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24 November 2026: Brussels recovery, Heathrow access risks and tightly timed holiday offers

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This UK Outbound Travel Briefing covers 18–24 November: Brussels disruption recovery and the announced London Underground service reductions require different departure messages. (businesstravelnewseurope.com) The FCDO's US alert removal, a newly dated ATOL renewal list and precise promotional deadlines complete the week's commercial priorities—not evidence of a holiday-demand rebound. (gov.uk)

Headlines

- Brussels: Monday's cancellation window has ended; Tuesday recovery needs flight-specific checks.[1] (businesstravelnewseurope.com)
- Heathrow access: no Piccadilly line service planned on 26 November or before noon on 27 November.[2] (nationalrail.co.uk)
- FCDO removes its US air-traffic disruption notice; entry checks remain separate.[3][4] (gov.uk)
- CAA's 18 November renewal list warrants supplier checks, not insolvency assumptions.[5] (caa.co.uk)
- Jet2holidays' selected-hotel offer closes tonight; easyJet's flight and package deadlines differ.[6][7] (easyjet.com)

Key figures

19,203,000 visits[8]

UK-resident overseas visits — historical background

2023-Q4 · Released on 17 May 2024, this stale ONS estimate describes overseas visits in 2023-Q4, not current bookings.[8]

299,351,416 passengers[9]

UK airport passengers — annual background

2025 · Released on 13 February 2026, this CAA total includes inbound and transfer traffic and is not UK-resident outbound demand.[9][10]

70%[11]

Overseas holiday intention — ABTA survey

2026 · Released on 13 October 2026, this representative UK-adult survey measures overseas holiday intention for the following 12 months, not bookings or a completed calendar-year outcome.[11]

Developments that matter

The first development is Brussels recovery. Reporting published on 23 November confirms that air traffic controller industrial action cancelled all Brussels Airport flights between 07.00 and 21.00 that day. The airport warned that 24 November would be especially busy; this is not evidence of a continuing closure today. Recommendation: prioritise UK-origin connecting passengers alongside Belgium-bound customers, confirming replacement flights, transfers and touring joins individually.[1] (businesstravelnewseurope.com)

The second is prospective London airport-access disruption: National Rail's 23 November update provides a specific operating plan for 26–27 November, rather than merely repeating an earlier strike announcement. Recommendation: replace generic strike warnings with dated transfer instructions.[2] (nationalrail.co.uk)

Third, the FCDO removed information about US air-traffic disruption on 20 November; its advice was marked current on 24 November. This materially updates the previous edition's recovery coverage. Recommendation: retire the general alert while retaining unresolved itinerary support.[3] (gov.uk)

The fourth and fifth developments are supplier compliance and promotional timing: the CAA's newly dated renewal list and separate easyJet and Jet2holidays offers require checks before accepting or advertising flight-inclusive bookings. Their publication dates do not establish either fresh supplier failures or stronger sales.[5][6][7] (caa.co.uk)

Destination access and operations

National Rail's update, issued at 17:27 on 23 November, says the Piccadilly and Circle lines will have no service throughout Thursday 26 November and before 12:00 on Friday 27 November. Normal Underground service is expected from approximately 18:00 Friday—not guaranteed. The Elizabeth line and other non-Underground TfL services are scheduled to operate normally but be busier. Recommendation: rebuild Heathrow and cross-London journeys around the published plan, allow additional time and recheck before departure; journey planners may not fully reflect disruption.[2] (nationalrail.co.uk)

US disruption messaging must remain separate from admission requirements. FCDO guidance for full British-citizen passport holders requires the appropriate ESTA or visa, including for transit. It also retains the pre-boarding health form requirement introduced on 3 November. Recommendation: preserve document and airline checks when removing the air-traffic alert; the removal is not an entry-rule relaxation.[3][4] (gov.uk)

For European departures, the official EU page says ETIAS is not operating and applications are not being collected. Recommendation: do not sell an ETIAS application as a current departure requirement. The page is undated operational background, not a verified announcement this week; no launch date is asserted here.[1][2] (travel-europe.europa.eu)

Value and holiday calendar

easyJet's 23 November announcement offers up to 20% off selected flights for travel from 7 December 2026 to 18 March 2027, bookable until 08:00 on 1 December. Its separate BLKFRIDAY package promotion offers up to £400 off with a minimum £4000 spend, for new bookings before 23:00 on 1 December and travel until 31 October 2028. These are different eligibility windows, not interchangeable discounts.[6] (easyjet.com)

