



Commissioned by:

Visit Kent



Economic Impact of Tourism

Ashford - 2019 Results

November 2020

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Introduction

This report examines the volume and value of tourism and the impact of visitor expenditure on the local economy in 2019 and provides comparative data against the previously published data for Kent (2017).

Part of the Interreg Channel EXPERIENCE project, Destination Research was commissioned by Visit Kent to produce 2019 results based on the latest data from national tourism surveys and regionally/locally based data. The results are derived using the Cambridge Economic Impact Model.

In its basic form, the model distributes regional activity as measured in national surveys to local areas using 'drivers' such as the accommodation stock and occupancy which influence the distribution of tourism activity at local level. Whenever possible, results have been enhanced by building in additional local-level data gathered by the district (e.g. local attractions data, boat moorings, language schools in the area, accommodation stock, etc.). See Appendix I for further details.

Contextual analysis

Domestic tourism

In 2019, British residents took 99.7 million overnight trips in England (down from 100.6 million overnight trips in 2017), totalling 290 million nights away from home (down from 299 million nights in 2017). Expenditure reached £19.40 billion (up from £19.05 billion in 2017). The spend per trip was £194.58 and with an average trip length of stay of 2.9 nights, the average spend per night was £66.89.

The South East region experienced a -3% decrease in overnight trips between 2017 and 2019. Bednights were down -2% on 2017 and expenditure was unchanged since 2017. The region received slightly less visitors in 2019 than in 2017 but visitors spent slightly more per night than in 2017. The average spend per trip was £161.37 and with an average length of stay of 2.66 nights, the average spend per night was £60.56.

The GB Tourism Survey data is a key driver for the Cambridge model. However, it is not specifically designed to produce highly accurate results at sub-regional level. In order to improve the accuracy of results we have applied a 3-year rolling average to this data to help smooth out short term market fluctuations and highlight longer-term trends. As such, county and district level results relating to 2019 are an average of 2017, 2018 and 2019.

The domestic tourism results for Kent used in this model combine a mixture of supply and demand data. We do this because extracting county level data from national surveys can lead to inaccurate results due to low sample sizes. Our results show a 1% decrease in the volume of trips between 2017 and 2019. Nights were down by 2% and expenditure was also down by 1%.

Visits from overseas

The International Passenger Survey (IPS) data is a key driver for the Cambridge model. However, as with the GBTS, it is not specifically designed to produce highly accurate results at sub-regional level. In order to improve the accuracy of results we have applied a 3-year rolling average to this data to highlight longer-term trends, whilst helping smooth out short-term market fluctuations and reducing the impact of any methodological changes affecting the survey. As such, county and district level results relating to 2019 are an average of 2017, 2018 and 2019 results.

At national level, the number of visits in 2019 was 36.1 million (33.0 in 2017). The number of visitor nights spent in England was 252.4 million (245.7 million in 2017), with the average number of nights per visit standing at 7.99 in 2019 (from 7.45 in 2017). Expenditure in 2019 was £24.78 billion, slightly below the £24.94 billion achieved in 2017.

Overseas trips to the South England region were down by 1% compared to 2017 at 5.4 million overnight trips. The total number of nights was 36.8 million, down slightly from the 37.4 million nights in 2017. Expenditure in 2019 was £2.58 billion, up 11% from 2.32 billion in 2017.

Kent experienced a 3% increase in the volume of trips between 2017 and 2019. Nights were down by 7% and expenditure was also down by 6%.

The International Passenger Survey is conducted by the Office for National Statistics and is based on face to face interviews with a sample of passengers travelling via the principal airports, sea routes and the Channel Tunnel, together with visitors crossing the land border into Northern Ireland. The number of interviews conducted in England in 2019 was 25,147.

Day visitors

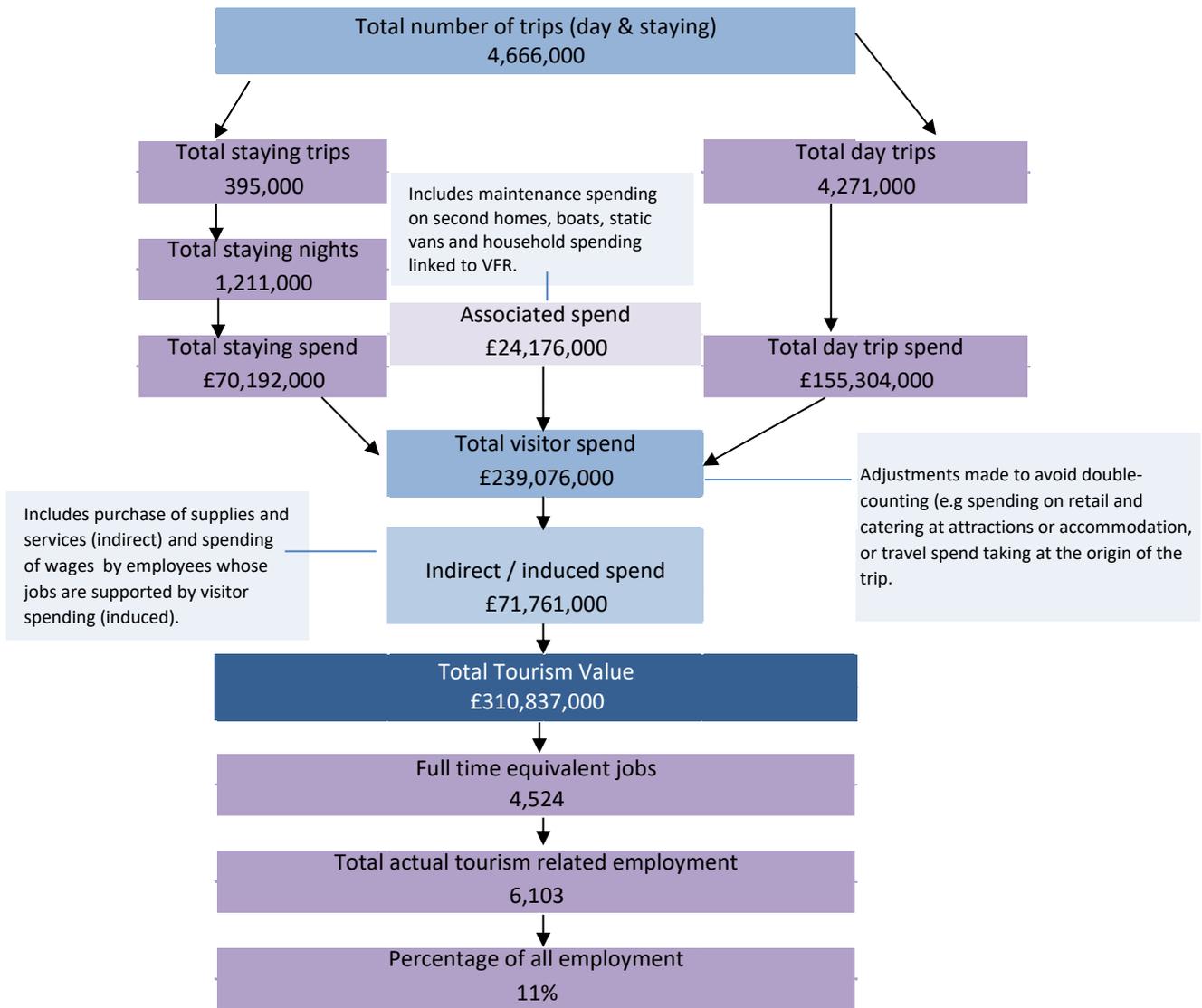
During 2019, UK residents took a total of 1,390 million Tourism Day Visits in England (down from 1,505 in 2017). Around £56.5 billion were spent during these trips, up from £50.9 billion in 2017.

