
词汇: *holidays* 假期

I'm sure most of us enjoy going on holiday. It's a break from the routine and a chance to **jet off** somewhere with friends or family. This might involve **sightseeing** and **soaking up** local culture in a new **destination**, or it could be **kicking back** and lazing by a pool or on a beach. But, whatever we choose, the most convenient way to do it is on a **package holiday**.

This type of **vacation** combines the flight, **accommodation**, **transfers** and sometimes the services of a **rep**, all into one booking. They were traditionally sold by **travel agents** on the high street, but as a few big-brand names closed, many are now purchased on websites. Travel journalist Simon Calder explains that the benefits of a proper package holiday are that "by booking flights and accommodation in a single transaction from a **tour operator**, you transfer all the risk to the company." This means it has to sort things out when things go wrong, and if the operator **goes bust**, you can get a refund.

This protection can give you **peace of mind**, but there are other benefits too. A package holiday can also be great value. A tour company can book airplane seats and hotel rooms **in bulk** which means that they can negotiate better discounts for its **holidaymakers**. There are often deals on food and drink too, with some companies offering **all-inclusive** packages – although, this can discourage someone from eating outside the hotel and sampling local cuisine and helping the local economy.

But with **no-frills** airlines offering cheap flights and websites offering cheap hotel accommodation, some of us have been tempted to be **independent travellers** or **backpackers**. While that might suit some, the package holiday offering has evolved, and, in the UK, for example, travel experts say the package holiday is growing in popularity, particularly among younger travellers. The Association of British Travel Agents told the BBC "there is a greater emphasis on **personalisation**, where holidaymakers can **mix and match** what they want to include instead of purchasing a pre-defined package." The only problem is deciding where to go!

词汇表

jet off	乘飞机旅行
sightseeing	观光, 游览
soak up	充分体验
destination	目的地
kick back	放松
package holiday	包价旅游 (游客从旅行社或旅游网站处打包预订机票、酒店和目的地接送等其它服务的旅游方式)
vacation	假期, 度假
accommodation	住宿
transfer	(两地之间交通工具的) 转乘
rep	“representative” 的缩写, 代表
travel agent	旅行社, 旅游代理商
tour operator	旅行社, 旅游公司
go bust	倒闭, 破产
peace of mind	安心, 心里踏实
in bulk	大量地, 成批地
holidaymaker	度假者
all-inclusive	(费用) 全包的
no-frills	只提供必需品的
independent traveller	独立旅行者
backpacker	背包客
personalisation	个性化 (安排)
mix and match	自行挑选组合

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Name one of the benefits of a package holiday mentioned in the article.
2. If you buy a package holiday, what happens if the airline, hotel or travel operator goes out of business?
3. How can tour operators get discounts for its customers?
4. True or false? *Going on an all-inclusive package holiday isn't always good for the local economy.*
5. Why might it be tempting to travel independently and not on a package holiday?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. It's the weekend, so it's time to _____ and relax!

kick up	kick back	kick start	kicks up
---------	-----------	------------	----------

2. I always buy travel insurance before I go on holiday to give me _____.

accommodation	mix and match	peace of mind	personalisation
---------------	---------------	---------------	-----------------

3. The boat trip offers _____ a chance to see the beautiful coastline and visit secluded beaches.

holidaymakers	holidayers	holidaymakings	holidays
---------------	------------	----------------	----------

4. When I get the chance, I like to _____ to somewhere hot and lie on the beach.

soak up	mix and match	jet off	bust
---------	---------------	---------	------

5. When I go on an _____ holiday, I always eat too much because of the unlimited food on offer!

no-frills	all-inclusive	in bulk	tour operator
-----------	---------------	---------	---------------

答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Name one of the benefits of a package holiday, mentioned in the article.

Package holidays are convenient, can be good value and offer some financial protection.

2. If you buy a package holiday, what happens if the airline, hotel or travel operator goes out of business?

Because of the financial protection the holiday offers, you get a refund.

3. How can tour operators get discounts for its customers?

Tour companies can book airplane seats and hotel rooms in bulk, which means they can negotiate better discounts for its holidaymakers.

4. True or false? *Going on an all-inclusive package holiday isn't always good for the local economy.*

True. You may be tempted to always eat in the hotel and not sample local cuisine and spend money in the local economy.

5. Why might it be tempting to travel independently and not on a package holiday?

No frills airlines and price comparison websites can offer cheap prices and allow you to travel independently.

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. It's the weekend, so it's time to **kick back** and relax!

2. I always buy travel insurance before I go on holiday to give me **peace of mind**.

3. The boat trip offers **holidaymakers** a chance to see the beautiful coastline and visit secluded beaches.

4. When I get the chance, I like to **jet off** to somewhere hot and lie on the beach.

5. When I go on an **all-inclusive** holiday, I always eat too much because of the unlimited food on offer!