



Local Solutions and Policies to Mitigate the Negative Impacts of Tourism in the United Kingdom

This document outlines the local solutions and policies adopted in the United Kingdom to mitigate the negative impacts of tourism, based on recent research and official documents analyzed.

1. Regulation of Tourist Accommodations

Cities like Edinburgh and London have introduced stricter rules for short-term rentals (e.g., Airbnb), limiting the number of days a property can be rented to tourists. This helps preserve housing availability for residents and contain rising prices.

Source: [[House of Lords, 2025](#)]

2. Limiting Access to Overcrowded Areas

In popular destinations like the Lake District and Cornwall, booking systems for access to natural sites (e.g., parks, trails) have been introduced during peak periods. This reduces environmental pressure and improves the experience for both tourists and residents.

Source: [[JMIC, 2024](#)]

3. Promoting Off-Season Tourism

Campaigns like 'Visit Britain's Seasonal Spread' encourage tourists to visit destinations outside peak seasons, spreading tourist flows more evenly and reducing summer overcrowding. Source: [[VisitBritain, 2025](#)]

4. Investment in Sustainable Public Transport

The government has launched discounted rail passes for residents and incentives for using public transport, such as electric buses and cycle lanes, to reduce traffic and pollution in tourist cities. Source: [[GOV.UK, 2021](#)]

5. Tourist Taxes for Impact Management

Some cities, like Edinburgh, are considering introducing a 'tourist tax' (accommodation levy) to fund infrastructure maintenance and environmental protection. The collected funds would be used to improve public services and reduce the impact of tourism on local communities. Source: [[Booking.com, 2025](#)]

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6. Support for Community-Based Tourism

Programs like 'Community Tourism Grants' fund projects that involve residents in managing tourism, such as creating local cooperatives to sustainably manage tourist activities.

Source: [[Travel and Tour World, 2024](#)]

7. Protection of Biodiversity and Natural Areas

The government launched the '30by30' program, aiming to protect 30% of land and seas by 2030. This includes creating new nature reserves and limiting access to sensitive areas to preserve biodiversity. Source: [[GOV.UK, 2024](#)]

8. Awareness Campaigns for Responsible Tourism

Initiatives like 'Respect, Protect, Enjoy' educate tourists on respecting the environment and local communities, using informative signs, apps, and guides to promote sustainable behavior. Source: [[Natural England, 2024](#)]

9. Development of Green Infrastructure

Projects like the 'Green Infrastructure Framework' aim to integrate green spaces and pedestrian paths in tourist cities, improving the quality of life for residents and reducing the environmental impact of tourism. Source: [[GOV.UK, 2024](#)]

10. Collaboration with Local Communities

Programs like 'Local Tourism Partnerships' involve residents in tourism planning, ensuring that policies reflect the needs of local communities. This includes public consultations and the creation of mixed working groups (residents, entrepreneurs, administrators).

Source: [[VisitBritain, 2025](#)]

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