



INSIDE TRACK-TOURISM EDUCATION

News from the UK
Claire Steiner

Hello! from the United Kingdom

GTTP was started by the American Express Foundation in 1986, developing the first travel & tourism curriculum in the United Kingdom at a time when there was no formal travel & tourism education available. Over the years, this has changed with many travel and tourism courses now being taught as part of the UK curriculum. GTTP UK adapted to encourage education in the sector and support other GTTP countries with their curriculum, especially via our research competition which could be embedded into the existing teaching schedules as well as creating local partnerships around the globe to help promote GTTP.



ITT FutureYou at World Travel Market



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In recent years, GTTP UK has partnered with the ITT Future You initiative, designed to inspire and inform the next generation about the variety of roles and opportunities for career progression. ITT Future You, through its University roadshows, a flagship event at World Travel Market and online International Careers conference, has reached over 20,000 students since it started. In addition, Future You events have also been run by GTTP in Brazil, Russia and East Africa with more international events planned.

ITT Future You with GTTP Brazil



In 2020 GTTP UK formed a partnership with the social enterprise, Women in Travel CIC to help provide women with the opportunity to fulfil their economic and individual potential. WIT provide women who are unemployed, vulnerable or marginalised with access to training, mentoring and eventually employment. The training includes GTTP's Passport to the World, An Introduction to Travel & Tourism course, introducing the sector and the many employment opportunities to the women.



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The launch of the online Passport course has enabled GTTP UK to offer this course as a complimentary teaching resource to educational establishments across the country.

UK based Travel & Tourism companies are coming on board to provide more opportunities and resources. As we build back after the last two years of the pandemic, the need to promote the sector as a career option has never been more important, opening up an opportunity for GTTP UK the work with its partners and employer networks in the UK.

HERO STORY

GTTP student Richard Coelho-McErlean, taking off with his new career as cabin crew for British Airways



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We recently caught up with Richard Coelho-McErlean, a national winner of GTTP's 2015 Research Conference. Richard said he had always been interested to work as Cabin Crew despite never having flown before – that was until he travelled to Nice for the GTTP Student Conference! “GTTP genuinely changed my life and I found my confidence which has really helped me pursue my dreams. It made me realise that you shouldn’t generalise when it comes to meeting people from other cultures and I am still in touch with some of the students at the conference, which is amazing.” After leaving college Richard went travelling, which he believes he never would have done before GTTP and met his husband in Brazil. They are now living in London and in late 2019 Richard finally landed the job of his dreams as Cabin Crew for British Airways. Then, just before the end of his training programme, the pandemic hit and Richard had to wait for a further 15 months before he could complete his training and finally take to the skies! During that time, he took a role working in admin and customer services, which did give him some great transferable skills but also made him realise how passionate he was about his airline career.

His best piece of advice to young people is to live in the moment and don’t worry about what other people think – be your genuine self.

NOW LET'S HEAR FROM ANNE:

GTTP is a business and education alliance, and building partnerships with business, both global and local, is an important element of what we do. In the UK, these partnerships are very evident, enabling GTTP to offer students the best possible chance of succeeding in our sector. The strength of the partnerships ensures that we really can be part of the solution to encourage young people into careers in the sector - and on a global scale - as we emerge from the pandemic.

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