

Love Island welcomes first ever contestant from Guernsey but what should viewers know about the stunning Channel Island?



New boy Andrew Le Page will feel no stranger on the set of ITV's popular show Love Island, having come from a Love Island of his very own. Born and raised in Guernsey, the second largest of the Channel Islands – Andrew had already been turning heads on the show but not for the reasons some might expect.

Andrew's distinct accent left fellow contestants fascinated by his background to which he revealed his unique island roots – leaving his on-screen partner Tasha bewildered as to where and what Guernsey was all about. Fortunately, VisitGuernsey is on hand with everything viewers should know about this little piece of paradise off of the south coast.

Guernsey is a hidden gem in the British Isles, sitting between England and France and less than an hour away from Gatwick – though nationwide and ferry routes are available too! The island is blessed with scenic cliff paths, picturesque villages and towns. It's also very popular for island hopping as Guernsey acts as a great launch pad for exploring the smaller Channel Islands of Herm, Sark, Alderney and Lihou, the majority of which are car free and perfect for exploring.

Those with a sense of adventure will love a break to the gorgeous Channel Island as Guernsey very much leads the way in outdoor holidays. Sandy beaches, rocky cliffsides and clear aqua-blue waters, provide the perfect backdrop for a huge range of options to suit the interests of any intrepid. From slower paced activities such as kayaking and paddleboarding to more adrenaline-fuelled coasteering and climbing.

Those who lean towards more relaxing past times shouldn't feel out of their depth in Guernsey either. The stunning island landscape lends itself to walkers and wanderers which is why the <u>Spring</u> and <u>Autumn Walking Festivals</u> are some of the most popular events on the islands each year.

Over the summer months, local instructors host early morning yoga sessions at various beachside locations, such as Jerbourg Point and Port Soif. The luxurious <u>Fermain Valley Hotel</u> has even completed a beautifully tranquil <u>yoga house</u> to practice in. Located within the peaceful woods, amongst the birds and the rustling of the trees, it is the perfect spot to totally zone out and be at one with nature.



Channel Islands Pride returns to Guernsey in September 2022



Channel Islands Pride returns to Guernsey this year for the annual celebration of diversity and inclusion amongst the LGBTQ+ community. The event, which is sponsored by Mourant and Channel Islands Co-Operative Society, will kick off in Guernsey on Saturday 3rd September.

First established in 2015, Channel Islands Pride has become a focal point for the LGBTQ+ and other minority communities across both Islands. Plus, this year's pan-island celebrations will also coincide with the 50th anniversary of the first ever UK Pride march which took place in 1972.

The main event will be the traditional, vibrant Pride parade which starts from Candie Gardens, where many people gather throughout the afternoon getting into the party spirit. The parade will make its way from Candie Gardens down Smith Street, along the High Street, past the Town Church, finally ending in Market Square where the festival style music will begin from 5pm.

"We have a long tradition of welcoming diverse people to our islands, a tradition that breeds tolerance of difference. We are fortunate that for generations this attitude has prevailed in our people, our laws and our leaders, meaning that, as a democratic society, we can hold differing views and our differences are resolved through debate not violence." said Ellie Jones, Founder and CEO of Liberate – the Guernsey based charity supporting the LGBTQ+ community.

"However, for individuals to be truly free to embrace all aspects of their personalities and be proud of who they are differences must be more than tolerated; they must not only be accepted but celebrated. It is for this reason that we invite everyone to join us to show that we not only accept but support diversity and are proud to celebrate it."

With Guernsey reachable by London Gatwick and other airports in less than an hour, the week-long pan-island festival looks forward to welcoming many off-islanders to join in on the commemorations.

There will be live acts throughout the day including local favourites Element 6, Ru Paul Drag Race star Tia Kofi and music from headline act The Freemasons with Amanda Wilson and Katherine Ellis. A full line up can be found below.

13.00 Unicorn Races – sponsored by PWC Pride parade from Candie Gardens to Market Square

17.00 Rainbow Chorus - LGBTQ Choir
17.30 Element 6
18.15 Tia Kofi - Ru Paul's Drag Race star
18.45 The Official Tribute to P!nk - Alecia Karr
19.30 Lawrence Chaney - Ru Paul Drag Race Winner (Headline Drag)
20.00 The Freemasons with Amanda Wilson and Katherine Ellis (Headline Music)
21:30 Afterparty - Dean McCoullogh – Radio 1 DJ

All times are subject to change. Jersey's line up will follow.

