

On this spread you'll find out about the different sorts of places where people go on holiday.

Where to go?

School's out! It's the end of term – and time for a break. What's your ideal holiday? If it's spills and thrills you're after, then perhaps you'd fancy Tema Park in Las Vegas. Or maybe a spot of extreme mountain biking? Perhaps a city break with some shopping and sightseeing is more your thing?

Tema Park and extreme mountain biking might be too much of an adrenalin rush for you, and might not be your average sort of holiday, but most of us go somewhere to escape. Our holiday destinations tend to be:

- ◆ cities, like New York and Paris
- ◆ beaches and beach resorts, like Palma Nova in Mallorca
- ◆ mountains and ski resorts, like Courchevel in the French Alps
- ◆ rural areas, like the Lake District (see pages xx-xx).

Where do tourists visit, who goes there, and why? The table below gives some answers.



▲ Wish you were here?

◀ ... or here?

your planet
In 2008-2009,
38 000 tourists
visited Antarctica

Environment	Examples	Who goes there?	Why?
Cities	London Paris New York Las Vegas Hong Kong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young adults (singles and couples) • Recently retired people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excitement • Shopping • Nightlife • Sightseeing and culture (art, food, theatre)
Mountains	Lake District Alps Himalayas Rockies Andes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sightseers • People who enjoy the natural environment • Mountain bikers, climbers, walkers, skiers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural beauty • Physical challenge • Winter sports
Coasts	Blackpool Jurassic Coast (Dorset and Devon) Palma Nova Miami Beach Maldives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water sports enthusiasts • Young people • Young families • Retired people • Walkers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sun, sand and sea • Water sports and outdoor activities • Natural environment

For some people, cities and coasts are not enough – they like to go to extremes. Extreme environments are destinations that are very challenging (some people like that!). They can be very:

- ◆ cold, such as Antarctica
- ◆ hot and humid, such as the Amazon rainforest
- ◆ dry, such as the Sahara desert
- ◆ steep and rugged, such as the Himalayas.

How far do we go?

Holidaymakers visit destinations all over the world.

- ◆ Domestic destinations are located in the tourist's own country. So, for British people, they are destinations in the UK.
- ◆ Short-haul destinations can be reached by an air flight of less than 3 hours. For tourists from the UK, they are places in Europe and around the Mediterranean Sea.
- ◆ Long-haul destinations are further away and include tropical destinations in countries such as Jamaica, Kenya, and Thailand.

And where do we go?

- ◆ British people take 52 million domestic holidays each year, plus 47 million short-haul and 13 million long-haul flights.
- ◆ London is a top UK destination – half of all the money tourists spend in the UK is spent there. That's about £19 billion!
- ◆ The top overseas destination for British tourists is Spain, which accounts for a third of the 60 million visits that British people make abroad each year. That's nearly twice as many as France (the second most popular overseas destination for the British).
- ◆ The USA is Britain's favourite long-haul destination (5% of Britons holidaying abroad go there).

YOUR QUESTIONS

- 1 a What is a domestic destination?
b What is the difference between short-haul and long-haul destinations?
- 2 Choose one of the holiday destinations shown in the photos. Write a postcard to a friend to tell them what you think it's like.
- 3 Where have your classmates been on holiday?
a Conduct a class survey and record your results on a world map.
b What is the most popular destination? Why do you think that is?
- 4 These places are all tourist destinations: Aviemore, Benidorm, Blackpool, Klosters, London, Phuket, Rome, Rio de Janeiro.
a Where are they?
b Which are domestic, short-haul and long-haul destinations?
c Which are city, ski and beach destinations?
d List one thing you could do, or place you could visit, for each destination.



▲ Sightseeing in New York. From one extreme ...



▲ ... to another. This is Antarctica.

your planet
For \$100 million you can book a seat on a space mission with Space Adventures Limited. How about that for a holiday?

your planet
Several tourists have already been to the International Space Station (350 km up).