

Scottish Tourism Forum Weekly News Digest



7 April 2009

Dear STF Member,

Welcome to your weekly news digest from STF, the independent forum of Scottish tourism businesses and associations. This digest gives a brief round up of the main stories concerning the industry over the past week.

The digest also includes updates on forthcoming events. Red Tape News, STF Member News, New Members and a fuller Events directory will continue to appear in the STF Member Newsletter.

If you have any comments about any of the issues mentioned in this week's digest I would be glad to hear them. Email ruth.greig@stforum.co.uk

STF News

STF gave evidence at the EET Committee who were asking for industry feedback on the current economic position, impact of Homecoming and reduced funding to VisitScotland. A video of the debate can be found at

http://www.holyrood.tv/popup.asp?stream=http://vr-sp-archive.lbwa.verio.net/archive/010409_Economy_CR1.wmv

Scottish Enterprise runs a series of conferences, masterclasses, workshops and seminars and is currently undertaking an economic evaluation of these. As part of this research Scottish Enterprise is keen to secure the views of organisations who have not attended the events to help develop and improve them for the future. To assist in this, we would encourage you to participate in a short 'esurvey' that will take no more than 5-10 minutes to complete. Please click here for the survey. We would be grateful if as many tourism businesses as possible completed this by 17th April 2009.

For further information on this survey contact

jean.hamilton@jhld.co.uk

Scottish Tourism News

30 March 2009 - **MSP calls on British Airways boss to restore Inverness-London link** - [Press and Journal](#)

30 March 2009 - **Tee-off time - Scotland wins Destination**

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Events

14-15 April 2009 9.30am - 4.30pm
100k Welcomes - Leadership Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline

A 2 day leadership programme concentrating on leadership skills which make a difference to you, your organisation and its ongoing profitability: Develop the Vision, Hire for Attitude and Train for Skills, Create Teams who are motivated and focussed, Maximise the Potential of your Customer Experience. £180 pp including lunch. For more information contact Heather Malcolm on 01383 845 019 or hmalcolm@carnegiecollege.ac.uk

21 April - 14 May 2009
Pride & Passion Discovery Tours
Skye, Oban, Perthshire, Nairn, Tweeddale, Banffshire, Cowal, Angus, Machars

The discovery tours will help extend and refresh your local knowledge of what your area has to offer visitors. And if you can talk about things from personal experience it helps create that 'must do' vibe for visitors. If your work brings you into contact with people coming to the district do join one of the one day tours. Please

of the Year Award - [Press and Journal](#)

31 March 2009 - **SCOTTISH GREEN AWARDS 2009: Prove your credentials** - [Insider Magazine](#)

31 March 2009 - **Loch Lomond park rangers are first in Britain to get police powers** - [Times Online](#)

31 March 2009 - **Scottish baccalaureate snubbed by education chiefs** - [Times Online](#)

1 April 2009 - **Major Highland tourism drive to stress high value of euro** - [Press and Journal](#)

April 2009 - **Edinburgh air links to increase 12 new flight routes** - [Holiday Extras](#)

1 April 2009 - **Fort William's new-look tourist centre expects increased visitors** - [Press and Journal](#)

1 April 2009 - **Edinburgh movers and shakers back bid to boost city's profile** - [Scotsman](#)

1 April 2009 - **National Trust calls on Scots to visit its sites** - [Edinburgh Evening News](#)

2 April 2009 - **Homecoming leaves tourist chief cold** - [Scotsman](#)

2 April 2009 - **Famous Fair Isle bird observatory to have a revamp** - [STV](#)

2 April 2009 - **Leading corporate travel executives identify top ten challenges to greening corporate travel** - [TravelDailyNews](#)

