

Extreme day trips - where people spend just one day abroad

BBC News- 22 March 2025

For most people, the idea of a holiday **abroad** involves packing a suitcase and being away for at least a weekend, if not a week or more. But for Monica Stott, a single day is **enough** to fly to another country, explore, and return home before bedtime. The 37-year-old from Wrexham enjoys taking part in holidays that have become known online as extreme day trips - and has visited Milan, Bergamo, Lisbon, Amsterdam and even Reykjavik for a single day.

"I think people are always surprised that you really do feel like you've had a holiday," said Monica.

However, flying is responsible for 2.4% of global greenhouse **gas** emissions and 8% of UK emissions. These gases warm the **atmosphere**, contributing to global warming and **climate** change. Monica **acknowledges** this issue.

"I think if it means people are taking way more flights, and airlines are putting on more flights, then I do see that as a **negative** impact. But a lot of people doing extreme day trips are doing it because they **either** can't afford to take a longer holiday or don't have time. I don't think it's fair to say one person's holiday is more important than another person's holiday, because they're going for longer."

Monica also said that extreme day trips were **appealing** due to the high cost of public transport within the UK. (...)

Extreme	ɪk'stri:m
abroad	ə'brɔ:d
enough	ɪ'nʌf
gas	gæs
atmosphere	'ætmosfɪə
Climate	'klaɪmət
acknowledges	ək'nɒlɪdʒɪz
negative	'negətɪv
either	'aɪðə
appealing	ə'pi:lɪŋ

Farmers are turning bees into unexpected helpers to keep elephants off their crops.

BBC – 21 March 2025

Around the world, spreading farmland is **increasingly** overlapping with elephant **habitats**, often resulting in dangerous interactions as elephants **roam** over people's crops. But in Kenya, after **decades** of investigation, researchers have come up with a simple but **ingenious** solution to deter elephants: strings of beehive fences.

Inspired by longtime local knowledge of elephants' dislike of beehives, these buzzing barriers are offering a gentle but effective way of **de-escalating** the sometimes-violent interactions between farmers and elephants.

It all started back in the early 2000s, when Fritz Vollrath, an **ecologist** at the University of Oxford and chairman of charity Save the Elephants, and Iain Douglas-Hamilton, founder of Save The Elephants, heard a folklore story from Kenyan **pastoralists** about how trees in certain areas were not damaged by elephants because they had beehives in them.

Inspired by the tale, Vollrath and Douglas-Hamilton began to investigate **scientifically** whether bees could really scare the giant **pachyderms**. By 2007 their research had led them to conclude that elephants not only stay away from trees containing beehives of wild African honeybees, but "also rumble to each other to tell each other to stay away", King says. "We know that they can get stung, and we know that they never forget." (...)

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Can you lose your job for what you post on social media? Here's what the experts say

CNN — 15 March 2025

While there are some protections in place that allow employees to speak about their employers, the situation is tricky – as **evidenced** by the **recent** firing of a Tesla manager who posted critical **comments** about CEO Elon Musk on **LinkedIn**, according to The New York Times. Some of those **safeguards** may only apply to certain situations, and employers generally have a lot of leeway to **terminate** employees for reasons they deem fit.

In general, an employer could fire an employee for just about anything, including criticizing the company on social media or anywhere else. Still, there are laws in place to protect workers, although it's a wise idea to get **familiar** with the terms of your employment and your company's social media policies.

Whether you'll get in trouble for what you post on social media depends on many factors, including whether you're employed under an "at-will" contract. This type of agreement allows either a worker or their employer to terminate their employment for any reason. But there are exceptions to the principle, such as anti-discrimination laws or a contract that **stipulates** the terms for which a worker's employment may end.

Employment-at-will is the **default** model of work for all states in the US except Montana, where employers can only fire an employee for cause. (...)

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Bumble Bee sued by deep-sea crew who say they were forced into 'fishing boat slavery'

CNN – 21 March 2025

Muhammad Syafi'i remembers screaming in pain as hot cooking oil splashed across his stomach and dripped down his legs, his wet clothing sticking to his **torched** skin as it began to bubble and swell.

Like many poor Indonesian men, he had signed up to work abroad in the fishing industry, where wages are higher than back home. He was hired to work in 2021 as a cook on a ship which supplied fish to Bumble Bee Foods, one of the biggest **tuna** importers in the United States.

But when he got there, he says he was **physically** abused and forced to work in dangerous and **demanding** conditions. And when Syafi'i was seriously burned while working in the kitchen, he claims he was left **writhing** in pain on a bench and **denied** food, water and access to medical care.

Syafi'i's account is detailed in a new landmark lawsuit filed by four Indonesian fishermen against Bumble Bee Foods. It **alleges** the tuna giant "knowingly **benefitted**" from forced labor, **debt** bondage and other forms of abuse in its supply chain.

In a statement provided to CNN, Bumble Bee Seafoods said it became aware of the filing last Wednesday and will not be commenting on pending litigation. The allegations have not been tested in court. (...)

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New free London Underground map helps cyclists to discover the city's green spaces

Positive.News - March 17, 2025

Back in 2021, graphic designer Helen Ilus released the Greenground Map. Inspired by Harry Beck's iconic tube map, it joined the dots between London's parks and **nature** spots, helping people to travel across London amid greenery. Instead of tube stations, it linked the city's urban **oases**: from forests and cemeteries to parks and waterways. And now, a new version has been released – designed **specifically** for **cyclists**.

The London Greenground Map – cycling edition is the first **schematic** city-wide map connecting the National Cycle Network, Cycleways and the extended cycle network to green spaces and waterways. Since it was released five years ago, the map has grown **significantly**, now featuring over a thousand green spaces."

"I hope this map **encourages** cyclists to green their commutes or explore new routes for leisure cycling. Cycling is growing increasingly popular everywhere, but I think many of the cycle paths are not **particularly** green or enjoyable to cycle. **Fortunately**, London does have a network of routes that follow waterways, **designated** greenways or pass a number of parks."

The map is free to download and, at current, the project is supported by voluntary donations. Posters can be bought to help fund it. (...)

nature	¹ neɪtʃə
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