## **ITALY REPORT**

## **July 2025**



#### **Prepared By:**



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# ABOUT TSUSA Global Partner Programming

The TSUSA GPP provides a foundational base from which state tourism offices have shared in-country representation with international export marketing and sales activities. Managed by Travel South USA, the official regional destination marketing organization for the 12 state tourism offices, these collaborative efforts create leveraged actions, increase reach of travel trade and journalists, and coordinated consumer campaigns which deliver visitors to the South. In 2019, the Travel South USA region welcomed 10.2 million visitors, who spent \$10.3 billion, with 90% of these visitors arriving from 15 markets from around the globe.

The Italian market has long-term potential and high spend per visitor, and the U.S. remains the #1 long-haul travel destination for Italians. The Italian travel industry landscape is mainly dominated by small-to-medium companies. A significant number of them are family-owned and run, even if Covid-19 caused a slight reduction in the number of agencies, and above all greater tendency to the development and concentration of networks.

There are approximately 80 tour operator companies that feature U.S. products, and 6,000 travel agencies/retailers based in Italy.

The Southern U.S. remains very popular for Italian tour operators looking to create product and market aggressively to their customer base of well-heeled travelers.

### I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Trade Contacts (phone calls, emails, personal meetings) cont.

- Visit USA 2025: finalized webinar on July 3<sup>rd</sup> with Travel Island, 77 participants.
- TSUSA International Showcase 2025. Kansas City, Missouri. December 1-4, 2025: delegation almost finalized. We are in contact with Evelin to understand which FAM trip she wants to join, so we can inform Catherine. We have also followed up with Giuseppe and Luigi Leone to proceed with their registration.
- Action Plan 2026 shared with Head Office. In contact with America World, Going and Idee Per Viaggiare: co-marketing details for 2025-26 are almost finalized.
- Travel South Global Week Media Marketplace in Louisville, Kentucky & Press Trips: Sofia Bordandini, Journalist from CN Traveller will publish first article during September dedicated to Kentucky and second during November dedicated to South Carolina.

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	Мау	June
	,					Italy						
					Tra	vel Trade						
Trade Meetings	15											
Trainings	1											
Number of Agents Trained	77											
						Media						
Total number of articles published	44											
Impressions	1.501.105											

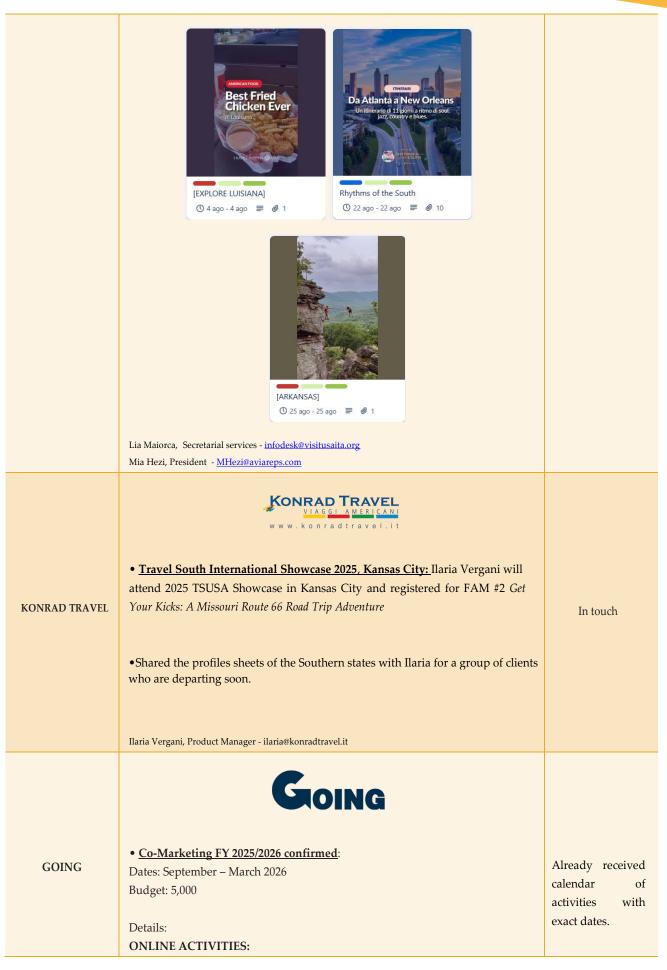
#### **DRIVE LINK:**

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1CuljhXau6gnAHwfGjuOWpCsGVZIveJTQ/edit?gid=13 32887015#gid=1332887015

### **II. Travel Trade**

Trade Contacts (phone calls, emails, personal meetings) cont.

Contacts	Activity/Activation	Follow-up/ Next step
VISIT USA ITALY	July status:  • 2025 MEMBERSHIP: Webinars - Travel South:  1. November 11th with Naar Bespoke Travel Defined title of the webinar: Grand Tour of the South from the Atlantic to the Gulf: Defined States involved: North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.  2. July 3rd with Travel Island. Finalized. Title: "FALL IN THE SOUTH: Autumn experiences and traditions across North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee" Finalized with 77 participants. List and recording received.  **TRAVEL-SOUTH****  **TRAVEL-SOUTH***  **Webinar***  **TRAVEL-SOUTH***  **TRAVEL-SOUTH***  **TRAVEL-SOUTH**  **T	In touch
	Louisiana, ROTS, Arkansas	



	<ul> <li>1 NEWSLETTER</li> <li>1 WEBINAR</li> <li>1-2 TRAVEL PROPOSALS WITH LOGO ON WWW.GOING.IT</li> <li>TRAVEL AGENCIES FLYERS &amp; EXPOSURE IN POINTS OF SALE</li> <li>4 NEW ITINERARIES: focus on cinema and TV series: <ol> <li>North Carolina+ South Carolina (Outdoor/Family)</li> <li>Missouri + Kentucky+ Tennessee (Route 66 + Traditions + Spirits)</li> <li>Rhythms of the South (Music)</li> <li>Alabama + Louisiana + Mississippi (Specifically dedicated to cinema)</li> </ol> </li> <li>OFFLINE ACTIVITIES <ol> <li>2 THEMATIC TRAINING EVENTS</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <li>Ivana Di Stasio, Product Manager - ivana.distasio@going.it</li> <li>Silvia Mussa, Trade Marketing &amp; Partnership Manager - silvia.mussa@bluvacanze.it</li> <li>Giulia Ruggiero, Going Marketing Specialist - giulia ruggiero@bluvacanze.it</li>	
GATTINONI	• Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: Domenico Cangelli will attend 2025 TSUSA Showcase in Kansas City and registered for FAM #7  Beats of Memphis to Music City Vibes  Domenico Cangelli, Product Manager, domenico.cangelli@gattinoni.it	In touch
CREO TOUR OPERATOR	Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: chased Luigi Leone to go ahead with the registration.  Luigi Leone, Director of Product, <u>luigi.leone@creo.travel</u>	In touch
NAAR BESPOKE TRAVEL	• Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: Alessia Pascucci will attend 2025 TSUSA Showcase in Kansas City and registered for FAM #3 Beer, Baseball, Blues & A Little Bit of Route 66 – A True St. Louis Experience!  Erica Melegari, Product Manager – erica.melegari@naar.com	In touch

