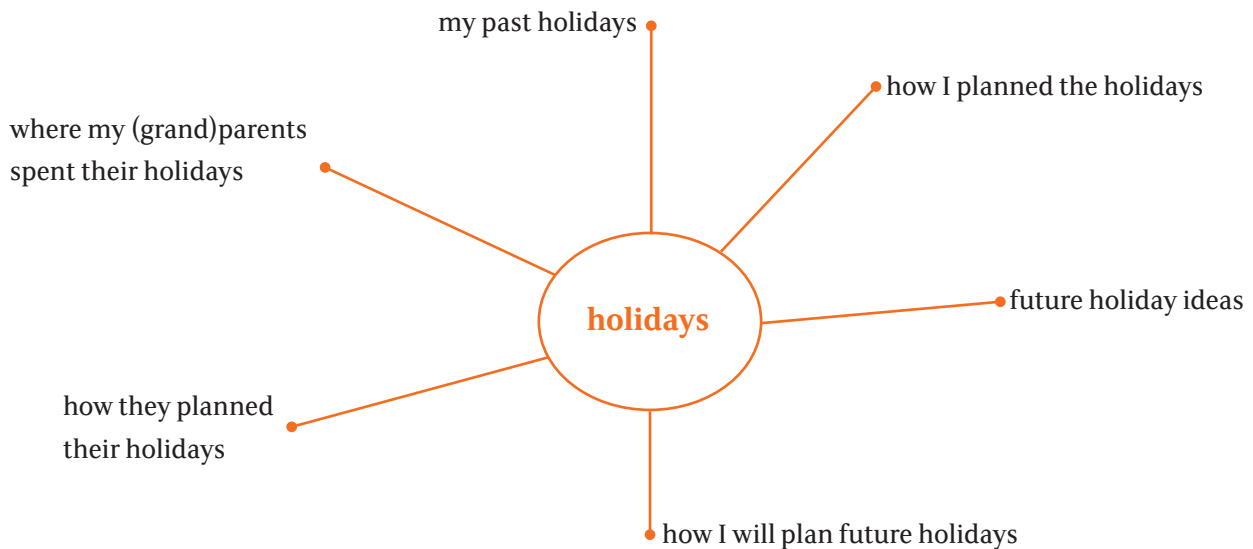


# Holidays in the future

## A Before you read the text

Write down a few keywords about your holidays. Share your ideas in a small group.



## B Read the text

### What is tourism?

Tourism is the business of providing services such as transport, places to stay or entertainment for people who are on holiday. Because everyone wants something different and there are so many holiday destinations available today, these services aren't as easy to provide as they used to be.

About 20 years ago, people who wanted to go on holiday went to a travel agency in the high street with an idea of where they wanted to go, how long they wanted to stay, what they wanted to do and how much money they wanted to spend. Nowadays



people turn on their computer, find their accommodation and book it themselves, find suitable flights and activities at their destination and book them and at the same time can check how much money they are spending. This is usually a lot cheaper now than when a travel agent did all the work for them. Although travel agents were paid by airlines and hotels for providing this service, the customer paid more for the flights and accommodation to cover the costs. Naturally, there are advantages to using a travel agent to book your holiday. Since they are experts and have experience in the travel business, they can make travellers aware of what to expect at their holiday destination.

# Holidays in the future

## The future of tourism

What will things look like in the future?

During the pandemic there were rules for travelling and people discovered vacation destinations near their own homes – they had ‘staycations’. Since people can travel freely again, staycations have become relatively expensive in comparison to cheap holiday packages, unless the people really stay in their own homes. Some owners of holiday accommodation, for example in Germany, have increased their prices to try and earn back some of the money they lost during the pandemic. Domestic travellers have to pay these higher prices, while the ‘locals’ leave the country and travel to cheaper destinations.

What things should you think about when you are planning your next holiday?

Tourism can benefit people, places and also culture in many ways, but we have to think about the negative as well as the positive aspects when we plan our holidays.

Organised holiday packages often cause overcrowding and an overuse of resources at tourist destinations. Tourists pay low prices for flights and accommodation to popular destinations. But overcrowding affects local cultures and also many natural habitats. Some travel agencies offer sustainable holidays. Those are ones that have a minimal impact on the environment.

Ecotours and other environmental travel arrangements can have a positive effect on communities, wildlife and the environment. They use local guides and public transport, support local businesses and generally help the people and places they take small groups of visitors to.