The volume and value of tourism day visits in the South East of England decreased by 5% between 2017 and 2019, from 230 million down to 218 million. Expenditure levels were up by 7% to £7.9 billion in 2019.

The results for Kent are based on a combination of results from the GB Day Visitor Survey, visits to visitor attractions from the Visit Kent Business Barometer and other relevant local level data including visits to local information centres (VICs) and growth in off-peak rail journeys to Kent between 2017 and 2019. Based on these results the model assumes that the volume of day trips was up by 3% between 2017 and 2019 and expenditure for the same period was up by 10%.

Economic Impact of Tourism – Headline Figures

Ashford - 2019 Results



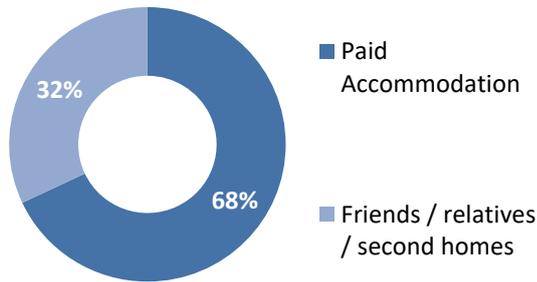
Economic Impact of Tourism – Year on year comparisons

Asford

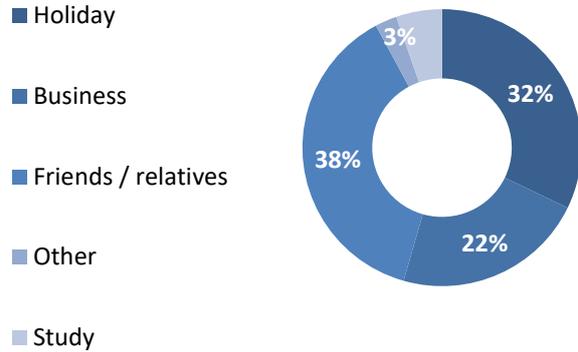
	2017	2019	Annual variation
Day Trips			
Day trips Volume	4,028,000	4,271,000	6.0%
Day trips Value	£141,403,000	£155,304,000	9.8%
Overnight trips			
Number of trips	391,000	395,000	1.0%
Number of nights	1,257,000	1,211,000	-3.7%
Trip value	£72,227,000	£70,192,000	-2.8%
Total Value	£292,890,000	£310,837,000	6.1%
Actual Jobs	5,769	6,103	5.8%

Asford	2017	2019	Variation
Average length stay (nights x trip)	3.21	3.07	-4.6%
Spend x overnight trip	£ 184.72	£ 177.70	-3.8%
Spend x night	£ 57.46	£ 57.96	0.9%
Spend x day trip	£ 35.11	£ 36.36	3.6%

