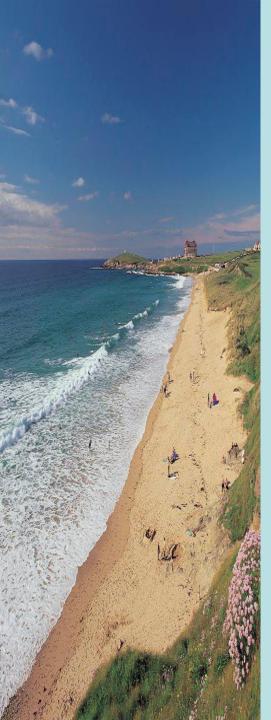


#### Malcolm Bell

#### Head of VisitCornwall

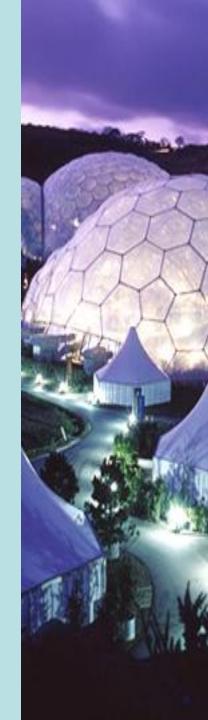




The Importance of Transport to South West Tourism **Businesses** 

#### This Presentation

- Why is it important
- Facts on tourism, transport and carbon
- Issues and challenges for tourism
- Goals and approaches
- Some simple steps
- Final comments



# Why is it Important

- Visitor Experience
  - Impacts on overall satisfaction
  - Its too far/too long to travel
- Industry
  - Key competitive issue
  - First line Influencers
- Residents
  - Congestion a key issue
  - Additional costs
- Environment
  - Local impact
  - Global impact
  - Climate change implications



#### Facts on Tourism in Cornwall

- UK Visitors
  - 4.69M trips by staying UK residents
  - 22.7M nights by staying UK residents
  - £1.1b spend by staying UK residents
- by staying O/S visitors
  - 283K trips by staying O/S visitors
  - 2.28M nights by staying O/S visitors
  - £117M spend
- Day Trips
  - 10.2M trips
  - £448M spend



#### Facts on Transport & Tourism

- Average length of stay UK 5.28
- Average length of stay O/S 8.21
- Average spend of UK £251.81
- Average spend of O/S £390-78
- Day trip average spend £45.44



#### Facts on Transport & Tourism

- 2009 visitor spend on transport £158M (10% of spend)
- Mode of transport
  - Car 75%
  - Bus 8%
  - Coach 8%
  - Train 5%
  - Air 2%
  - Other 2%
- Average hours travelled per day 1.21hrs
- 30% of visitors have car/travel free days



# **Cornwall's Tourism Footprint**







# **REAP Tourism**

#### This is a tool to help:

- Measure the impact of visitor behaviour in a consistent fashion
- Identify areas of visitor behaviour with a high environmental impact
- Demonstrate the impact of attracting different types of visitor or promoting different visitor behaviour
- Help us understand the impact of tourism in the context of our lifestyles as a whole

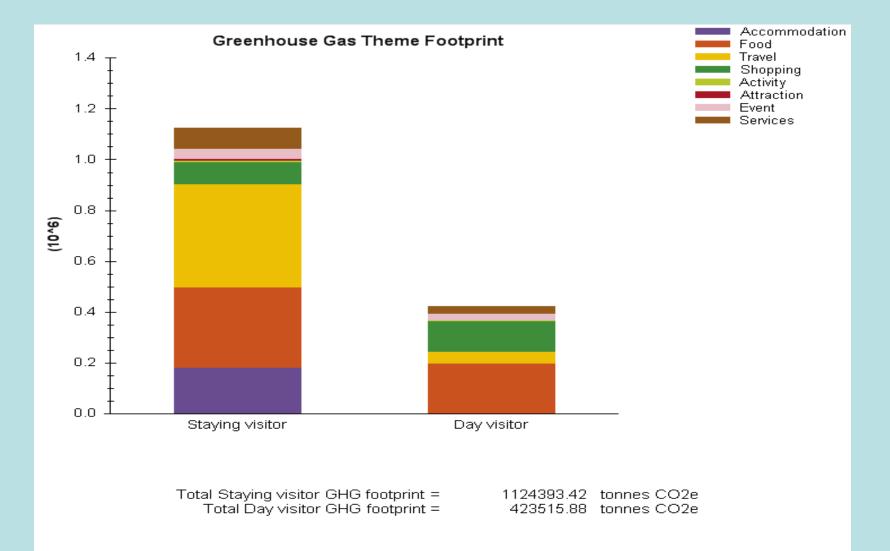
Visit: <u>http://resource-accounting.org.uk/reap-</u> <u>tourism</u>