TECNITRAVEL	• Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: Paolo Zampieri will attend 2025 TSUSA Showcase in Kansas City and registered for FAM #7 Beats of Memphis to Music City Vibes  Paolo Zampieri, Product Manager, paolo.zampieri@tecnitravel.it	In touch
ITINE-RARI	• Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: Manuela Baietto will attend 2025 TSUSA Showcase in Kansas City and registered for FAM #1 Grit & Glory: Missouri's Outlaws, Icons & Westward Legacy  Manuela Baietto, Owner & Managing Director – Itine-rari - manuela@itine-rari.it	In touch
REIMA TOURS	• Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: Luca Cesaretti will attend 2025 TSUSA Showcase in Kansas City and registered for FAM #3 Beer, Baseball, Blues & A Little Bit of Route 66 – A True St. Louis Experience!  Luca Cesaretti, Product Manager - luca@reimatours.it Paolo Cesaretti, Operations Department - paolo@reimatours.it	In touch
VANESSA VIAGGI	• Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: Stefano Gnerucci will attend 2025 TSUSA Showcase in Kansas City and registered for FAM #8 Come Find Your Virginia: Vistas, Vineyards, and Voyage through History  Stefano Gnerucci, Product Manager – stefano@vanessaviaggi.it	In touch
AMERICA WORLD	• Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: Damien Tamburo will attend 2025 TSUSA Showcase in Kansas City and registered for FAM #2 Get Your Kicks: A Missouri Route 66 Road Trip Adventure.  • Co-Marketing FY 2025/26 confirmed: Dates: September – December	Waiting to receive

	Budget: 6,000 USD  Details of the plan: ONLINE ACTIVITIES  • 1 FB PROMOTED POST  • 1 IG PROMOTED POST  • 1 EDITORIAL NEWSLETTER (trade and consumer) with editorial contents and news on South USA  • 3 NEWSLETTERS (trade and consumer) promoting itineraries in the South USA  OFFLINE ACTIVITIES  • 1 "A CASA DEL QUALITY GROUP" EVENT  Damien Tamburo, Product Manager, damien.tamburo@americaworld.it Marco Peci, Commercial and Marketing Director, marco.peci@qualitygroup.it	calendar of activities with exact dates.
TRAVEL ISLAND	• Webinar with Visit USA on July 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Title: "FALL IN THE SOUTH: Autumn experiences and traditions across North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee". Finalized with 77 participants.  • Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: Evelin Ratti will attend 2025 TSUSA Showcase in Kansas City. She is interested in joining a post tour but didn't do the selection yet – she will do in the upcoming days.  Evelin Ratti, Product Manager & Travel Consultant, evelin.ratti@travelisland.it	In touch
ALIDAYS TRAVEL EXPERIENCES	• Travel South International Showcase 2025, Kansas City: chased Giuseppe Gerevini to go ahead with the registration for Showcase.  Giuseppe Gerevini, Product Manager, giuseppe.gerevini@alidays.it	In touch
IDEE PER VIAGGIARE	• Co-Marketing FY 2025/26 with IPV confirmed. Dates: January – June 2026. Budget: USD: 4.000  Details of the plan: ONLINE ACTIVITIES: - 6 Content Marketing	Waiting to receive calendar of activities with exact dates and

	- 6 Social Post	the product
	- 3 New Itineraries	update.
	- 6 DEM	
	- Performance & Insights - Monthly Monitoring Of Keyword / Ai Overview	
	Footprint, Engagement, Traffic & Lead Metrics	
	Liberato Esposito, Product Manager - liberato.esposito@ideeperviaggiare.it	
	Dionisio Spinelli, Head of Digital - dionisio.spinelli@ideeperviaggiare.it	
	Deluxe Travels	
DELUXE TRAVELS		Contact added to
DELUXE TRAVELS	Finalized an introductory call with Tour Operator Deluxe Travels and we	our database
	have added their contact information to our database. They are interested in exploring opportunities in the South, and we provided them with materials	
	and profile sheets of the States.	
	and prome sheets of the states.	
	Simona Di Pumpo, CEO - <u>info@deluxe-travels.com</u>	
	We have submitted the Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2025/26, which includes:	
	Trade Activities proposed:	
	- Sales Calls	
	- Via Email requests	
	- Monthly report	
	- Monthly Newsletter	
	- Visit USA Membership	
	- US Commercial Service Showcase	
ACTION PLAN 2025/26	- 3 Partnership with TOS (Quality Group, IPV, Going)	Action Plan
1101101(1 E111( <b>202</b> 0) <b>2</b> 0	- Travel South International Showcase 2025	approved
	PR Activities proposed:	
	- Press releases (12/13 per year)	
	- Media pitching	
	- Media support	
	- Day by day communication actions	
	- Ongoing relationships with the media	
	- Social media profile management (Facebook) through organic content	
	posting	

### **III. Communication & PR**

### • Global Media Marketplace & FAM

March 31st - April 3, 2025, in Louisville, Kentucky <u>Journalists confirmed:</u>

- 1.Ilaria Santi, SiViaggia.it
- 2. Elena Barassi, Il Giornale
- 3. Sofia Bordandini, Traveller
- 4.Laura Sommariva, Touring & Donna Moderna

#### **ARTICLES PUBLISHED:**

1. Ilaria Santi: "Why visit Atlanta now (before everyone else does)"

Link: Atlanta, Georgia, è il momento di andarci (prima che ci vadano tutti)

2. Elena Barassi: "Virginia: The Elegant Cradle of American History"

Link: <a href="https://blog.ilgiornale.it/viaggiopervoi/2025/04/24/virginia-lelegante-culla-della-storia-americana/">https://blog.ilgiornale.it/viaggiopervoi/2025/04/24/virginia-lelegante-culla-della-storia-americana/</a>

**July update**: journalist Sofia Bordandini informed PR Team she will publish her first article during September dedicated to Kentucky and second during November dedicated to South Carolina.