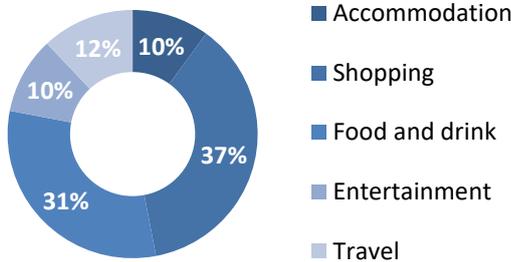
Trips by type of accommodation



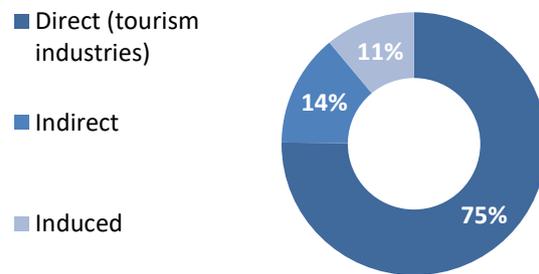
Trips by Purpose



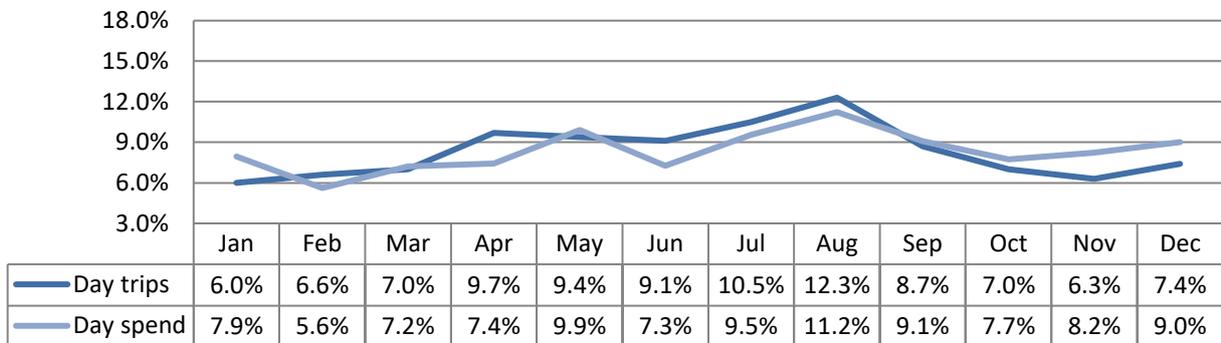
Breakdown of expenditure



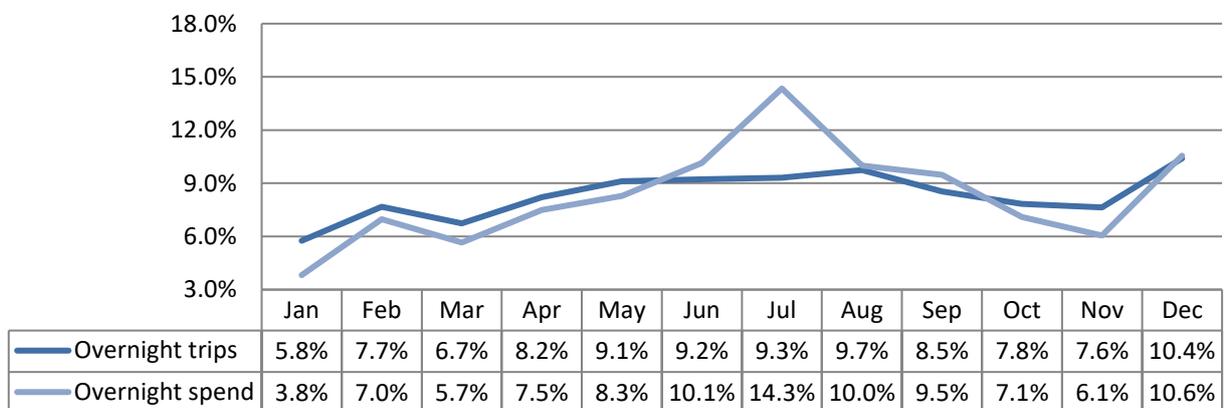
Type of employment



Seasonality - Day visitors (County level)



Seasonality - Overnight visitors (County level)



Volume of Tourism

Staying visits in the county context**Ashford - 2019 Results**

Staying trips in the county context	Domestic trips ('000)	Overseas trips ('000)
Ashford	279	116
Canterbury	456	194
Dartford	132	45
Dover	334	90
Folkestone and Hythe	392	79
Gravesham	147	39
Maidstone	275	86
Medway	419	105
Sevenoaks	167	66
Swale	351	44
Thanet	342	153
Tonbridge and Malling	191	48
Tunbridge Wells	244	68
Kent	3,729	1,133

Staying nights in the county context	Domestic nights ('000)	Overseas nights ('000)
Ashford	739	472
Canterbury	1,387	1,234
Dartford	377	205
Dover	936	457
Folkestone and Hythe	974	407
Gravesham	379	210
Maidstone	708	492
Medway	1,230	643
Sevenoaks	427	330
Swale	1,224	302
Thanet	1,022	1,050
Tonbridge and Malling	541	258
Tunbridge Wells	735	417
Kent	10,679	6,477

Expenditure in the county context	Domestic spend (millions)	Overseas spend (millions)
Ashford	£43	£27
Canterbury	£75	£69
Dartford	£19	£10
Dover	£62	£25
Folkestone and Hythe	£61	£19
Gravesham	£15	£9
Maidstone	£37	£26
Medway	£60	£28
Sevenoaks	£23	£17
Swale	£45	£11
Thanet	£53	£67
Tonbridge and Malling	£26	£11
Tunbridge Wells	£40	£20
Kent	£560	£340

Staying Visitors - Accommodation Type

Ashford - 2019 Results

Trips by Accommodation

	UK		Overseas		Total	
Serviced	119,000	42%	60,000	52%	179,000	45%
Self catering	14,000	5%	15,000	13%	29,000	7%
Camping	22,000	8%	3,000	3%	25,000	6%
Static caravans	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Group/campus	2,000	1%	8,000	7%	10,000	3%
Paying guest	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Second homes	2,000	1%	0	0%	2,000	1%
Boat moorings	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Other	11,000	4%	18,000	16%	29,000	7%
Friends & relatives	109,000	39%	12,000	10%	121,000	31%
Total 2019	279,000		116,000		395,000	
Comparison 2017	281,000		110,000		391,000	
Difference	-1%		5%		1%	

Nights by Accommodation

	UK		Overseas		Total	
Serviced	234,000	32%	209,000	44%	443,000	37%
Self catering	59,000	8%	35,000	8%	94,000	8%
Camping	132,000	18%	20,000	4%	152,000	13%
Static caravans	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Group/campus	5,000	1%	28,000	6%	33,000	3%
Paying guest	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Second homes	7,000	1%	0	0%	7,000	1%
Boat moorings	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Other	50,000	6%	42,000	9%	92,000	8%
Friends & relatives	252,000	34%	138,000	29%	390,000	32%
Total 2019	739,000		472,000		1,211,000	
Comparison 2017	753,000		504,000		1,257,000	
Difference	-2%		-6%		-4%	

