

Britain says alcohol leads to more arrests of its citizens traveling abroad

LONDON: Europe's sun-soaked beaches, bars and boulevards are the destination of choice for millions of vacationers, particularly from rainy Britain. But a worrying number of British visitors are being arrested or hurt in alcohol-fueled melees, the government reported Tuesday.



old British tourist was charged with infanticide after she gave birth in her hotel room to a boy who later was found dead. Officials blamed the culture of binge drinking in Britain, where pub culture historically has put an emphasis on drinking and not dining, as in other European countries.

"We are concerned that drink does play a part in a number of these situations," Meg Munn, junior foreign minister, said in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corp.

Britain's drinking age is 18, but Munn noted a suspected increase in underage drinking. Shops only recently started enforcing the law.

Spain was the most popular destination for British travelers, taking in roughly 17 million Britons last year. It is also home to some 761,000 British citizens. Spanish newspapers regularly run articles about Britons arrested for unruly or drunken behavior, particularly in resort areas such as the Costa del Sol in the south or the Balearic islands that are home to Ibiza and Mallorca.

And when big-name British soccer teams like Liverpool or Manchester United visit, the police are put on alert for booze-fueled brawls.

The British government report said more Britons were hospitalized in Spain than in any other holiday destination, and there were more reported rapes. Still, though Spain had the highest number of hospitalizations, Thailand was proportionally the most dangerous destination for British tourists, with 324 hospitalizations and 269 deaths during the period cited.

Greek destinations such as Malia on Crete, Kavos on Corfu, Lagana on

Zakynthos and Faliraki on Rhodes also reported an increase in alcohol-fueled incidents, with Greek tourism officials appearing on British television networks to appeal for sensible drinking and behavior at Greek resorts.

The British report said there were three million visits by Britons to Greece from 2006 to 2007, resulting in 230 arrests, 602 hospitalizations, 131 deaths and 28 reported rapes. Most arrests were for drunken and disorderly behavior and public indecency.

Proportionally, Britons are most likely to be arrested in the United States, which saw 1,415 arrests out of 6.5 million British visitors.

But Dubai also reported a recent surge in arrests: About 1.1 million Britons visited the United Arab Emirates recently - and an additional 55,000 live there - and there were 230 arrests, many for drug-related offenses. In July, a British man and woman were detained for allegedly having sex on one of Dubai's sprawling beaches.

MADELEINE'S EYE HOLDS VITAL CLUE



Please read this message and pass it on!!!!!!!
As you are aware my niece, Madeleine, is still missing and I am asking everyone I know to send this as a chain letter i.e. you send it to everyone you know and ask them to do the same, as the story is only being covered in Britain, Eire and Portugal. We don't believe that she is in Portugal anymore and need to get her picture and the story across Europe as quickly as possible. Suggestions are welcome.

Phil McCann



Madeleine's Eye Holds Vital Clue



Foodnews World Juice 2008

The annual meeting place for the juice industry
13-16 October 2008, Hotel Fira Palace, Barcelona

Major bottlers from across the globe to feature at Foodnews World Juice 2008. Juice bottlers from the USA, Russia, Italy, Japan, Algeria and UK will examine strategies to drive growth in this sector at the Foodnews World Juice 2008 conference in Barcelona on 13-16 October.

The consumer's desire for healthier alternatives to carbonated soft drinks (CSDs) has created new opportunities for the juice industry in recent years, though this space is being contested by an increasing number of beverage categories with which juice must compete. Speakers at World Juice 2008 assess both the significance of these megatrends and the niche products such as functional juices, one shot drinks and sophisticated "adult" still drinks which have shown the most dramatic market growth.

Focusing on issues at the other end of the supply chain, speakers analyse developments in juice raw material markets, which are as volatile as at any time in the last decade. Although there were signs last week that prices for apple juice concentrate were coming down as European importers effectively ceased buying from China, the price for this product remains high by historic standards. Shortages of tropical juices such as mango and passion fruit have pushed up prices, orange juice supply remains tight and the

market for berry juices such as blueberry, raspberry and cranberry have been unusually turbulent. Industry experts with first hand experience of these markets give their outlook for the future.

The global speaker panel - which includes Angel Sanchez, General Manager, Conserve Italia; Silviu Popovich, Managing Director of Wimm-Bill-Dann Beverages; Masayoshi Kawachi, General Manager of the R&D Department at Kagome Co; Robert Kay-Shuttleworth, Deputy Chairman of Canadean; Marc van Genuchten, European Commercial Director of Cutrale Continental Juice; and Robert Norberg, Deputy Executive Director of the Florida Department of Citrus - mirrors the audience at World Juice, which was made up of over 400 delegates from over 50 countries in 2007. Now in its 13th year, World Juice 2008 is the leading annual conference for the juice industry.

World Juice Innovation Awards

The conference banquet at World Juice 2008 includes the presentation of the 7th Annual World Juice Innovation Awards, with a range of nominees vying to emulate previous winners who include last year's recipients Appletiser and Schoeller Arca, Marks and Spencer, Hero, Elopak, Sainsburys and Serious Food, Rapak and Fresh & Co.