Jet2holidays' DOTW181126 offer provides £25 per person at specified hotels, with new bookings closing at 23:59 on 24 November. Eligible departures run from 18 November 2026 to 31 October 2027. The saving reduces the balance, not the deposit, and excludes children under two at return. Recommendation: verify the hotel and final total before quoting; neither promotion establishes a market-wide price fall.[7] (jet2holidays.com)

Calendar background is local: Bexley maintained primary schools in England remain in term through 18 December; their Christmas holiday runs from 21 December to 1 January. Recommendation: test adult winter city-break and beach-package concepts separately from family departures, checking each school rather than extrapolating across England, Scotland,

Wales or Northern Ireland. These are product tests, not measured package prices.[13] (bexley.gov.uk)

Reuters reported sterling edging higher against the dollar on 23 November while surrendering earlier gains. No edition-day retail currency rate is verified here. Recommendation: refresh contracted supplier costs and customer currency quotations before claiming improved affordability.[14] (streetinsider.com)

Latest market evidence

ONS's 18 November release puts annual CPI inflation at 3.6% in October 2026, compared with 3.5% in September. This is fresh household-budget context, not a measure of outbound package-price inflation or holiday bookings. Recommendation: present total trip costs rather than relying on headline discounts.[15] (ons.gov.uk)

The frozen TravelSpy pack contains no new or revised records against the previous edition. Its latest stored quarterly outbound estimate remains 19,203,000 visits in 2023-Q4, released on 17 May 2024: stale background, not November demand.[8][10] CAA's 299,351,416 airport passengers for 2025, released on 13 February 2026, include inbound and transfer traffic.[9][10]

ABTA's 2026 survey wave, released on 13 October, records 70% of representative UK adults intending an overseas holiday in the following 12 months. That is intention, not realised bookings.[11] No valid UK Google Trends series is stored in this pack; this availability statement does not describe all evidence available elsewhere.[10]

Actions for travel businesses

Recommendation — supplier controls: reconcile suppliers against the CAA's 18 November list and current licence records before accepting flight-inclusive bookings. The document concerns firms without an ATOL at 1 October; until renewal, advertising and booking/payment acceptance are restricted, subject to its specified agency exceptions. Inclusion does not necessarily indicate doubts about financial resources. Record unresolved licence checks rather than labelling suppliers insolvent.[5] (caa.co.uk)

Recommendation — operational test: track unconfirmed Brussels replacements, missed touring joins and acknowledgement of revised London transfer instructions. Keep completed disruption, recovery cases and future service reductions in separate queues.[12] (businesstravelnewseurope.com)

Recommendation — commercial test: compare eligible promotional quotes with equivalent dates, airports, baggage, transfers and board basis; measure quote-to-book conversion and contribution after discounts. Stop expired messaging automatically. These are proposed operator tests, not reported results, forecasts or evidence of a national booking rebound.[6][7] (easyjet.com)

Data gaps and limitations

- No stored records were new or revised against the previous edition; the frozen pack does not measure bookings during 18–24 November 2026.[10]
- Stored ONS outbound records end in 2023 and were released on 17 May 2024; they are stale background, not the latest evidence necessarily available outside this pack.[8][10]
- No valid, unambiguous UK Google Trends series is stored in the frozen evidence pack.[10]
- Brussels reporting establishes the 23 November cancellation window and anticipated recovery pressure, not the operating status of every flight on 24 November.[1]
- London Underground arrangements are announced plans for 26–27 November and remain subject to operational updates.[2]
- No 24 November retail sterling quotation or independently measured comparable package-price series was verified; advertised discounts are not market-wide price movements.[6][7][14]
- The ETIAS and Bexley pages have no visible publication date and are used only as operational and local-calendar background.[12][13]
- Individual suppliers’ current ATOL renewal outcomes were not verified; the dated CAA list must be reconciled with current licence records before transactions.[5]

Methodology

Figures come from market-specific statistics stored by TravelSpy with source timing and attribution, or cited published research. Each report is drafted by an AI research analyst, automatically checked figure-by-figure against the stored records, and independently fact-checked by a separate AI reviewer before publication. Sources keep their own periods, populations and units and are never blended. Sentiment, search interest and price indices are not bookings; airport passengers include nonresidents and connections. First-observed dates are not provider publication dates.

- **UK travel research**: included
- **UK resident outbound travel**: included
- **UK search interest**: not included (No valid, unambiguous UK series stored for this source.)
- **UK airport passenger context**: included
- **UK travel sentiment**: included

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