### Social Media Management

A comprehensive social media strategy was developed for the Travel South USA Facebook page for the month of August, with the goal of ensuring cohesive storytelling and balanced visibility across all member states. The following activities were carried out:

- Strategic inclusion of all Southern states within the content plan
- Promotion of diverse themes to maintain variety while ensuring coherence across posts
- Drafting of original and engaging copy tailored to each destination and topic
- Careful selection of images to visually support and enhance the narrative of each post

Social Media Plan available here.

• **Press release:** "The long summer in the southern USA: A late-season trip through nature, music, beaches and tradition" - distributed on july 29th to the travel consumer and travel trade media lists.



#### The long summer in the southern USA: A late-season trip through nature, music, beaches and tradition

The final days of summer are the perfect time for a journey through the Southern United States, where every experience is infused with the warm huse of the season's end. From the intense aromas of local cuisine to the vibrant sounds of outdoor festivals, and the crystal-clear waters cutting through breathtaking State Park landscapes, this is a South that shines brightest just before the curtain falls.

From Alabama's warm hospitality, with lakeside sunsets and themed festivals, to Louisiana's unmistakable joie de wivre, from Mississippi's nature escapes to Kentucky's artisan shops steeped in tradition, and Tennessee's thrilling off-road trails—every state has a story to tell, basking in the mellow golden light of summer's last act.

#### Alabama: sunsets, nature, and authentic flavors

In Alabama, summer doesn't take a break. Here you can fish at sunset on Lake Martin, hike the soenic trails of Cheaha State Park, catoh live music at Birmingham's Sloss Furnace or simply relax on powdery white beaches where the water shimmers mint-green and the skies light up like a technicolor postcard each evening. For an immersion into local community hospitality, Alabama's many festivals offer the perfect opportunity to sample the state's culinary delights—smoky BBQ and sweet peach obbler included.

#### Louisiana: lakes, sno-balls, and surprising museums

In summer, Louisiana is a carousel of experiences—nature, history, and irresistible treats. The State Parks are like glant water playgrounds: lakes, rivers, splash pads for kids, and all kinds of activities for anyone eager to cane or go deep-sea fishing. For a cultural dive, the museums deliver. Monroe's Biedenham Museum blends dreamy gardens with Coca-Cola memorabilia; Shreveport's aquarium houses sharks and seahorses; and in New Orleans, the National WWII Museum is a must-visit. Need to cool off? Don't miss a sweet, icy spe-ball.

#### Mississippi: outdoor adventures and live music

In Mississippi, there's always a good reason to head outdoors—whether it's hiking to waterfalls at Tishomingo State Park, fishing on peaceful Grenada Lake, or taking a boat trip to Ship Island, where you can swim in clear waters, explore historio Fort Massachusetts, or simply bask on the beach. As the sun sets, the music starts. From Brandon Amphitheater to Baok Rius and the majestic The Sound on the coast, open-air concerts provide the soundtrack to southern summer nights. All you need is a blanket, a lawn chair, and a sky full of stars.

#### Missouri: the float trip paradise

Summer in Missouri sounds like water drifting slowly downriver. The state is home to the classic float trip: whether in a kayak or on a raft, what matters is the immersion in the beauty of the Ozarks, where nature takes center stage. The most loved destination? The Landing at Current River, with rooms overlooking the water and a new River Store renting out canoes, kayaks, and rafts for breathtaking river adventures—plus a scenic restaurant. The Blue Heron.

North Carolina: discovering mountain landscapes and cool waters



North Carolina's High Country is the perfect antidote to late-summer heat. Between West Jefferson, Boone, and Blowing Rock, lush mountain peaks offer cooler temperatures and verdant views. West Jefferson is ideal for fishing on the New River—one of the oldest rivers on Earth and the only designated fly\_fishing trail in the U.S. New River State Park offers kayaking, tubing, and shady riverside pionic spots. Boone is trout territory—orystal-clear creeks, expert guides, and all the gear for catching (or trying to catch) your own. And for those seeking peace, Blowing Rock invites long walks or paddling among blooming rhododendrons.

#### South Carolina: glamping, nature, and breathtaking views

In South Carolina, the last <u>rays</u> of summer are best enjoyed camping in comfort and nature. The state parks change scenery around every bend—majestic mountains, waterfalls cascading over rocks, shimmering lakes, and idylic beaches. It's the perfect destination for anyone looking to pitch a tent—or something more stylish. Along the Black River, a new Airstream Camping Village is opening, featuring five campers with outdoor seating, grills, soft lighting, and swings facing the water. Inside: fully equipped kitchens, bathrooms, and air conditioning.

#### Kentucky: craftsmanshin and made-in-USA creativity

For those in search of a cultural itinerary, Kentucky is a must. Here, art isn't just displayed—it's lived, passed down, and shaped by hand. In Berea—known as the <u>folk art</u> capital—you can stroll through artisan workshops, watching skilled hands weave, carve, and paint. The Kentucky Artisan Center <u>showcases</u> the work of over 800 local artists. In Paducah, a UNESCO Creative City, murals tell stories and the Lower Town Arts District <u>bursts</u> to life with open studios and color. For a more contemporary feel, there's the KMAC Museum in Louisville, the visionary spaces of 21C Museum Hotels, and the Appalachian artisan hubs like Hindman Settlement School.

#### Tennessee: the wild side of summer in the Great Smoky Mountains

In the heart of Tennessee, summer is lived off-road. In Pigeon Forge, nestled in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, WildSida,welcomes thrill-seekers with mountain trails, breathtaking climbs, and spectacular views. With 360 hectares of unbouched nature, over 18 kilometers of tracks, and a total elevation gain of more than 450 meters, this adventure park is a dream for bikers, explorers, and extreme sports lovers. Here you pedal, drive, and run across dusty paths, UTV tracks, and one trail after acolders.

Rhythms of the South: a city escape among rooftops, jazz, and secret gardens in Nashville, Atlanta. and New Orleans

Nashville, Atlanta, and New Orleans are perfect for a city scape blending culture, music, and relaxation. In Nashville, the day begins at the Country Music Hall of Fame, followed by a wisit to the Ryman Auditorium, and wraps up in the honky-tonks of Broadway—where live music and rooftop cooktails meet golden hour views. Atlanta invites you to slow down with boutique shopping in Buckhead, installations at the High Museum of Art, and floral trails at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. In New Orleans, the mood is unbeatable: wrought-iron balconies, jazz echoing in the streets, art galleries, and delicious stops for beignets, Creole cuisine, or hands-on gumbo and jambalaya cooking classes.

Images <u>available</u> at this <u>link</u>.