Let's look at Alpine tourism as an example: Through activities like skiing, the region's wildlife areas are affected because forests are cut down for new ski trails. Resources like water and energy are being overused to make artificial snow in winter so that even with our warming climate, people will still be able to ski. The resorts rely on money that tourists spend when they visit them. If they didn't make fake snow, many ski resorts wouldn't make any money at all.

New holiday activities like mountain biking and canyoning also affect wildlife and forests as more people use the trails and find new places to get into fast-moving water.

The effect of global warming on tourism is something that cannot be ignored. Popular holiday destinations are becoming too hot to enjoy in the summer or too cold to be enjoyable in the winter. Tourists will look for, and find, new destinations to visit in the summer and winter. Others will travel to destinations that they have always visited but will do so at other times of the year. This means the destinations will have to offer new activities to attract visitors or create things to do at other times of the year.

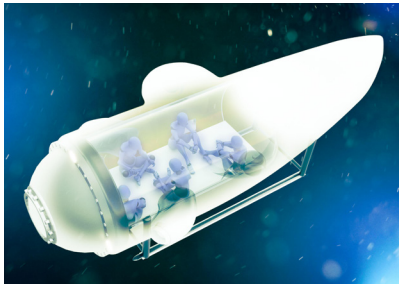
Not all tourism is destructive. If holidays are well-planned, tourism can even protect areas. Resorts are having new tourism ideas all the time. For example, in Switzerland there is a system of hiking trails that connect important protected areas. They offer natural attractions and accommodation, and they help people understand why these types of holidays are important to the area. At the same time, they offer both mental and physical health benefits to the tourists.

## Holidays in the future

### Dream or reality?

Where do you think your next holiday might be? Will it be something out of this world?

This idea is not as crazy as it was just five years ago. If you have enough money, you really can make your dreams come true and look down on the earth from space. You possibly can't actually call it a holiday because a suborbital flight, where you don't go around the earth but just go up and down, only lasts one hour. Currently it costs between \$200,000 and \$300,000 per person, not including three-hours of preparation before your flight. If you want to go around the earth, it will cost you between \$50 million and \$100 million per person. This flight is naturally a bit longer than an hour!



If you don't want to go up, you can also go down and see what is hidden below the ocean. Submarines big enough to carry six people take four tourists and two guides to the bottom of the ocean. These trips usually last longer than a flight into space. They are not without their dangers, though, as was seen in June 2023 when a submarine taking tourists to see the *Titanic* imploded. Unfortunately, everyone on board was killed. This accident will make many deep-sea tourists think twice before booking this kind of extreme getaway.

Climbing Everest, the highest mountain on earth at 8,848 metres, is also becoming popular for even amateur mountaineers, who pay agencies to take them to the base of the mountain and help them climb up to the summit. Again, climbing to such heights is not without its dangers and tourists who want to travel to the Himalayas and try this extreme adventure should prepare well and climb with the right equipment and guides.



All three of these extreme holiday opportunities are only possible if you have enough money in your bank account. Are the travel agencies just making these places playgrounds for the rich or will they be something that everyone can book on the internet in the near future?

## C Comprehension

1. Describe how people used to book their holidays.
2. In what situations could a travel agent be useful?
3. What is a 'staycation'?
4. What is a sustainable holiday?
5. How has global warming affected tourism?
6. Describe the types of extreme holidays that are mentioned.
7. Why isn't a suborbital flight a 'real' holiday?
8. What do you need to do before you climb Mount Everest?

# Holidays in the future

## D Language

### 1. Grammar – talking about the future. Complete the questions and answers with the correct future tense: simple present with future meaning, will future or going-to future.

- a) Where \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (go) on your next holiday? – We' \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) at home next year.
- b) Why \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) at home? – We don't want to visit anywhere where we \_\_\_\_\_ (upset) the local population or damage the environment.
- c) What activities \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (do) on holiday? – We \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) lots of amazing sights.
- d) How \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (travel) in the future? – I \_\_\_\_\_ (find) the best way to travel to my destination before I book.
- e) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (help) your family with their plans? – Yes, we \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) about our next holiday at the weekend.
- f) What \_\_\_\_\_ (be) your plans for the weekend? – We' \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) my grandparents. We' \_\_\_\_\_ (travel) by train and not by car.
- g) When \_\_\_\_\_ your train \_\_\_\_\_ (leave)? – It \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) at 11 o'clock.
- h) I hope you \_\_\_\_\_ (not forget) anything on the train.

