

Harbour Stats

While May has continued the positive trend in sea travel, with total passenger movements rising by 5% compared to May 2025, we have seen some changes in where those passengers are traveling to and from. This increase represents an additional 1,755 travellers, bringing the monthly total to 39,838.

Year-to-date performance remains strong, with passenger numbers up 10% on the same period last year - an increase of 8,797 travellers - bringing the year-to-date figure to 93,500 sea passenger movements by the end of May.

For the second consecutive month, the most significant growth was seen on the Guernsey–Jersey route, which recorded a 141% increase compared with May 2025. This equates to an additional 5,113 travellers and builds on the 181% rise observed in April. Unlike last month, this growth is not offsetting a decline in air travel from Jersey. Instead, it complements an increase of 904 air passengers, resulting in a combined net rise of more than 6,000 travellers between Jersey and Guernsey during May.

In contrast, the UK and St Malo routes experienced slight declines compared to May 2025. This is due in part to the particularly strong performance in May 2025, thanks to expected interest in the new route and Liberation 80, which generated higher-than-usual inbound travel to the island.

Brittany Ferries budgeted less in May 2026 as lower volumes were expected, instead building growth into other months as part of their annual forecast. Year 1 was about enticing day trippers to the Islands. The strategic focus then shifted for Year 2 to upselling longer stays, bringing higher value to the tourism sector. The 2025 Annual Report infographic, viewable [here](#), helps demonstrate the difference in spend between day trippers and staying visitors.

Guernsey has seen a 10% increase over the past two years in the Channel Island market share for sea travel across all routes – 41% in May 2026 compared to 31% in May 2024.

Reporting Month and Year

May-26

Sea Passenger Movements (Arrivals, Departures and Transfers)	Monthly		Change			Year to date		Change	
	May-25	May-26	%	Number		Year to May-25	Year to May-26	%	Number
Poole	12389	11552	-7%	-837		29922	31087	4%	1165
Other UK	3477	3168	-9%	-309		11513	12355	7%	842
UK Total	15866	14720	-7%	-1146		41435	43442	5%	2007
Herm*	6603	7293	10%	690		12316	12678	3%	362
Sark*	6409	6349	-1%	-60		12515	12214	-2%	-301
Alderney*	171	314	84%	143		464	456	-2%	-8
Jersey	3623	8736	141%	5113		9992	15665	57%	5673
CI Total	16806	22692	35%	5886		35287	41013	16%	5726
St Malo	16185	14162	-12%	-2023		30867	31356	2%	489
Cherbourg	0	0		0		0	0		0
Dielette	2409	2220	-8%	-189		2409	3037	26%	628
International Total	18594	16382	-12%	-2212		33276	34393	3%	1117
Cruise Ships**	2643	2519	-5%	-124		4396	2519	-43%	-1877
Cruise Total	2643	2519	-5%	-124		4396	2519	-43%	-1877
Total Sea Passenger Movements	53909	56313	4%	2404		114394	121367	6%	6973
* Departure data collected only									
** Arrivals data collected only									
Ferry Passenger Movements (excluding Inter-Bailiwick travel and Cruise)	38083	39838	5%	1755		84703	93500	10%	8797