#### REAP Tourism Spending Categories

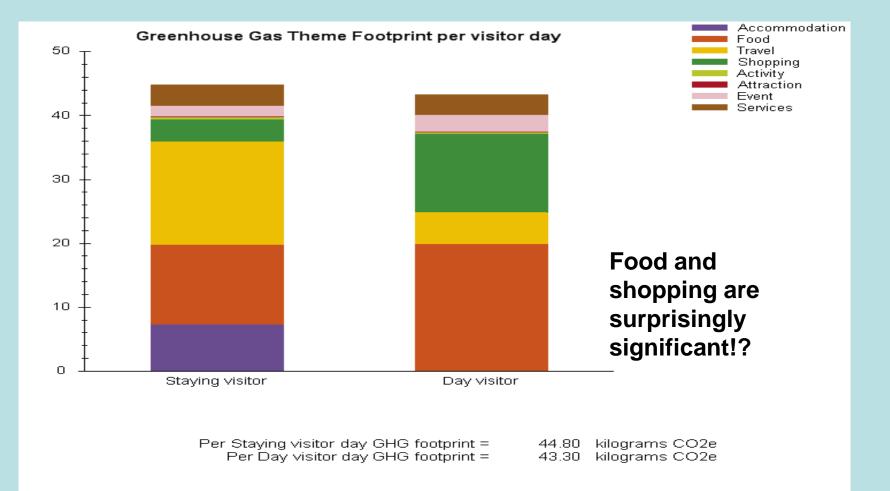
- Accommodation
- Travel
- Food
- Shopping
- Activities
- Attractions
- Events
- Services



#### Total Greenhouse Gas Footprint

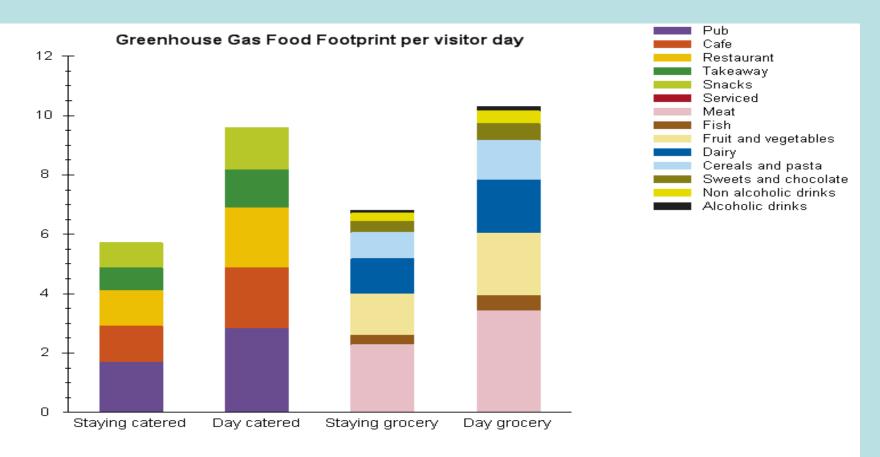


#### GHG Footprint per Visitor Day



#### Average British citizen = 10.92 tons p/a (Carbon Trust, 2006)

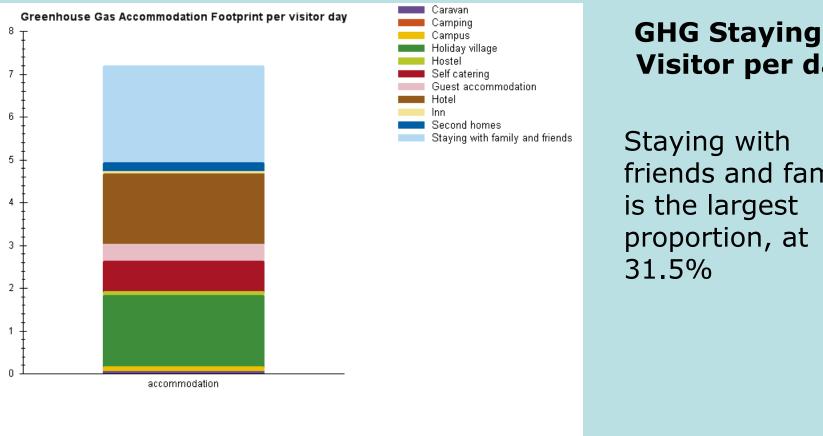
# Food



Per Staying visitor day Food GHG footprint = 12.53 ki Per Day visitor day Food GHG footprint = 19.90 ki