Spend by Accommodation Type

	UK		Overseas		Total	
Serviced	£25,639,000	60%	£19,512,000	72%	£45,151,000	64%
Self catering	£3,814,000	9%	£1,148,000	4%	£4,962,000	7%
Camping	£3,837,000	9%	£699,000	3%	£4,536,000	6%
Static caravans	£0	0%	£0	0%	£0	0%
Group/campus	£73,000	0%	£1,323,000	5%	£1,396,000	2%
Paying guest	£0	0%	£0	0%	£0	0%
Second homes	£128,000	0%	£4,000	0%	£132,000	0%
Boat moorings	£0	0%	£0	0%	£0	0%
Other	£2,659,000	6%	£465,000	2%	£3,124,000	5%
Friends & relatives	£6,944,000	16%	£3,947,000	15%	£10,891,000	16%
Total 2019	£43,094,000		£27,098,000		£70,192,000	
Comparison 2017	£43,618,000		£28,609,000		£72,227,000	
Difference	-1%		-5%		-3%	

Serviced accommodation includes hotels, guesthouses, inns, B&B and serviced farmhouse accommodation. Paying guest refers to overseas visitors staying in private houses, primarily language school students. Other trips includes nights spent in transit, in lorry cabs and other temporary accommodation.

Staying Visitors - Purpose of Trip

Ashford - 2019 Results

Trips by Purpose

	UK		Overseas		Total	
Holiday	105,000	38%	22,000	19%	127,000	32%
Business	43,000	15%	45,000	39%	88,000	22%
Friends & relatives	124,000	44%	25,000	21%	149,000	38%
Other	7,000	3%	3,000	3%	10,000	3%
Study	0	0%	21,000	18%	21,000	5%
Total 2019	279,000		116,000		395,000	
Comparison 2017	281,000		110,000		391,000	
Difference	-1%		5%		1%	

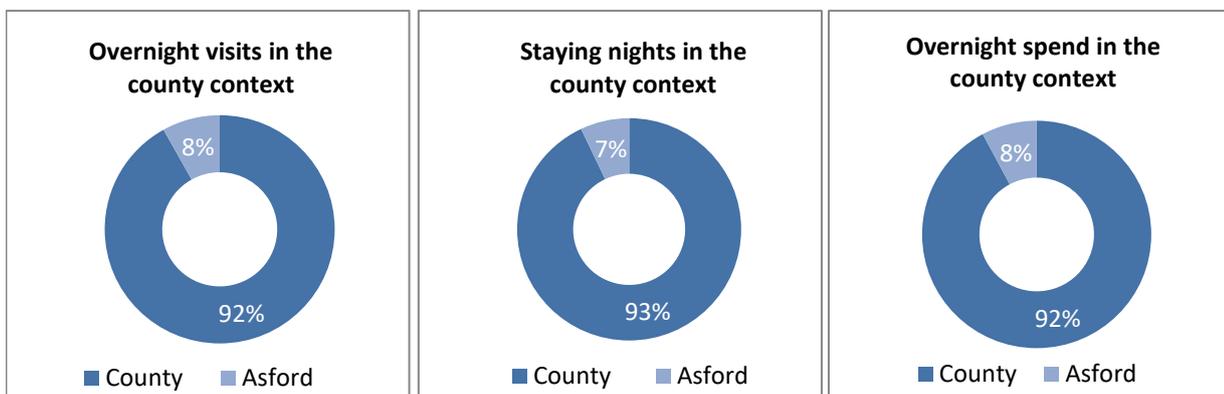
Nights by Purpose

	UK		Overseas		Total	
Holiday	341,000	46%	52,000	11%	393,000	32%
Business	108,000	15%	81,000	17%	189,000	16%
Friends & relatives	274,000	37%	100,000	21%	374,000	31%
Other	16,000	2%	15,000	3%	31,000	3%
Study	0	0%	224,000	48%	224,000	18%
Total 2019	739,000		472,000		1,211,000	
Comparison 2017	753,000		504,000		1,257,000	
Difference	-2%		-6%		-4%	

Spend by Purpose

	UK		Overseas		Total	
Holiday	£20,387,000	47%	£4,459,000	16%	£24,846,000	35%
Business	£11,065,000	26%	£5,667,000	21%	£16,732,000	24%
Friends & relatives	£8,402,000	19%	£5,972,000	22%	£14,374,000	20%
Other	£3,240,000	8%	£1,450,000	5%	£4,690,000	7%
Study	£0	0%	£9,550,000	35%	£9,550,000	14%
Total 2019	£43,094,000		£27,098,000		£70,192,000	
Comparison 2017	£43,618,000		£28,609,000		£72,227,000	
Difference	-1%		-5%		-3%	

Proportion of staying visits in the county context

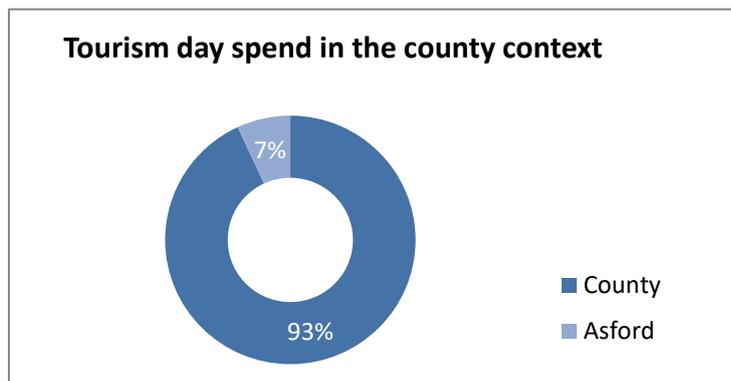
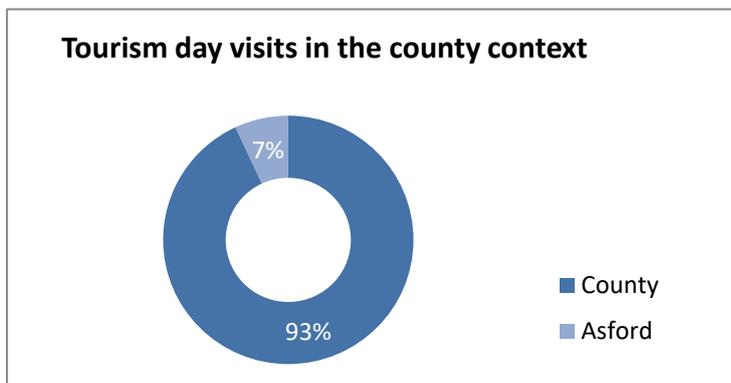