# Articles published on online media (and offline)

	TRADE MEDIA	DATE	TITLE	STATES MENTIONED	IMPRESSI ONS
1	tg24.sky.it	July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2025	Summer 2025, the destinations most chosen by Italians: from the Dolomites to Alabama	Alabama	74.000

2	Vioggiuse it	Inly 1ct 2025	Columbus in Georgia,	Georgia,	19.300
_	Viaggiusa.it	July 1st, 2025	what to see in the city	Alabama,	17.300
			of the inventor of	Louisiana	
			Coca-Cola	Louisiuid	
3	Tgcom24.mediase	July 2nd, 2025	The theme parks of	Tennessee	60.400
			the USA, between		
	t.it		magic, adrenaline,		
			and wonder		
4	Msn.com	July 2nd, 2025	The theme parks of	Tennessee	439.000
			the USA, between		
			magic, adrenaline,		
			and wonder		
5	Adnkronos.com	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	61.100
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
6	Vipiù.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	377
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table cuisine between	Mississippi, North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
			barbecue and bysters.	South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
7	Mantovauno.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	56.000
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina, South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
8	Itacanotizie.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	7.340
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			<u>cuisine between</u>	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina, Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
9	Montagneepaesi.c	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	1.720
	ontagnoopaosno	, Jary 0 , 2020	a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	1=0
	om		with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
				11,	

				NI(1.	
			<u>cuisine between</u>	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
10	Canaledieci.it	July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	15.900
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			<u>cuisine between</u>	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
11	Corrieretoscano.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	1.990
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
12	Prpchannel.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	1.180
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
13	Meridiananotizie.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	333
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
14	Siciliareport.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	759
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	

15	Cagliarilivemagazi ne.it  Periodicodaily.co	July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2025  July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Tourism, in Alabama a gourmet experience with farm-to-table cuisine between barbecue and oysters.  Tourism, in Alabama a gourmet experience	Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia Alabama, Louisiana,	<ul><li>273</li><li>553</li></ul>
17	m Sbircialanotizia.it	July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	with farm-to-table cuisine between barbecue and oysters.  Alabama a journey of	Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia Alabama	3,690
17	Spircialanotizia.it	July 6 <sup>11</sup> , 2025	taste between barbecue fires and fresh oysters from the Gulf	Alabama	3.690
18	Italianonews.it	July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Tourism, in Alabama a gourmet experience with farm-to-table cuisine between barbecue and oysters.	Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia	850
19	Lospecialegiornal e.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama a gourmet experience with farm-to-table cuisine between barbecue and oysters.	Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia	4.090
20	Nonsolocalcio.ne ws	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama a gourmet experience with farm-to-table cuisine between barbecue and oysters.	Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia	204

	1	T	1	T	
21	Vetrinatv.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in	Alabama,	2.900
			Alabama a gourmet	Louisiana,	
			experience with	Mississippi,	
			farm-to-table	North	
			cuisine between	Carolina,	
			barbecue and	South	
			oysters.	Carolina,	
			<u>oysters.</u>	Tennessee,	
	0 .42.12	T 1 (11 2025	m · ·	Georgia	<b>F</b> (00
22	Quotidianodibari.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in	Alabama,	5.680
			Alabama a gourmet	Louisiana,	
			experience with	Mississippi, North	
			<u>farm-to-table</u>	Carolina,	
			<u>cuisine between</u>	South	
			barbecue and	Carolina,	
			oysters.	Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
23	Ildifforme.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in	Alabama,	10.100
25	iluliioille.it	July 6th, 2023		Louisiana,	10.100
			Alabama a gourmet	Mississippi,	
			experience with	North	
			<u>farm-to-table</u>	Carolina,	
			cuisine between	South	
			barbecue and	Carolina,	
			<u>oysters.</u>	Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
24	Quotidianodifoggi	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	1.480
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
	a.it		with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
25	Informamolise.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	673
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			<u>cuisine between</u>	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
26	Liveret !t	T1 641- 2025	Tourisms in A1-1	Georgia	120
26	Livenet.it	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	120
			<u>a gourmet experience</u> with farm-to-table	Louisiana, Mississippi,	
			<u>cuisine between</u>	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
			varvecue and bysters.	South	
				Carolina,	
	1			Caronna,	

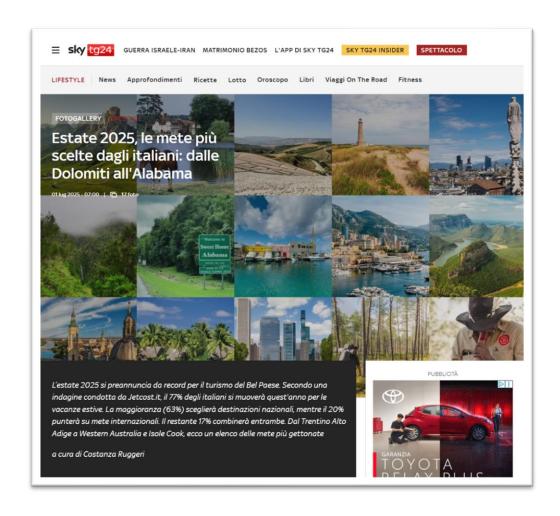
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
				_	
27	11 1 14 1	T 1 (1 2025	m ' ' A1 1	A1 1	220
27	Unmondoditaliani.	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	339
	com		a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
28	Sulpanaro.net	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	12.100
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			<u>cuisine between</u>	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
29	Corrieregrossetan	July 6th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	209
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
	o.it		with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
30	Qds.it	July 7th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	862
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
31	Eventi.news	July 7th, 2025	Tourism, in Alabama	Alabama,	52
			a gourmet experience	Louisiana,	
			with farm-to-table	Mississippi,	
			cuisine between	North	
			barbecue and oysters.	Carolina,	
				South	
				Carolina,	
				Tennessee,	
				Georgia	
32	Advtraining.it	July 7th, 2025	Outdoors,	Arkansas	1.740
	Authannight	, sary , car, 2020	sustainability, and		110
			accessibility:		
			Arkansas relaunches		
			MINALISAS TETAUTICITES		