12.53 kilograms greenhouse gas 19.90 kilograms greenhouse gas

# Accommodation



Visitor per day

Staying with friends and family is the largest proportion, at 31.5%

## Key Issues & Challenges

- Competition
- Marketing to minimise impact
- Reducing Impact on travel to and from
- Reducing Impact during stay/trip
- Information to influence
- Incentives to change
- Last but not least policy context



## Competition

- Tourism largest and fastest growing sector in the world
- Competition is fierce and growing
- South West Customers live in rest of SW, London, Midlands – lots of choices and competition between us and our customers
- Costs rising fuel, less pending power, maybe shorter stay and/or lower spend
- But air travel getting more expensive



## Marketing to Minimise

- Turing the tide on more frequent and shorter break culture and marketing
- UK Government needs to push/lead
- Sell the stress breaker benefits of longer short breaks
- Source customers from nearer to home, The short the breaker the nearer to home
- Focus overseas on near markets and extending long haul from London



#### Travel - To and From

- Modal shift and a realistic "art of the possible approach"
- Segment market research needed
- But possible actions include:
  - Sell the value of packages
  - Making the journey part of the holiday
  - Car hire for part of stay
  - Accommodation pick up
  - Luggage issues
  - Plus



#### Influencing planning of the journey

- Cost analysis ready calculator
- Example routes and trips with signage
- Dynamic planning tools re time and cost of travel
- Benefits of taking a break on the way up and down
- Live travel information during travel



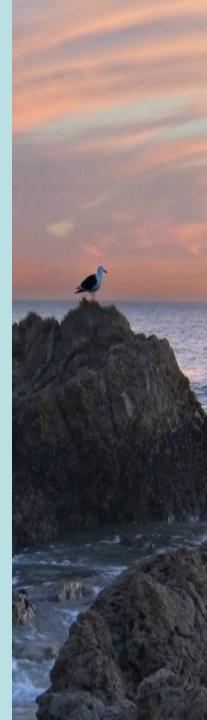
#### Flexibility

- Shift of change over days
- Accommodation schedule to maximise lulls in traffic volumes
- Accommodation providers assisting in travel planning to and especially from
- Dynamic information at attractions and restaurants



#### Reduce Impact During Stay

- Non travel days
- Reduce travel as well as modal shift
- Rich Information and content needed digital and local
  - Explore local area
  - Car free days out packages
  - Novelty transport options
  - Car-public transport
  - Accommodation providers key to influencing visitors and develop itineraries for above options



#### Information to Influence

- Tourism and travel Journalist
- Celebrity exemplars
- The balanced approach Travel to explore vs holiday/break to relax, recharge and grow
- Tourism Boards PR & calculator/examples etc
- Cost options to and from and during
- Localised info and events activities and attractions



## Incentives to change

- Information, information, information
- Discounts
- Rover tickets
- Car parking charging prices
- Green points
- plus



# **Policy Issues**

- Tourism the "Cinderella" syndrome
  - Residents voice loudest
  - Full economic impact not universally recognised
  - Tourism optional/candy floss industry
  - No decent jobs
  - Commuter over tourist ( bank holiday rail works etc)
  - Bus and Coach drop off and parking
  - Car parking policies creating travel
  - Concentrate and disperse



#### **Goals and Approaches**

Overall goal

To improve access to tourism destinations, enhance transport management at those destinations, while minimising the impacts associated with travel



## Summary of Goals and Approaches

#### Key Goals

- Reduce the carbon footprint of travel to and from
- Reduce the vulnerability to rising fuel prices
- Spread the timing of tourism travel
- Maximise tourism potential to complement services/infrastructure used by residents
- Reduce impact on local environment and communities
- Improve the visitor experience to and within destination



#### Some Simple Steps

#### **Tourist Bodies**

- Sustainable tourism must be at the heart of the organisation thinking and action
- Measurement needs to change with set of balanced indicators
- Promotional Activities to produce higher dwell times and lower mileage
- Inspire, influence web content
- Information widgets
- Use of web and social media



# Some Simple Steps

#### **Tourism Businesses**

- Messaging in the marketing
- Messages from previous customers
- Information on website
- Linkage to planning tools/website
- Pick up and drop options
- Luggage transfer services
- Plus plus



## Final Thoughts

- Its about a different way of
  - Thinking
  - Planning
  - Acting
  - Measuring
- Apply marketing and yield management to transport and carbon - i.e. low environmental impact but high economic and social impact
- Travel as a quality aspect of any holiday or break



#### Malcolm Bell

#### Head of VisitCornwall