Total Volume and Value of Day Trips

		Trips	Spend
Total	2019	4,271,000	£155,304,000
Comparison	2017	4,028,000	£141,403,000
Difference		6%	10%

Day Visitors in the county context

District	Day Visits (millions)	Day visits Spend (millions)
Ashford	4.3	£155.30
Canterbury	7.2	£261.05
Dartford	10.6	£434.85
Dover	4.3	£141.09
Folkestone and Hythe	4.4	£141.78
Gravesham	1.9	£58.82
Maidstone	4.1	£148.86
Medway	4.4	£158.94
Sevenoaks	4.1	£153.12
Swale	5.0	£156.79
Thanet	4.1	£165.76
Tonbridge and Malling	2.8	£98.75
Tunbridge Wells	4.5	£174.02
Kent	61.7	£2,249.15



Value of Tourism

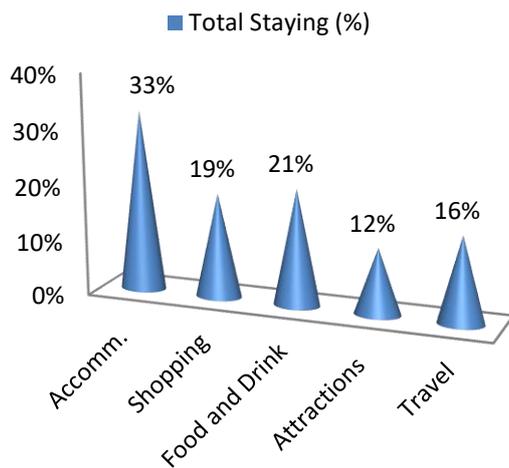
Expenditure Associated with Trips

Ashford - 2019 Results

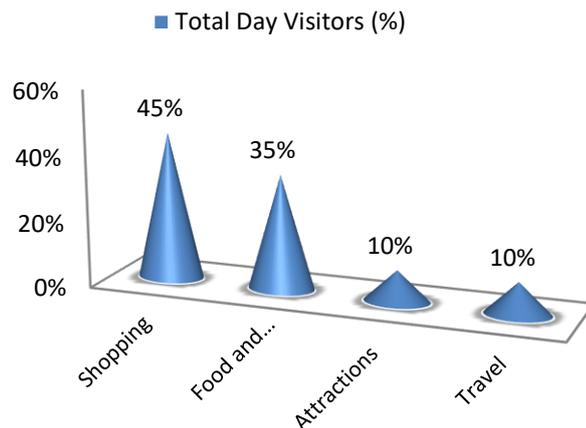
Direct Expenditure Associated with Trips

	Accomm.	Shopping	Food and Drink	Attractions	Travel	Total
UK Tourists	£14,906,000	£5,522,000	£9,564,000	£4,440,000	£8,661,000	£43,093,000
Overseas tourists	£8,021,000	£7,710,000	£5,174,000	£3,895,000	£2,298,000	£27,098,000
Total Staying	£22,927,000	£13,232,000	£14,738,000	£8,335,000	£10,959,000	£70,191,000
Total Staying (%)	33%	19%	21%	12%	16%	100%
Total Day Visitors	£0	£70,042,000	£54,667,000	£15,065,000	£15,530,000	£155,304,000
Total Day Visitors (%)	0%	45%	35%	10%	10%	100%
Total 2019	£22,927,000	£83,274,000	£69,405,000	£23,400,000	£26,489,000	£225,495,000
%	10%	37%	31%	10%	12%	100%
Comparison 2017	£24,194,000	£77,190,000	£64,928,000	£21,872,000	£25,447,000	£213,631,000
Difference	-5%	8%	7%	7%	4%	6%

Breakdown of expenditure



Breakdown of expenditure



Other expenditure associated with tourism activity

Other expenditure associated with tourism activity - Estimated spend				
Second homes	Boats	Static vans	Friends & relatives	Total
£241,000	£0	£0	£23,935,000	£24,176,000

Spend on second homes is assumed to be an average of £2,050 on rates, maintenance, and replacement of furniture and fittings. Spend on boats assumed to be an average of £2,050 on berthing charges, servicing and maintenance and upgrading of equipment. Static van spend arises in the case of vans purchased by the owner and used as a second home. Expenditure is incurred in site fees, utility charges and other spending and is estimated at £2,050. Additional spending is incurred by friends and relatives as a result of people coming to stay with them. A cost of £180 per visit has been assumed based on national research for social and personal visits.

Direct Turnover Derived From Trip

Ashford - 2019 Results

Business turnover arises as a result of tourist spending, from the purchase of supplies and services locally by businesses in receipt of visitor spending and as a result of the spending of wages in businesses by employees whose jobs are directly or indirectly supported by tourism spending.