PACKAGE:

The official Guernsey Pride Package Offer is available to book - including flights, accommodation and tickets to the Pride events with Wayfarers Travel. For £488pp, guests can enjoy a 3 night stay in Guernsey, including return flights with <u>Aurigny Guernsey's Airline</u> from London Gatwick between 2-5 September. Other durations, departure airports & ferry packages available on request. All prices subject to availability. Call Wayfarers Travel 01481249070 or email <u>sales@wayfarerstravel.co.uk</u>

<u>Condor Ferries</u> offer return sailings from Poole to Guernsey from £175 for two adults travelling with a car between 2-5 September. For more details visit <u>https://www.condorferries.co.uk/</u>

For more information on Pride events and package deals, head over to VisitGuernsey's website at www.visitguernsey.com/pride

-Ends-

For further general information on Guernsey, visit www.visitguernsey.com

For press enquiries please contact Jules Ugo or Alex Keelan at LOTUS on jules@wearelotus.co.uk, alex@wearelotus.co.uk or call the office on 0207 953 7470.

GET INTO THE SPIRIT OF TOUR DE FRANCE BY GETTING BACK INTO THE SADDLE



Please find high-res images here.

As competitors gear up for the start of one of the world's most renowned sporting events, the Tour de France, it is a great time to get inspiration for a two-wheel getaway. From riding along the dramatic coastline of Murcia where Alejandro Valverde trained, to the winding through the Vaucluse past Mt Ventoux, often included as one of the toughest climbs on the Tour de France, LOTUS has collated suggestions to inspire the next cycling holiday, with different budgets and fitness levels in mind.

BIKE ACROSS GUERNSEY, ALDERNEY AND SARK

The Islands of Guernsey have numerous scenic bike routes for visitors that wind past golden beaches, hidden coves and cliff tops to reach incredible viewpoints. Many of the paths lead cyclists past historic sites that should not be missed, and the miles of quiet green lanes – *ruettes tranquilles* – are ideal for an leisurely cycle. The eleven 'Official Routes' across the Island showcase the very best of Guernsey, ranging from coastal rides along the shore to the hills and valleys of the countryside. The neighbouring islands of Alderney and Sark can also be explored on two wheels for those that want to combine their bike ride with a little bit of Island hopping. Guernsey's eleven cycling routes can be found on the <u>VisitGuernsey</u> website.

Channel Islands Direct offers a three-night stay at the three-star La Villette priced from £379 per person (B&B) and includes return flights from London Gatwick with Aurigny. Based on travel between 19 July 22 – 22 July 22 for two adults sharing. The trip is ATOL protected. (www.channelislandsdirect.co.uk)

AIRPORT CHAOS? NO PROBLEM WITH THESE NO-FLY FAMILY ESCAPES!



Images can be downloaded here

Images of long queues and piled up suitcases at airports have unsurprisingly dominated headlines in recent weeks, much to the despair of those parents planning for a summer getaway. Visions of restless children and screaming toddlers inching impatiently through security lines may well be a deciding factor in why many travellers are expected to ditch the airports this season.

Fortunately for families, a flight isn't a necessity in order to have a holiday of a lifetime. From UK city breaks to Nordic cruises and fairytale theme parks, there are a wealth of experiences to choose from for a summer break to remember. Here are a few exciting options to consider this year:

Family Island Hopping in Guernsey

Just a short ferry ride from Southampton or Poole, Guernsey feels a whole world away with its French influence, spectacular coastal scenery, fabulous beaches, and abundance of fresh food. Guernsey holidays focus on the outdoors meaning that families can spend quality time together. Families can walk the coastal paths, many of which are toddler friendly, go rock pooling or explore the many castles and forts along the coastline. Family favourites include the 'fairy ring' on Pleinmont Peninsula which is said to make wishes come true, and the iconic Castle Cornet in St Peter Port, where kids can dress up and learn about the castle's history.

Guernsey is a great launch pad for exploring the smaller Channel Islands of Herm and Sark, a 20- and 45-minute boat ride from St Peter Port, which are car free and focus on preserving island life. Kids love the sense of adventure that comes with jumping on a ferry to another island and exploring the charms and peculiarities of a car-free destination.

The Islands of Guernsey also very much lead the way when it comes to outdoor holidays – with a huge range of options to suit the interests of the whole family, from slower paced activities such as kayaking and surfung to more adrenaline-fuelled coasteering and rock climbing.

<u>Condor Ferries</u> offer return sailings from Portsmouth to Guernsey from £418 for two adults, child and car travelling with a car between 1-3 July. For more details visit <u>https://www.condorferries.co.uk/</u>