

in this issue:

Comment	3
New EU rules on regional airport aids – the need for a level playing field	
Destination Management	
Benchmarking DMOs	4
A glut of information?	
CVBs are a heterogeneous group	
CVBs in the USA enjoy greater financial support from public sources	
Profiles	
Glasgow	7
A positive performance	
New branding campaign hailed a success by the industry and public	
Infrastructural developments extend cultural image	
Bilbao	10
An increasingly popular short-break destination	
Ireland, Belgium and Italy top the arrivals' growth charts	
Tallinn	12
EU entry gives significant boost to foreign demand for tourism	
Increased ferry capacity (and most tourists come by ferry) ...	
... and 2005 will see a big rise in airline capacity	
St Petersburg	16
300th anniversary celebrations fall a little flat ...	
... and 2004 was no better	
The city has many hurdles to overcome	
New York	19
Still down on 2000's peak	
Record operating performance for the city's hotels	
Vying with London, Madrid, Moscow and Paris for the Olympics	
Bangkok	21
Asia's leading gateway and an increasingly important hub	
Tourism picking up but tsunami likely to have longer-term impact	
One of the most profitable markets in Asia for hotels	
Comparative Trends	
Air transport	24
Welcome revival in demand, especially for international traffic	
New EU member airports	25
Big increases in traffic, thanks largely to new no-frills airline capacity	
European cities vs countries	27
Is urban tourism still the fastest growing sector of the market?	