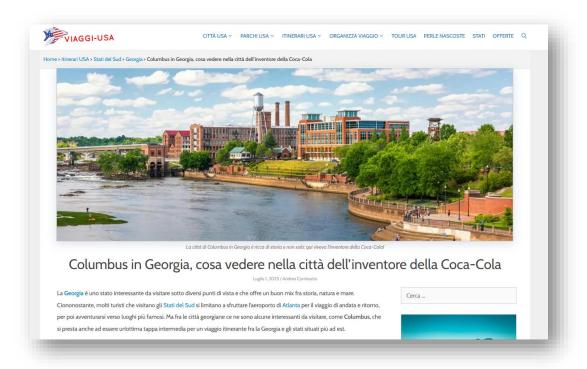
			its tourism proposal.		
33	Travelquotidiano.c	July 9th, 2025	Alabama: new rail link from New Orleans to Mobile, starting August 18.	Alabama	493
34	Travelquotidiano.c	July 10th, 2025	Atlanta's Hartsfield Airport remains the busiest in the world: the Aci World ranking.	Georgia	493
35	viaggi-usa.it	July 11th, 2025	Oak Alley Plantation: the iconic plantation near New Orleans	Louisiana	17.500
36	tgcom24.mediaset	July 14th, 2025	United States: In Louisiana to discover the soul of the South.	Louisiana	60.400
37	alfemminile.com	July 15th, 2025	Traveling with Kids?  10 Amazing (and Safe) Destinations to Discover the World On the Road	Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia	25.900
38	veganiinviaggio.it	July 17th, 2025	10 National Parks That Honor Black History: A Journey Through African American Heritage in the U.S.	Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana	819
39	lonelyplanetitalia.i t	July 21st, 2025	A travel guide to the host cities of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.	Missouri, Atlanta	2.440
40	globalmedianews.i	July 21st, 2025	Summer Guide to Outdoor Activities in Louisiana. From swamps to beaches, and through festivals filled with local flavors, travelers can enjoy a summer packed with outdoor experiences in the Southern United States.	Louisiana	176
41	repubblica.it	July 23rd, 2025	Traveling with Kids, Summer Destinations: From the Allure of the Great North to the California Dream	Tennessee, Louisiana, Missouri, Alabama, Virginia	118.000

42	torinocronaca.it	July 23rd, 2025	<b>Summer 2025:</b>	Alabama	487.000
			<b>Italians' Most Loved</b>		
			<b>Dream Destinations</b> ,		
			From Etna to Alabama		
43	pegasonews.info	July 26th, 2025	Louisiana Under the	Louisiana	830
			Sun: A Summer of		
			Swamps, Beaches,		
			and Festivals to		
			<b>Experience Outdoors</b>		
44	advtraining.it	July 29th, 2025	<b>Tennessee: Tourism</b>	Tennessee	1.740
			<b>Growth and New</b>		
			<b>Boost from Direct</b>		
			Flights from Europe		

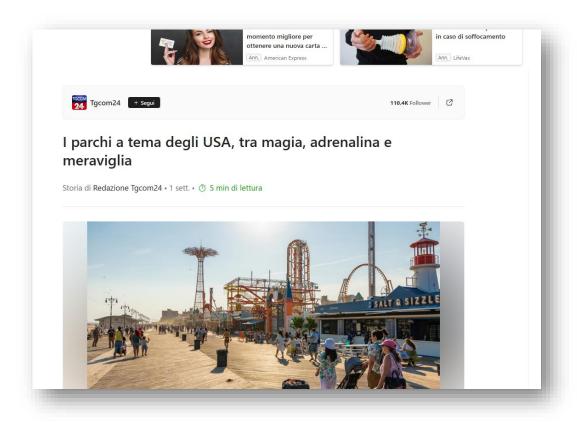
#### **Coverage Book:**

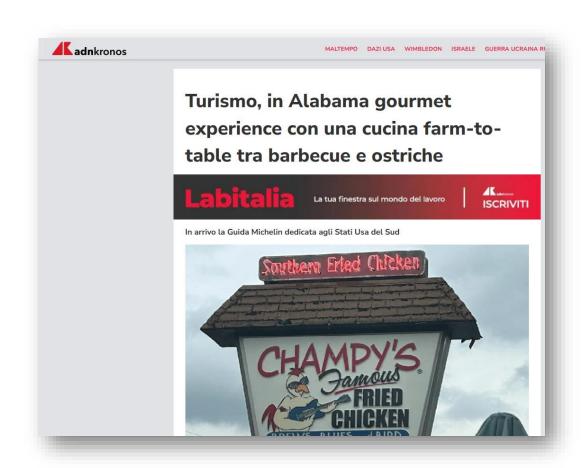
https://travelsouthusa.coveragebook.com/b/98466efc7082f766