		Staying Visitor	Day Visitors	Total
Accommodation		£23,222,000	£1,093,000	£24,315,000
Retail		£13,100,000	£69,342,000	£82,442,000
Catering		£14,296,000	£53,027,000	£67,323,000
Attractions		£8,614,000	£16,312,000	£24,926,000
Transport		£6,576,000	£9,318,000	£15,894,000
Non-trip spend		£24,176,000	£0	£24,176,000
Total Direct	2019	£89,984,000	£149,092,000	£239,076,000
Comparison	2017	£88,554,000	£135,747,000	£224,301,000
Difference		2%	10%	7%

Adjustments have been made to recognise that some spending on retail and food and drink will fall within attractions or accommodation establishments. It is assumed that 40% of travel spend will take place at the origin of the trip rather than at the destination.

Supplier and Income Induced Turnover

		Staying Visitor	Day Visitors	Total
Indirect spend		£18,367,000	£17,896,000	£36,263,000
Non trip spending		£3,626,000	£0	£3,626,000
Income induced		£14,359,000	£17,513,000	£31,872,000
Total	2019	£36,352,000	£35,409,000	£71,761,000
Comparison	2017	£36,350,000	£32,239,000	£68,589,000
Difference		0%	10%	5%

Income induced spending arises from expenditure by employees whose jobs are supported by tourism spend.

Total Local Business Turnover Supported by Tourism Activity – Value of Tourism

		Staying Visitor	Day Visitors	Total
Direct		£89,984,000	£149,092,000	£239,076,000
Indirect		£36,352,000	£35,409,000	£71,761,000
Total Value	2019	£126,336,000	£184,501,000	£310,837,000
Comparison	2017	£124,904,000	£167,986,000	£292,890,000
Difference		1%	10%	6%

Employment

Employment

Ashford - 2019 Results

The model generates estimates of full time equivalent jobs based on visitor spending. The total number of 'actual' jobs will be higher when part time and seasonal working is taken into account. Conversion of full time equivalent jobs into actual jobs relies on information from business surveys in the sectors receiving visitor spending. A new Full Time Equivalent tourism job is created with every £54,000 increase in tourism revenue.

Direct employment

Full time equivalent (FTE)						
	Staying Visitor		Day Visitor		Total	
Accommodation	403	30%	19	1%	422	13%
Retailing	128	9%	680	37%	808	25%
Catering	235	17%	872	48%	1,107	35%
Entertainment	95	7%	179	10%	274	9%
Transport	57	4%	80	4%	137	4%
Non-trip spend	448	33%	0	0%	448	14%
Total FTE	2019	1,366	1,830		3,196	
Comparison	2017	1,333	1,667		3,000	
Difference		2%	10%		7%	

Estimated actual jobs						
	Staying Visitor		Day Visitor		Total	
Accommodation	596	32%	28	1%	624	14%
Retailing	193	10%	1,020	38%	1,213	37%
Catering	353	19%	1,308	48%	1,661	36%
Entertainment	133	7%	253	9%	386	8%
Transport	80	4%	113	4%	193	4%
Non-trip spend	510	28%	0	0%	510	11%
Total Actual	2019	1,865	2,722		4,587	
Comparison	2017	1,841	2,479		4,320	
Difference		1%	10%		6%	

Indirect & Induced Employment

Full time equivalent (FTE)			
	Staying Visitor	Day Visitors	Total
Indirect jobs	407	331	738
Induced jobs	266	324	590
Total FTE	2019	673	656
Comparison	2017	673	597
Difference		0%	10%

Estimated actual jobs			
	Staying Visitor	Day Visitors	Total
Indirect jobs	465	378	843
Induced jobs	303	370	673
Total Actual	2019	768	748
Comparison	2017	767	681
Difference		0%	10%

Total Tourism Jobs

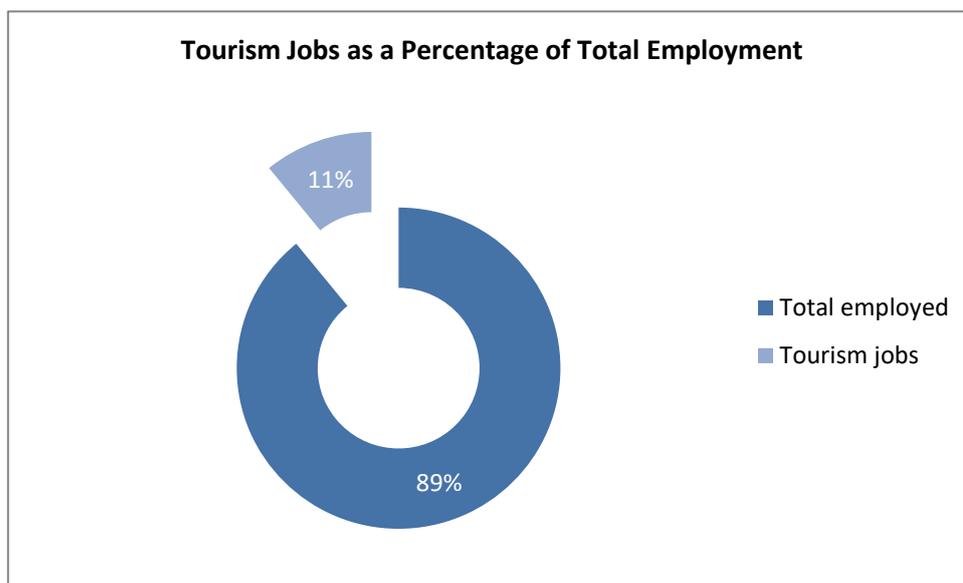
Ashford - 2019 Results

Actual jobs are estimated from surveys of relevant businesses at locations in England and take account of part time and seasonal working.