### 2. Vocabulary – exercise(s) to help understand vocabulary in the text: word families and definitions.

Match the words.

service	körperliche Gesundheit
destination	Unterkunft
travel agency	Vorbereitung
flight	Urlaub zu Hause
accommodation	Reiseziel
staycation	Flug
sustainable	<b>Dienst</b>
arrangements	nachhaltig
artificial snow	Reisebüro
mental health	psychische Gesundheit
physical health	Kunstschnee
preparation	Absprachen

## Holidays in the future

### 3. Now use the words in the table to complete the sentences.

- a) Due to climate change, it isn't as cold in winter and there is less snow so ski resorts have to provide \_\_\_\_\_ so visitors can still ski.
- b) There are many benefits to our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ when we take time away from life and go on holiday.
- c) Travel organisations offer a \_\_\_\_\_ to tourists.
- d) My parents used to go to our local \_\_\_\_\_ to book their holidays.
- e) Wherever you go on holiday, \_\_\_\_\_ is very important.
- f) We had a \_\_\_\_\_ this year and re-organised our garden. It was fun working together.
- g) There are not only \_\_\_\_\_ holidays but also energy-saving ones.
- h) The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are included in the price of an all-inclusive holiday.
- i) Our holiday \_\_\_\_\_ next year will be somewhere hot.
- j) We have made all the \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves for our holiday.

## E Writing

### Choose one of these topics to write about.

#### 1. Holiday in the future – dream destination

After reading the text, describe your own dream destination. Did it change after you read the text?

What are your priorities when you choose a holiday destination. Explain your dream destination and reasons why you would like to go there. Write about 150 words.

#### 2. Holiday in the future – environmental aspects

What environmental aspects are important to think about before you book a holiday? Where can you get more information about the destination, method of travel, accommodation and activities? Is a sustainable holiday important to you? Explain. Write about 150 words.

### C Comprehension

1. They went to travel agencies.
2. They can give you advice.
3. People go on holiday in their own country or spend their holiday at home.
4. They protect the natural environment or the local population at the holiday destination.
5. Some destinations are too hot and others too cold and tourists look for new destinations.
6. You can go into space, go underwater in a submarine or climb a high mountain.
7. It doesn't take very long.
8. You need to prepare well.

### D Language

#### 1. Grammar – talking about the future. Complete the questions and answers with the correct future tense: simple present with future meaning, will future or going-to future.

- a) Where are you going to go on your next holiday? – We're going to stay at home next year.
- b) Why are you going to stay at home? – We don't want to visit anywhere where we will upset the local population or damage the environment.
- c) What activities will you do on holiday? – We will visit lots of amazing sights.
- d) How will you travel in the future? – I will find the best way to travel to my destination before I book.
- e) Are you going to help your family with their plans? – Yes, we are going to talk about our next holiday at the weekend.
- f) What are your plans for the weekend? – We're going to visit my grandparents. We're going to travel by train and not by car.
- g) When does our train leave? – It leaves at 11 o'clock.
- f) I hope you won't forget anything on the train.

#### 2. Vocabulary

service	Dienst
destination	Reiseziel
travel agency	Reisebüro
flight	Flug
accommodation	Unterkunft
staycation	Urlaub zu Hause
sustainable	nachhaltig
arrangements	Absprachen
artificial snow	Kunstschnee
mental health	psychische Gesundheit
physical health	körperliche Gesundheit
preparation	Vorbereitung

### 2. Writing sentences

1. Due to climate change, it isn't as cold in winter and there is less snow so ski resorts have to provide **artificial snow** so visitors can still ski.
2. There are many benefits to our **mental health** and **physical health** when we take time away from life and go on holiday.
3. Travel organisations offer a **service** to tourists.
4. My parents used to go to our local **travel agency** to book their holidays.
5. Wherever you go on holiday, **preparation** is very important.
6. We had a **staycation** this year and re-organised our garden. It was fun working together.
7. There are not only **sustainable** holidays but also energy-saving ones.
8. The **flight** and **accommodation** are included in the price of an all-inclusive holiday.
9. Our holiday **destination** next year will be somewhere hot.
10. We have made all the **arrangements** ourselves for our holiday.