

Company Fact Sheet

EssentialTravel.co.uk is one of the UK's leading online travel essentials providers. Since 2001 over five million British travellers have enjoyed peace of mind with the company's fully comprehensive, competitively priced travel insurance policies – and priority access to the most sought after airport car parks, hotels and lounges in the UK.

EssentialTravel.co.uk also offers excellent rates on car hire and car hire excess insurance.

History

EssentialTravel.co.uk was launched in 2001, the result of a dynamic merger between Essential Travel, co-founded by Stuart Bensusan, Richard Hannan and Philip Jordan, and Online Essentials, owned by Simon Purnell and Stephen Smith.



Travel Insurance

Safe and Secure - The company's travel insurance policies are safe, secure, fully comprehensive and underwritten by White Horse Insurance Ireland Ltd.

Easily customized – Want to add on winter sports, or adventure sports on your trip? Essential Travel's insurance policies for single trip, annual multi trip and backpacker can be easily customised to include these, as well as cruise, business and wedding cover.

Medical conditions - Over **70 medical conditions are covered as standard** on all of our Single Trip, Annual Multi Trip and Backpacker policies. We also provide extra medical cover for [Pre-Existing Medical Conditions](#) that you can be easily added to your policy, and easy to use online medical screening.

Global support - Our UK-based 24-Hour Emergency Assistance Helpline, offers multi-lingual support wherever you may be in the world.



Airport Parking

Save Money - Pre-book airport parking online and save with live availability and prices for 25 major UK airports,

No hidden costs - In July 2010, the company scrapped its two per cent credit card fee completely, reduced the cancellation waiver from £0.99 to just £0.50 and lowered the £9.50 cancellation charge to £5.00.

More Flexibility - EssentialTravel.co.uk's cancellation notice period is just 12 hours.

Lowest Prices - EssentialTravel.co.uk guarantees customers won't be able to book airport parking cheaper anywhere else, or we will refund the difference. Holidaymakers can choose from over 130 car parks at 25 UK airports including Gatwick, Manchester, Bristol and many more. The pre-booking rate can be as much as 60 per cent cheaper than the rates available on the day of travel.



Airport Hotels

Avoid the hassle of an early morning start, or the misery of driving through the night start and book an airport hotel. Choose from a room alone, or a room with parking package, which can even sometimes even be cheaper than car parking alone.

Can't book cheaper - Customers can search online for real time availability and prices with a choice of over 300 hotels at 25 UK airports. EssentialTravel.co.uk guarantees customers can't book an airport hotel cheaper. They can book a room only or an airport hotel with parking package, which includes a hotel room and airport parking. Bookings are price guaranteed - if you can find it cheaper elsewhere Essential Travel will refund the difference.



Airport lounges

Airport lounges can be booked both ends of your holiday.

Start your holiday early – Get chilled before you even get on the plane and sit back and relax in style in a VIP airport lounge.

Savour those last moments before you head home and prolong that relaxed feeling for as long as possible.

Airport lounges provide a calm haven away from the bustle of the main airport spaces for you to enjoy a quiet drink and light refreshments. You can sit and read complimentary newspapers or simply watch TV before embarking on a trip or between connecting flights. All of the airport lounges offer a range of complimentary soft and alcoholic drinks and snacks and there are over 160 lounges, spanning 20 UK airports.

Car Hire

EssentialTravel.co.uk provides a comprehensive comparison of some of the leading car hire suppliers covering over 4,000 worldwide destinations, comparing major car hire companies such as Holiday Autos, Sixt, Auto Europe and easyCar, in seconds.

Car Hire Excess Insurance

Many drivers don't realise that when they sign the car hire paperwork, they've agreed to be accountable and liable for the majority of things that could go wrong with the rental vehicle. Theft, Loss or damage to the vehicle can lead to an excess of £2,000 per incident/£3,000 per car rental agreement, increasing to \$80,000 for rentals outside of Europe.

EssentialTravel.co.uk can insure the excess on a hire car with a daily or annual policy. Holidaymakers can travel with total peace of mind that the rented vehicle is protected for every eventuality. Great value Car Rental Excess Waiver is available to people aged 21-84 holding a valid driver's licence.

Online Travel Magazine

With its finger firmly on the pulse of what's happening in the travel world, The EssentialTravel.co.uk website features an online travel magazine, travel news pages and a travel blog with regular Travel Top 10 Tips, Travel How Tos, money-saving suggestions and articles that look at the practicalities and hilarities of modern travel.

Social Media

You can find Essential Travel tweeting at @EssentialTravel and the media team at @ETPressOffice. Essential Travel also has a large Facebook presence and interactive community at <http://en-gb.facebook.com/EssentialTravel>

Customer Contact

EssentialTravel.co.uk has instant confirmation booking services available on its website and a team of friendly staff can talk customers through the offered holiday essentials on 0845 803 5434.

Office opening hours are 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Press Contact

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