

## Gap Travel - Emerging niche market with 1 million to 1.5 million trips per year

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The UK Has the Largest Market for Gap Travel - Accounting for an Estimated GBP 2.5 Billion a Year

The global gap year travel market involves around 1 million to 1.5 million trips per year. The biggest market for gap travel is the UK, which is estimated to spend in the region of GBP 2.5 billion annually.

Gap year travel can be divided into three main markets: pre-university gaps, career gaps and pre-retirement gaps.

Pre-university gaps are the most common, with students taking a year out after completing secondary school and before commencing tertiary education.

Career gaps - with people taking time out between career moves - are increasing in popularity, and are being viewed more favourably by employers. The majority of people taking career gaps are in the 25-35-year age group. This is thought to be the fastest-growing market in gap year travel.

Pre-retirement gaps are taken by 55-70-year-olds who have ended their formal careers, and want to broaden their perspectives on the opportunities available to them in the next stage of their lives.

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