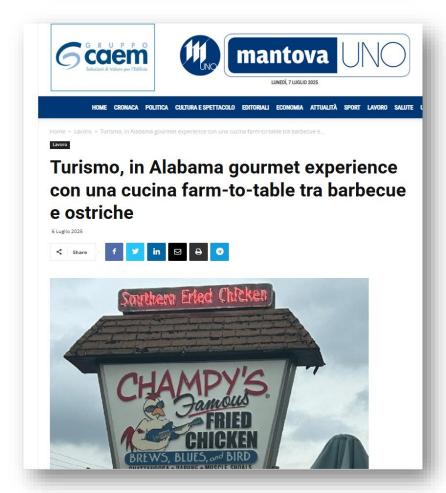






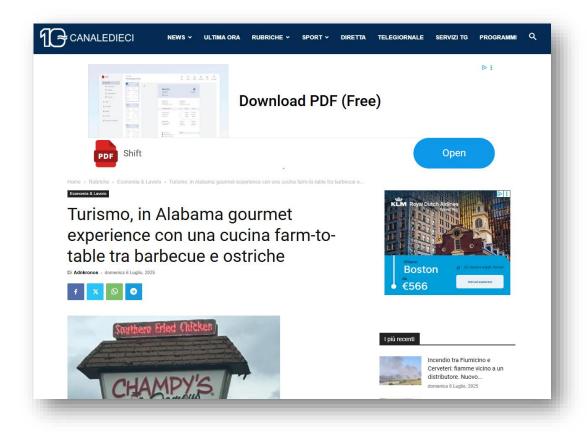






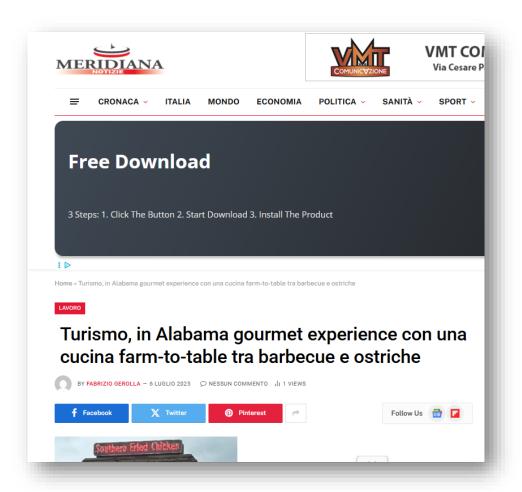




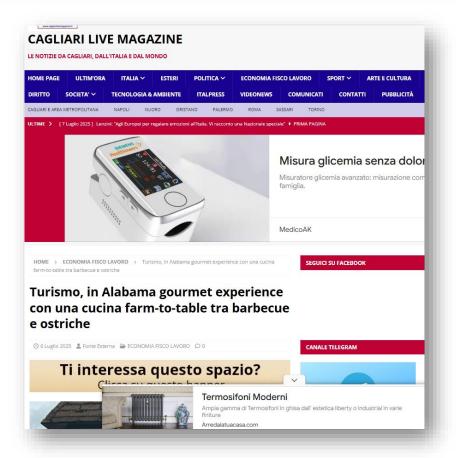






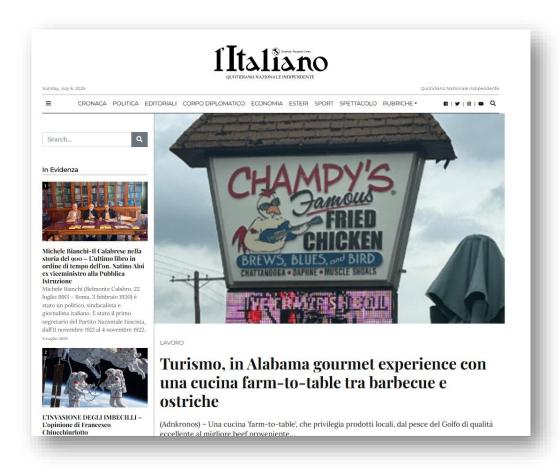








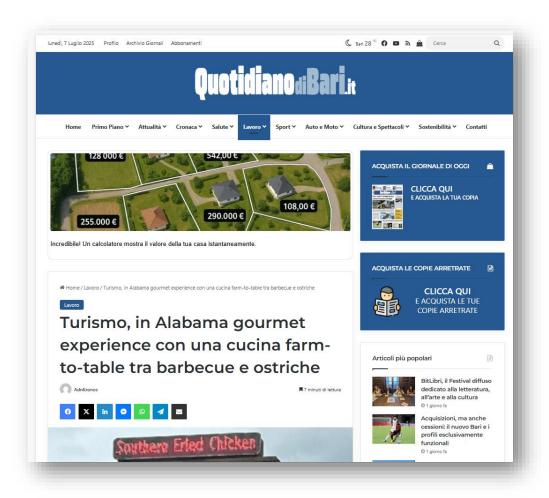










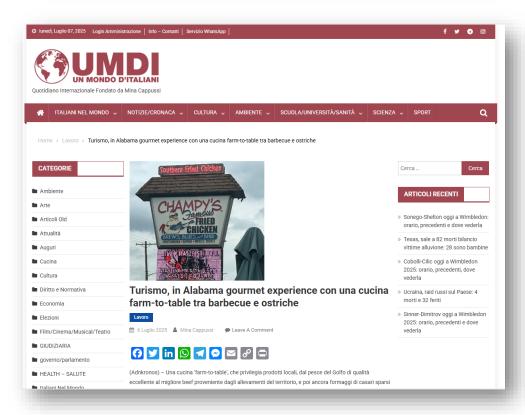




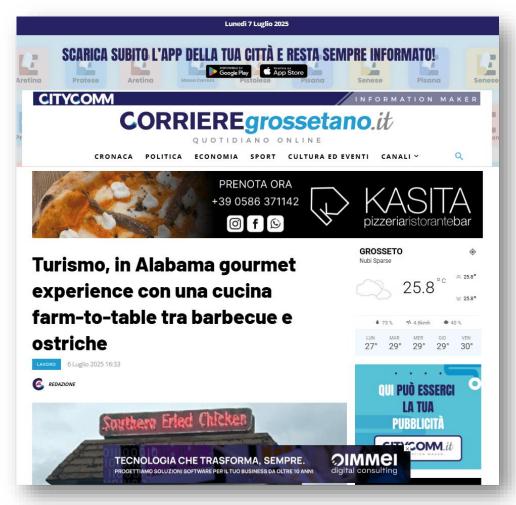












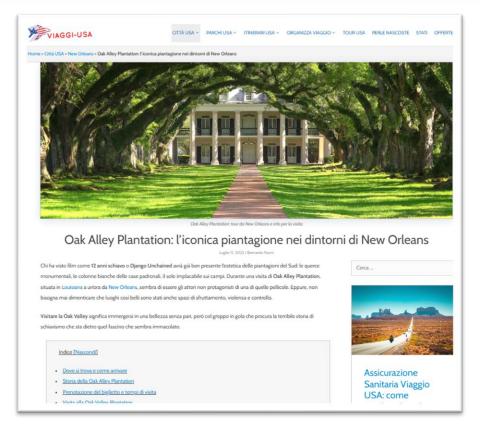


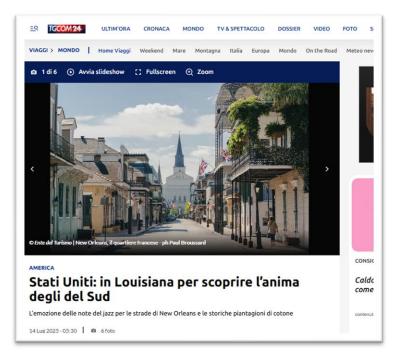


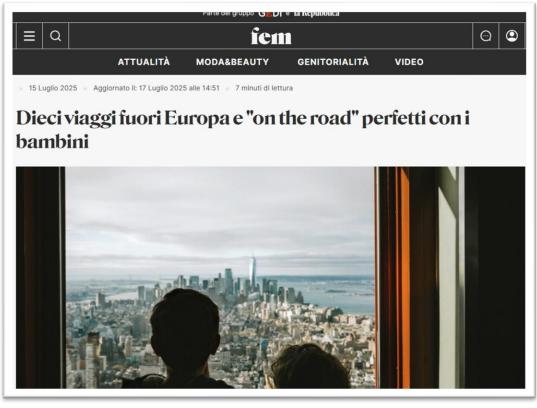


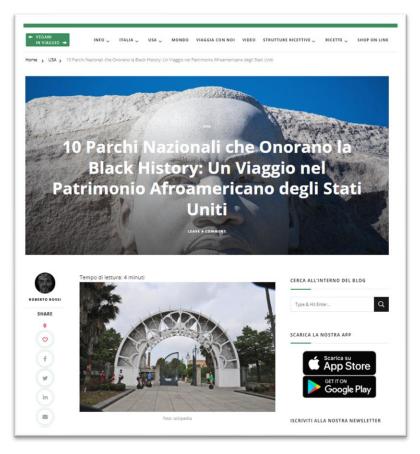


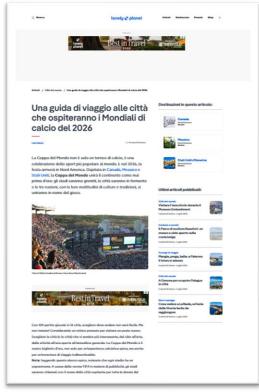








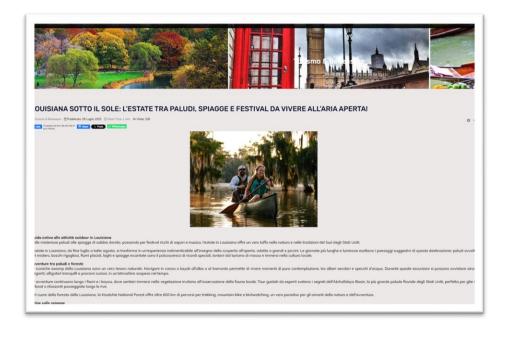


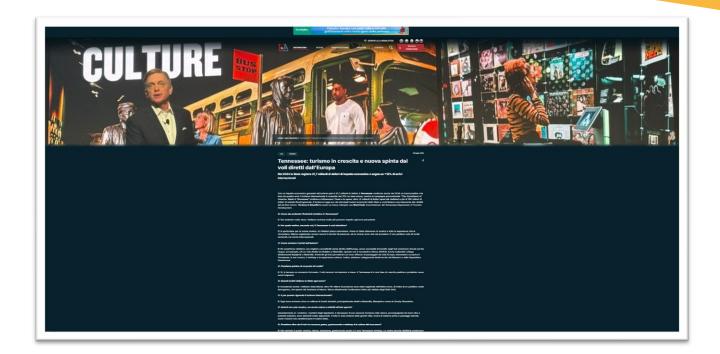












### IV. Newsletters

Trade Newsletter to tour operators and travel agent professionals

NL will be distributed during September.

### V. Market Update

#### CONFCOMMERCIO: 30.5 MILLION ON HOLIDAY, SPENDING EXCEEDS 35 BILLION EUROS

Summer 2025 is starting with positive signs for the tourism sector. According to the "Focus on Italian Holidays" by the Confcommercio Tourism Observatory, in collaboration with SWG, 30.5 million Italians are expected to take at least one holiday during the summer months, representing an increase of 1.5 million compared to last year.

Considering long holidays, short breaks, and short stays, each person is expected to travel twice during the four-month period. August remains the top choice for trips of 7 days or more, accounting for 11.2 million departures. However, it's worth noting that July is projected to see the largest increase in departures for long holidays compared to last year, with 800,000 more departures.

This summer, the sea is once again the top choice, selected by 24% of Italians for at least one of their planned holidays between June and September. Almost tied, within a range of 10% to 12%, we then have, in descending order, art cities, mountain resorts, and small villages. Countryside locations follow.

Excluding short breaks, where Tuscany, Campania, Liguria, Lazio, and Veneto form the top five, at the forefront of summer 2025 preferences are Puglia and Trentino Alto Adige, which Italians favor for both short breaks – 3 to 5 overnight stays – and longer holidays. However, leading the ranking for trips of 7 days or more, after a long time, is Sardinia.

According to Confcommercio, the outlook for foreign destinations is more homogeneous, confirming Europe's attractiveness. Spain, Greece, and France form the leading trio by far for the entire summer, followed, at a distance, by Portugal and Austria.

#### **2025 ACCORDING TO THE TRAVEL EXPERT**

Based on data collected by The Travel Expert—a network of travel consultants—in the first half of 2025, Japan is registering the highest growth rates for the third consecutive year. The general trend for Asian and African destinations, including Egypt, is good, and the United States also seems to be holding steady, despite initial expectations of a decline. Currently, the countries of the Middle East are also experiencing significant growth: the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman, and Jordan.