Full time equivalent (FTE)						
	Staying Visitor		Day Visitor		Total	
Direct	1,366	67%	1,830	74%	3,196	71%
Indirect	407	20%	331	13%	738	16%
Induced	266	13%	324	13%	590	13%
Total FTE	2019	2,039	2,485		4,524	
Comparison	2017	2,007	2,264		4,271	
Difference		2%	10%		6%	
Estimated actual jobs						
	Staying Visitor		Day Visitor		Total	
Direct	1,865	71%	2,722	78%	4,587	75%
Indirect	465	18%	378	11%	843	14%
Induced	303	11%	370	11%	673	11%
Total Actual	2019	2,633	3,470		6,103	
Comparison	2017	2,609	3,159		5,769	
Difference		1%	10%		6%	

Tourism Jobs as a Percentage of Total Employment

	Staying Visitor	Day visitors	Total
Total employed	56,000	56,000	56,000
Tourism jobs	2,633	3,470	6,103
Proportion all jobs	5%	6%	11%
Comparison	2017	2,609	3,159
Difference	1%	10%	6%



The key 2019 results of the Economic Impact Assessment are:

4.7 million trips were undertaken in the area
4.3 million day trips
0.4 million overnight visits

1.2 million nights in the area as a result of overnight trips

£239 million spent by tourists during their visit to the area
£20 million spent on average in the local economy each month.

£70 million generated by overnight visits
£155 million generated from day trips.

£311 million spent in the local area as result of tourism, taking into account multiplier effects.

6,103 jobs supported, both for local residents from those living nearby.
4,587 tourism jobs directly supported
1,516 non-tourism related jobs supported linked to multiplier spend from tourism.

Appendix I - Introduction about Cambridge Model

This report examines the volume and value of tourism and the impact of that expenditure on the local economy. The figures were derived using the Cambridge Economic Impact Model and the research was undertaken by Destination Research.

The model utilises information from national tourism surveys and regionally based data held by Destination Research. It distributes regional activity as measured in those surveys to local areas using 'drivers' such as the accommodation stock and occupancy which influence the distribution of tourism activity at local level.

Limitations of the Model

The methodology and accuracy of the above sources vary. The results of the model should therefore be regarded as estimates which are indicative of the scale and importance of visitor activity in the local area. It is important to note that in the national tourism surveys the sample sizes for each area changes year on year. This is as a result of the random probability nature of the methodology. As such, the results of the Cambridge Model are best viewed as a snapshot in time and we would caution against year-on-year comparisons.

It should be noted that the model cannot take into account any leakage of expenditure from tourists taking day trips out of the area in which they are staying. While it is assumed that these may broadly balance each other in many areas, in locations receiving significant numbers of day visitors from London, there is likely to be an underestimate in relation to the number of overseas day visitors staying in holiday accommodation in London.

Whilst it is important to be aware of these issues, we are confident that the estimates we have produced are as reliable as is practically possible within the constraints of the information available.

Rounding

All figures used in this report have been rounded. Therefore, in some tables there may be a slight discrepancy between totals and sub totals.

Data sources

The main national surveys used as data sources in stage one include:

- Great Britain Tourism Survey (GBTS) - information on tourism activity by GB residents;
- International Passenger Survey (IPS) information on overseas visitors to the United Kingdom;
- Day Visits in the annual Great Britain Day Visitor Survey using information on visits lasting more than 3 hours and taken on an irregular basis

These surveys provide information down to a regional level. In order to disaggregate data to a local level the following information sources are used:

- Records of known local accommodation stock held by Destination Research;
- VisitEngland's surveys of Visits to Attractions, which provide data on the number of visitors to individual tourist attractions;
- Mid- 2019 estimates of resident population as based on the 2011 Census of Population;
- Selected data from the 2011 Census of Employment;
- Selected data on the countryside and coast including national designations and length of the coastline.

Staying Visitors

The GBTS provides information on the total number of trips to the region and the relative proportions using different types of accommodation. By matching these figures to the supply of such accommodation, the regional average number of trips per bedspace or unit of accommodation can be derived. The IPS provides information on the total number of trips by overseas visitors to the region. The model uses three year rolling averages to reduce extreme highs and lows which are due to small sample sizes, rather than being a reflection on drastic changes in demand year-on-year.

Day Visitors

Information on day trips at the regional level is available from the Day Visits in Great Britain survey (GBDVS). A day visitor is defined as someone making a day trip to and from home for leisure purposes. The report excludes trips undertaken for business or study purposes. This report presents data on those who took trips of at least 3 hours duration on an irregular basis as defined by the GBDVS. These are identified as tourism day trips by the Department of Culture, Media and the Sport.

Impact of tourism expenditure

This section examines the impact of the tourism expenditure in terms of the direct, indirect and induced expenditure as well as an estimate of the actual jobs (both direct and indirect) supported by tourism expenditure in the district.

The GBTS, IPS and Day Visits to Great Britain survey data on the breakdown of visitor spending. The impact of this initial round of expenditure will be subsequently increased by multiplier effects. These arise from the purchase of supplies and services by the businesses in receipt of visitor expenditure (indirect impacts), and by the income induced-effects arising from the spending of wages by employees in the first round of business and in subsequent expenditure in supplier business (induced impacts).

The New Earnings Survey which provides information on wage levels by industry sector and region; An internal business database which includes data on the structure of business expenditure, local linkages and multiplier ratios drawn from a wide range of business and economic studies carried out by Geoff Broom Associates, PA Cambridge Economic Consultants and others. By applying the breakdown to the estimates of visitor spending, the model generates estimates of total direct spending.

Evidence from national studies suggests that some minor adjustments are required to match visitor spend to business turnover – for example, some expenditure on food and drink actually takes place in inns and hotels that fall in the accommodation sector and within attractions. More significantly, expenditure on travel costs associated with individual trips is equally likely to take place at the origin of the trip as the destination. Therefore, the model assumes that only 40% of travel expenditure accrues to the destination area.

Number of full time job equivalents

Having identified the value of turnover generated by visitor spending, it is possible to estimate the employment associated with that spending. Wages for staff and drawings for the proprietors will absorb a proportion of that turnover. By applying these proportions to the overall additional turnover in each sector, the amount of money absorbed by employment costs can be calculated. The New Earnings Survey provides data from which the average costs by business sector, adjusted to take account of regional differences, can be calculated.