2 April 2009 - **Visitors to get a taste of the high life on board Britannia** - [Scotsman](#)

2 April 2009 - **Five-star Dryburgh** - [Southern Reporter](#)

2 April 2009 - **Homecoming 'almost a distraction'** - [Press and Journal](#)

2 April 2009 - **Creative Scotland arts merger to cost £3.3m** - [Timesonline](#)

3 April 2009 - **Government 'holding back UK tourism'** - [Travelmole](#)

3 April 2009 - **Gleneagles' Lederer wins Hit lifetime achievement award** - [CatererSearch](#)

5 April 2009 - **Marketing system attracts £48m to Scottish tourism** - [Sunday Herald](#)

5 April 2009 - **Come to Scotland - a 'third world' tourist destination** - [Scotsman](#)

UK Tourism News

30 March 2009 - **Boost for tourism as London hotel prices**

email team@prideandpassion.net or call 0800 028 0588 to register for your free place. The tours will take place from 10am to 4.00pm. For locations visit www.prideandpassion.net

22-23 April 2009

VisitScotland Expo 2009 SECC, Glasgow

Flagship business to business event for the travel trade. VisitScotland Expo is open to buyers from all sectors of the industry - coach tour operators, group travel organisers, conference and incentive buyers, travel agents, independent tour operators and wholesalers. For more information visit www.visitscotlandexpo.com or email events@visitscotland.com

23 April 2009

Going Green with Technology The Sustainability Event for Businesses in Tourism

Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan

Free drop in event with information on how to use green technologies in your business. For more information [Click Here](#)

12-15 May 2009

World Mountainbike Conference Easterbrook Hall, Dumfries

For more information visit www.worldmountainbikeconference.com

19-20 May 2009

Travel Distribution Summit Business Design Centre, London

A series of conferences including: Online Travel Strategies Conference, Revenue Management Conference, Travel Payment and Fraud Conference, Hotel Technology Forum, Ancillary Revenue & Partnership Technology Conference. For more information events.eyefortravel.com/tds/conference/

11 November 2009

World Responsible Tourism Day

World Responsible Tourism Day, the only global day of action of its kind, is being supported by the UNWTO and leading industry associations. The day is vital for business, for profitability and for our planet. It means taking care of a world that we seek to promote. For more information visit www.wtmwrtd.com

fall - [TravelDailyNews](#)

31 March 2009 - **London Eye voted Britain's top tourist attraction** - [Travelmole](#)

1 April 2009 - **VisitEngland names chief executive** - [Travelmole](#)

1 April 2009 - **Tories to formulate tourism policy** - [Travelmole](#)

1 April 2009 - **Europcar to launch 'pay as you go' car hire** - [Travelmole](#)

1 April 2009 - **British tourism gets ready to welcome G20 delegates** - [TravelDailyNews](#)

1 April 2009 - **Microwaves to reduce delays at Heathrow Airport** - [Travel Blackboard](#)

3 April 2009 - **Tourism industry to discuss crisis** - [Press Association](#)

3 April 2009 - **Government support could create 50,000 new tourism jobs** - [Caterer.search](#)

3 April 2009 - **Tourist industry must be a "leader in the response to climate change"** - [Essential Travel](#)

International Tourism News

1 April 2009 - **Easyjet launches flights to Frilo Palo** - [Travelmole](#)

1 April 2009 - **Brits escape gloomy Britain for cheap Easter holidays abroad** - [Travelmole](#)

1 April 2009 - **Lufthansa seeks 'stability' in UK** - [ttg live](#)

Making the Most of STF

Member2Member Scheme

We all know the current economic climate is tough for any business, and the tourism industry is no exception.

One of STF's strengths is the business to business networking opportunities, and we would like to use our communications to help strengthen these relationships. We know that some of our members are helping to fight off recession through packaging deals and special offers and we want to help members by raising the profile of these offers through our Member 2 Member scheme.

Please tell us of any special offers you would like us to advertise to our members and we will feature these on our website, and promote weekly through NewsDigest with a link to the web for more information.

With our help, your offers will reach a wider audience; not only

STF members, but STF association* members and staff, leading to thousands of individuals seeing your offers and learning more about your business. Email ruth.greig@stforum.co.uk with details of the offers you would like us to promote.

*Please note: This offer applies to all subscription paying members of STF.

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