For The Travel Expert, 2025 also represents a year of consolidation for new assets: study holidays, recently introduced, are already contributing to 5% of the turnover, while the business travel and MICE sector, which until recently were not covered, currently represents between 10% and 15% of the total business volume.

### IN SUMMER 2025, ALTERNATIVE TRAVEL FORMATS, ESPECIALLY OUTDOOR ONES, ARE GROWING.

The novelty of the summer is the growth of alternative travel formats, especially in the outdoor sector. This is revealed by the new edition of the Open-air Tourism Observatory conducted by Human Company and the Piepoli Institute (here the data on summer trends). This year, food and wine holidays are growing, with a jump from 3% to 12% in preferences, as are slow holidays, which rise from 5% to 7%, and sports holidays (from 4% to 5%). Religious trips are also making an appearance, going from 0% to 2%, according to observatory data. The proportion between holidays in Italy and abroad remains stable this year: the country is chosen by 81% of Italians, while only 19% opt for foreign destinations. The data reveals that the holiday budget is also growing this year, generally approaching €1,950 (in 2023 it was just over €1,400 and in 2024 it was €1,700). Furthermore, the average spending for outdoor holidays is confirmed to be higher, rising from just over €2,000 in 2024 to nearly €2,700 for the upcoming summer. Despite the increase in the available budget, economic concerns remain central to travel decisions. At the top of the list are the rising cost of living (bills, rent, groceries) and prices for tourist services (transport, restaurants, accommodation), both indicated by 66% of Italians as determining factors. Consequently, holidays are now planned with an increasingly rational and budget-conscious mindset, where every choice—from the destination to the length of the stay—is conditioned by economic sustainability. This is also confirmed by the 59% who say they have to make more economical choices and the 55% who have reduced spending power compared to the past.

"The Observatory data confirms that the desire of Italians to travel remains strong, despite economic uncertainties. In this scenario, outdoor tourism continues to show constant growth, so much so that this summer it will approach a quarter of the market," says Domenico Montano, general manager of Human Company. "This is a significant expansion that reflects an increasingly widespread interest and the ability to respond concretely to the new needs of travelers. Those who appreciate this type of holiday are willing to invest in authentic and quality experiences, a sign of a new travel culture, more attentive to freedom, nature, and sustainability." According to Livio Gigliuto, president of the Piepoli Institute, "summer 2025 confirms the Italians' desire for a holiday, with numbers that remain high despite the economic and international context, but the real news is the boom in outdoor tourism: a format that is becoming increasingly central in travel choices. Those who choose open-air do so with conviction, investing time and resources to live varied and authentic experiences, in contact with nature and with a freer style. Not only that: the open-air traveler is also willing to spend significantly more than the traditional traveler."