After allowing for additional costs such as National Insurance and pension costs, an average employment cost per full time equivalent job can be estimated. The number of such jobs in the local area can then be estimated by dividing the amount of business expenditure on wages and drawings by the average employment cost per job.

Number of Actual Jobs

The model generates estimates of full time equivalent jobs based on visitor spending. However, the total number of actual jobs will be higher when part time and seasonal working is taken into account. The full time equivalent jobs arising directly from visitor spending are converted into actual jobs using information from business surveys in the sectors receiving visitor spending (principally accommodation, food and drink, retail, attractions, transport). In general, the conversion factor between full time equivalent jobs and actual jobs varies around 1.5 in those sectors.

The indirect and induced jobs arise across a much wider range of employment sectors. Therefore, the average 1.16 for all sectors based on Census of Employment data has been used to convert full time equivalent jobs in this sector to actual jobs.

The employment estimates generated by the model include both self-employed and employed people supported by visitor expenditure. The model also includes an estimate of the additional jobs arising in the attractions sector, which are not related to visitor expenditure. However, the numbers do not include other tourism-related employment such as jobs in local authorities arising from their tourism functions, e.g. tourist information staff, additional public health, parks and gardens, public conveniences, maintenance sections and jobs arising from capital investment in tourism facilities.

Local level data for Kent EIA Reports 2019

The Cambridge Model allows for the use of local visitor related data. Local data from visitor surveys and other sources is not always sufficiently detailed or available regularly enough to make the results consistent. We rely on partners to collect additional locally sourced data to feed into the model. We have also used data from Southeastern, data on Airbnb from the online booking platform AirDNA, and from Visit Kent's Business Barometer such as Accommodation occupancy, visits to visitor attractions and VIC footfall.

Ashford

New product in 2019: Opening of Curious Brewery offering tours, shop, restaurant, in Ashford town centre part of the Chapel Down brand. (May 2019); Opening of new Travelodge in Ashford town centre, Elwick Place with 58 rooms (January 2019); Ashford Coachworks launched creating a new bar, dining and events space alongside co-working space next to Ashford International Rail Station (Autumn 2019)

Events

Annual Create free music festival in Victoria Park, Ashford, 14,000 footfall throughout the day (July 2019). Illuminates, digital mapping illuminated projection celebrating the history of Ashford. 5% increase in footfall to town centre in the evening economy.

Tenterden Folk Festival, weekend event. Estimated footfall approx. 5,000. (October 2019).

Tenterden Christmas Market, estimated footfall over weekend 12,000-14,000 (Dec. 2019).

Dartford

Bluewater Shopping Centre - Bluewater attracts up to 28 million visitors per year. Only about a quarter of these visits is accounted for in the Cambridge Model, equating to about 7.8 million visits.

Dover

Port of Dover saw a total of 10,863,262 passengers in 2019, down from 11,723,411 in 2017. The number of cars was 2,000,966 (2,180,611 in 2017) and 73,856 coaches (down from 79,638 in 2017).

Maidstone

New product in 2019: A new river boat tour to the privately owned Allington Castle. Every Tuesday afternoon for 6 months, always fully booked up to 80 people; New small art gallery (Process Gallery) in Lenham; New boats for hire half and full day, run by the owners of the Kentish Lady River boat; New Outdoor Adventure In Mote Park. High ropes, climbing wall, mini golf and segways. (Open April to October); Hush Heath Winery Estate opened new Visitor Centre – now offering tours, tasting and food.

New Glamping site – Rankins Farm with 6 pods for up to 4 people; New accommodation at the Potting Shed, Langley (6 x double rooms); Additional accommodation built at the Black Horse Inn

Leeds Castle added new Adventure Golf and Playground. They also expanded the offer around the Festival of Flowers to offer pre-bookable afternoon tea.

Attraction Visitor Numbers: The latest footfall data from Leeds Castle, Kent Life and Kent Event Centre have been cross checked with the Business Barometer and included in the model.

Thanet

Car Parks - 2019 parking paid for via Ringo 183,205 (105,027 in 2017)

Boat Moorings – 4,142 visiting vessels and 7,500 visitor nights in 2019, up from 4,074 and 6,985 respectively in 2017.

The latest footfall data from Dreamland and Turner Contemporary (including the Turner Prize 2019 exhibition) have been cross checked with the Business Barometer and included in the model.

Tunbridge Wells

Summer schools: 150 summer school students in June to August 2019, up from 100 summer school students over June – August 2017. Students generally staying with families in Tunbridge Wells for 2 to 3 weeks. There were 60 overseas students over the rest of the year (including au pairs and general workers in Tunbridge Wells), up from 50 students in 2017.

2019 closures in Royal Tunbridge Wells (RTW):

Smart & Simple Hotel, Woods Restaurant, Gastronomica G restaurant, Burrswood Accommodation and Gardens, Rosemary Shrager Cookery School, Honnington Gardens B&B, Tunbridge Wells Golf Club, The TW Museum, Art Gallery and Library moved out of the building in RTW for major redevelopment works. The library and museum relocated to a little unit in Royal Victoria Place shopping centre, Apicius restaurant – fine dining, based in Cranbrook.

2019 Openings:

Richard Burnett Heritage Collection / Finchcocks Charity Collection of Harpsichords opened up in a smaller unit in RTW, Cellarhead Brewing company opened to visitors, based in Flimwell, Council stopped running the Farmers Market and it became independent so moved site within Town Centre of RTW, The Small Holding Kitchen opened up May Farm Accommodation in Kilndown, Lower Ladysden Farm opened up to visitors for 'pick your own' fruit near Cranbrook and, Central Market, foodie café /bar outdoor place in Royal Victoria Place shopping centre, RTW.

Car Parks – there were 1,752,360 transactions in 2019/20, up 14% from 1,536,526 in 2017/18.



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