Quilts Big Hugs is a perfect example of what can happen when local people are given the support to make a difference.

COULD THE COOP COMMUNITY FUND HELP YOUR IDEA GROW?

The story of Little Quilts Big Hugs shows just how far a community idea can go with the right support.

The Coop Community Fund exists to help local groups take their first steps, grow their impact, and make a real difference where it matters most.

If you're working on a community project — or have an idea that could benefit from some financial backing — don't assume you're 'too small' or 'too early'. The Coop distributes funds twice a year, once at the end of May and once at the end of September and applications are open all year round.

If you're looking for help with your community project, visit *channelislands.coop/gg/your-society/community/coop-community-fund*. You might be given the lift you need to get off the ground.

Portraits of Lisa and Greville Mitchell - Founders & Patrons, Les Bourgs Hospice.

HERE FOR LIFE

DISCOVER A MOVING NEW EXHIBITION IN GUERNSEY THIS SUMMER THAT CELEBRATES 35 YEARS OF LES BOURGS HOSPICE.

Visitors to Guernsey this summer will find breath-taking coastal views, peaceful walks and plenty of charming island discoveries — but within the tranquil surroundings of Candie Gardens lies a cultural experience that offers something truly special. Opening on 18 July, Here for Life: 35 Years of Les Bourgs Hospice is a deeply human photographic exhibition that invites travellers to explore one of the island's most meaningful community stories.

Held in the Brian White Gallery at Guernsey Museum at Candie, the exhibition celebrates Guernsey's only hospice – an organisation cherished by islanders for its compassion, care and unwavering support. For visitors who enjoy uncovering the stories behind the places they explore, this exhibition offers a unique and heartfelt addition to any summer itinerary.

A DEEPLY HUMAN STORY TOLD THROUGH STRIKING PORTRAITS

At the heart of the exhibition is a collection of powerful portraits by award-winning photographer Aaron Yeandle. His contemporary style captures the people who have shaped Les Bourgs Hospice over the past three decades — nurses, volunteers, fundraisers, medical professionals and founders whose dedication has made the Hospice an essential part of island life.

The portraits feel intimate and authentic, inviting visitors to connect not only with each individual but with the spirit of compassion they collectively represent. Whether you're an art lover, a cultural explorer or someone who enjoys discovering the human stories behind local institutions, these images offer a rare behind-the-scenes glimpse of an organisation built on kindness, dignity and care.

WHY LES BOURGS HOSPICE MATTERS

For those unfamiliar with Les Bourgs Hospice, this exhibition offers a meaningful insight into why it holds such a special place in island hearts. Founded to ensure that anyone in the Bailiwick living with a life-limiting illness can receive specialist care in a calm, respectful and supportive environment — without cost — the Hospice embodies the island's strong sense of community.

Visitors often remark on Guernsey's warmth and its deep-rooted culture of looking out for one another. Les Bourgs Hospice is one of the clearest expressions of that spirit. It exists because islanders volunteer, fundraise and advocate for it, and because the Hospice team is there for families through some of life's most challenging moments.

This exhibition honours that emotional depth with sensitivity and hope. It invites reflection, but it also celebrates life — the joy, humanity and connection found even in difficult times.

A CELEBRATION OF CARE, COMMUNITY AND ISLAND SPIRIT

The Brian White Gallery, nestled within the beautiful Candie Gardens, is just a short walk from St Peter Port harbour. It's perfect for travellers looking to experience Guernsey beyond its beaches and cliff paths, so if you want to understand the island's character and the people who shape it — this exhibition offers a moving and beautifully curated cultural moment.

As well as celebrating the past 35 years, Here for Life highlights the compassion woven into Guernsey's identity and offers a unique opportunity to discover a story held close by islanders.

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Location – The Brian White Gallery at Guernsey Museum at Candie.

When to visit – 18 July to 27 September. The museum is open daily; check the Guernsey Museum at Candie website for the latest opening hours before your visit.

Admission – Free to Discovery Pass holders, otherwise standard museum entry charges apply.

How long to allow – Most visitors spend 30–45 minutes exploring the portraits.

Nearby refreshments – The on-site café offers excellent views across St Peter Port and the neighbouring islands.

Why it's worth seeing – More than an art exhibition — a chance to understand what makes Guernsey special.

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.

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	DEAL 2	DEAL 3	DEAL 4	DEAL 5
Any Hot Drink & Muffin	Any Beer, Cider or Wine & your choice of Savoury Snack	Any Soft Drink & your choice of Savoury Snack	Any Hot Drink & your choice of Sweet Snack	Any Soft Drink & your choice of Sweet Snack
£5.50	**£8.00**	**£4.00**	**£5.25**	**£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

Oatmilk is available with all hot drinks. Please ask if you would prefer it.

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, Apple and Tomato 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

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Sky Bar Service

Mini Spirits

£6.50

2 SPIRITS AND 2 MIXERS £14

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

Wines

2 FOR £10

Jack Rabbit Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot, White Zinfandel or Pinot Grigio
187ml
£6.00

Beers & Cider

Madrí 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

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.

£38

Cigarettes & Tobacco

Marlboro Gold	200 / 400s	**£63 / £96**
Benson & Hedges	200 / 400s	**£50 / £87**
Lambert & Butler Silver	200 / 400s	**£50 / £76**
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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