#### HOLIDAYS ABROAD: MORE TRIPS, BUT BUDGETS UNDER CONTROL

More and more Italians are choosing international destinations, but without relinquishing a watchful eye on their budget. According to the latest Ing People Insights Lab research conducted with YouGov, 73% of adult Italians travel beyond national borders at least occasionally, with peaks of 82% among young people. Over half venture beyond the European Union, but expenses remain under strict observation. Travel remains an experience to be approached carefully: while 92% do not give up bringing home souvenirs, local crafts, and typical products, 44% define themselves as meticulous travelers, while only a quarter allow themselves to be

guided by improvisation. In terms of finances, however, the budget always dictates the rules: 50% of travelers control every euro spent, while only one in ten allows themselves everything without too many worries.

Abroad, the credit card is still the preferred instrument (37% average usage, 45% for those over 55), but fees on payments and withdrawals in currencies other than the euro remain a deterrent: 44% refrain from using it to avoid unpleasant surprises from the bank.

Even those who dream of exotic beaches or distant capitals do not embark lightly: almost 9 out of 10 Italians check the currency exchange rate before making purchases or at the start of their holiday, while 82% keep an eye on withdrawal fees. 14% are willing to spend up to 1,500 euros per week outside the EU, but every euro saved on fees is another step towards a worry-free trip.

#### **GROUP TRAVEL IS THE RECIPE FOR SHARED ADVENTURE**

The group travel sector has experienced a strong surge after the pandemic, thanks to people's renewed desire to travel and explore the world. This trend has increasingly consolidated over the years, with a highly positive impact on the sector, and has highlighted some changes associated with the way people travel. We discuss this with SiVola and other industry players, both agencies and tour operators, to outline the development model.

"Today, travel is increasingly conceived as an experience where travelers want to feel like protagonists, rediscover themselves, and explore new places together, emphasizing the need for social connection and the desire to connect with places and people," comments Sergio De Luca, CEO of SiVola. "With data in hand, we are recording a steadily growing demand for group travel, particularly from clients over 60, who are attracted by proposals meticulously organized by our consultants, making them safe and rich in content," comments Ezio Barroero, President of Lab Travel. Among the best-selling destinations for 2025 at Lab Travel, Italy and the United States stand out, followed by Egypt and the Maldives.

The Success of Solo Travel:

Analyzing online user searches, King Holidays has discovered that "solo travel" is among the most frequently typed keywords, "often accompanied by generational references such as 'over 40,' 'over 50,' or 'under 30'," declares Barbara Cipolloni, product manager of the tour operator. The 2024 Travel Trend Report confirms this: 56% of Italians already travel alone, and this is expected to reach 60% by 2026.

"People travel alone both out of necessity and by choice," asserts the manager, "with the desire to experience firsthand and challenge themselves. In this context, the possibility of joining a group helps overcome any discomfort related to solitude and, above all, allows for time optimization, a crucial element in an increasingly fast-paced environment with limited vacation time.

Targeting the youth demographic with specific proposals has been an objective for Bluvacanze, which recently announced an agreement with WeRoad, the travel brand that revolutionized the concept of travel for Millennials and Gen Z.

The Active Tours line of Boscolo Tours offers itineraries that combine the pleasure of discovery with physical activities suitable for everyone, to be carried out in many ways: from easy treks in nature to fantastic e-bike rides, from catamaran trips to excursions in arctic landscapes on a dog sled. This represents another dynamic and contemporary way of interpreting group travel.

#### **QUALITY GROUP SEES +11% IN FIRST HALF; CAUTION FOR COMING MONTHS**

A promising first half, built on the solid foundations of bookings collected in the last quarter of 2024, characterized by steady growth until April. This is what Marco Peci, Commercial Director of Quality Group, states regarding the group's performance. "The prolonged holiday period – which extended into the first days of May – then led to a natural slowdown in booking activity. April and May recorded revenue growth of over 20%."

At the same time, geopolitical tensions in the Middle East have impacted and continue to influence booking dynamics for the second half of 2025, significantly affecting customer choices, with particular reference to Middle Eastern and U.S. destinations.

Despite these challenges, Quality Group has managed to maintain a positive performance even in bookings, thanks to the diversification of its destination portfolio and the consolidated trust of its target audience. Japan confirms itself as one of the leading markets, The United States, despite international tensions, maintained

constant interest among Italian travelers in the first 6 months. In the wider Mediterranean basin, Morocco, Jordan, Turkey, and Egypt recorded better-than-expected results.

In the first half of 2025, the average window between booking and departure stood at around 100 days, confirming Quality Group travelers' habit of planning cultural and nature experiences well in advance.

"The results of the first half demonstrate the solidity of our positioning in the organized tourism market," comments Marco Peci. "The 11% growth in a context characterized by geopolitical uncertainties confirms that our travelers continue to travel despite prices, the advance booking required, and the most recent international tensions."

#### TECHNOLOGY AND AI, A NEW CHAPTER FOR IDEE PER VIAGGIARE

"The scenario in which we operate today is totally different from that of 2019 and will be even more different a year from now. For this reason, we cannot stand still; we need imagination and a good dose of courage to be willing to challenge ourselves." With these words, Danilo Curzi, CEO of Idee per Viaggiare, announced the new chapter in the Roman tour operator's thirty-year history: the digital one. In reality, as Andrea Nike Curzi, the group's new Innovation Manager, explained, this is a work that began five years ago and has now become an interconnected technology ecosystem, created with the help of various partners and the aid of extensive Artificial Intelligence. "We started 30 years ago with a manual, heartfelt airline ticket, which we want to safeguard, but also make faster, more efficient, and with a reduced margin of error," explained Andrea Curzi. Furthermore, within the next year, the first advanced AI agents will arrive. Based on all company data, they will enable the execution of a series of preliminary activities, allowing Idee per Viaggiare's human consultants to focus exclusively on providing that personalized touch to travel proposals that will make them unique. The numbers could be impressive, given that an employee will thus be able to increase from the current 27 daily managed practices to over 100.

#### UNITED STATES: JUNE ARRIVALS STILL DOWN, AT 80% OF 2019 LEVELS

Despite a general stagnation in inbound tourism to the U.S., **arrivals from Italy rose by 10% in May**, with smaller increases from the UK and Spain. However, overall international arrivals were down 3% year-on-year in June and remain at just 80% of 2019 levels. U.S. government data points to ongoing weakness in international tourism due to economic and geopolitical instability. The WTTC projects that such geopolitical shifts will significantly impact North American tourism in 2025, with a sharp decline in U.S. travel and tourism revenue.