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September has been a busy month with ETOA representatives travelling around Europe for working groups, taking the opportunity to network with established and new contacts to keep our membership organisation resilient and effective. This month's newsletter leads with the information that further dates have been announced for **UK ETA**. In this newsletter, you'll also find more on:

- Making the most of your membership and what you're missing out on
- Sustainability News
- Insight, Research & Webinars

Business Environment | Operating in Europe

UK ETA - Electronic Travel Authorisation

On 11 September 2024 further start dates were announced (8 January and 2 April 2025, depending on nationality) when an ETA will be required for UK visa-exempt nationalities visiting/transiting the UK (including Northern Ireland). Read more here: **UK ETA**



Paris Vehicle Access Restriction (ZTL)

From mid-October 2024 (date TBC), access for private vehicles in the 1-4 arrondissements is expected to be restricted. Transiting for most private vehicles and destination coach traffic will be prohibited in the ZTL, unless they meet an exemption. For more information, check the latest news here.



Edinburgh Access Restriction

Old Town - Lawnmarket and Upper Bow: Road reconstruction works have started, which will result in traffic closures, particularly from December 2024.



ETOA Working Groups

Spain & Portugal

ETOA and representatives of Spain & Portugal Destination Management Organisations met to explore joint interests, practical ways of maximising mutual benefit and to address adverse impacts from the visitor economy, and how ETOA can support creative collaboration and long-term goals. Find out more here.



Attractions & Ticketing

Given the increasing challenges related to distribution for major attractions, and the need to bring more products into the digital marketplace through good practice to promote diversification and development, we have formed a working group to address the situation around attractions and ticketing. For discussion points, have a look here.



Dublin, Ireland

A meeting among ETOA's public and private sector members explored the scope for a working group focusing on Ireland. This followed our participation in the city's European Capital of Smart Tourism workshop on AI. The meeting covered common interests including operations, market performance, and product strategy



Edinburgh

At a recent meeting in Edinburgh we discussed the <u>public consultation</u> now launched by the City Council, on their proposed levy on accommodation from July 2026. Closing date is 15 December 2024.



English Heritage



A new view of England's greatest fortress



Book your groups now



Dover Castle Under Siege is now open! Explore our new attraction that tells the forgotten tale of the 1216 siege, which has been brought to life with interactive displays, reopened tunnels and a new viewing area with panoramic views of the castle. For more information, see here.

Connecting Cultures With Kuoni Tumlare



Kuoni Tumlare is a leading Destination Management Company with over 100 years of expertise. We connect cultures through responsible, innovative travel solutions, offering a full range of services from Leisure and VIP Tours to MICE and Congress services, covering all European destinations with our extensive local network. For more information, click here.

The ETOA Commercial Delivery Team



Our Commercial Delivery Team consolidated recently and now brings together events and sales functions into one group.

- **Arran Wiltshire**, will be responsible for the delivery all of ETOA's commercial activities across membership, events and white label services
- Jay Munro-Michell will oversee all support and activities for Central Europe

- **Róisín Donnelly** will lead sales in the UK and Ireland and the management of partnership development
- Our market managers **Danja Nebuloni**, **Yamin Saadi** and **Jorge Traver** will continue to provide ambassadorial roles, share market intelligence and support destinations and partners. If you need to contact any of them, you'll find their details here.

ETOA Out and About







This month, we've been busy travelling around Europe networking, planning and holding working groups.

Tom Jenkins, Tim Fairhurst, Róisín Donnelly and **Simon Smith** attended an ETOA networking event in Dublin to meet and re-connect with partners and colleagues from the tourism industry.

Then to Edinburgh for a networking session and reception to discuss topical issues, including the Visitor Levy. The team and guests were joined by officials from the Scottish Government, Visit Scotland and Edinburgh City Council. From there, ETOA representatives travelled to Amsterdam for more discussion and networking.

The Advisory Council met together in Madrid to plan for 2025 and beyond and discuss ideas to

increase the strength and influence of our membership organisation, hosted by Turespaña.

ETOA representatives also attended IFTM in Paris and IAAPA in The Netherlands as well as exhibiting at the WeTravel Innovation Summit.

Watch this space for more details on our trip to Tokyo Expo in next month's newsletter.

Sustainability - Climate Action



ETOA continues to map climate action plans (CAPs) across all territories and sub-sectors and will present results at the GEM 2024 Industry Briefing on 31 October. New fields will record sustainability commitments, third-party sustainability certification and accreditation, while 'climate action declarations' have been made more specific. These features will launch in the Member Search area shortly. For more information, click here.

You can also find more information from our recent attendance at the European Roundtable on Climate Risk Management here.

New EU Mandate: Tourism and Decarbonisation

A college of EU Commissioners, subject to election by the European Parliament, remains tasked with delivering green and digital transition. A new Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and Tourism has been proposed, the first time 'tourism' has ever been part of a job title. The proposed Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth is also responsible for taxation. More information here.

Roundtable Human Rights in Tourism

Human Rights in Tourism is holding a 2024 symposium on The Balancing Act of Tourism – Between Rights, Resources & Responsibilities - in collaboration with the Catalan Tourist Board.

The event takes place on 1 October 2024 in Sitges, Catalonia, where topics like the social impact of tourism, climate adaptation and inclusivity will be on the table. To find out more and register, click here.



Insight, Research & Webinars

Our <u>Insight Hub</u> provides a library of data reports, opinion pieces, webinar recordings and academic research. Latest pieces include:

Paris - coach restrictions

An online briefing from Paris je t'aime, which covers the new access restrictions for

arrondissements 1-4 being introduced in October.

Webinar recording: Euromonitor Forecasts for Europe for 2025

With European leisure travel exceeding pre-pandemic levels, what does travel to Europe look like now?

Pulse Check: Adventure Tourism

We asked members if they think adventure tourism offers low-season opportunities for their business. The vast majority (69%) thinks that it does.



About ETOA

ETOA is the trade association for better tourism in Europe. We work with policymakers to enable a fair and sustainable business environment, so that Europe remains competitive and appealing for visitors and residents. With 1,100 members serving 65 origin markets, we are a powerful voice at local, national and European levels. Our members include tour and online operators, intermediaries and wholesalers, European tourist boards, hotels, attractions, technology companies and other tourism service providers ranging in size from global brands to local independent businesses. We are connected with over 30,000 industry professionals across our social media channels.

If you are not interested in the ETOA newsletter and don't want to receive this communication anymore, please <u>click here</u> and your preferences will be updated.







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