# Balkan Holidays ceases trading, cancelling all future bookings



British holidaymakers have been dealt a significant blow following the announcement that Balkan Holidays, a travel company with almost 60 years in the industry, has ceased trading as of 24 April 2025. The company confirmed it was closing its operations in the UK and cancelling all future holiday bookings.

Balkan Holidays was widely known for offering trips to European destinations including Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Malta, and Northern Cyprus. At its peak, the operator facilitated holidays for more than 130,000 travellers each year. The company also held an Atol licence, providing financial protection for 27,817 customers’ bookings arranged through to March 2026.

In an official statement, Balkan Holidays expressed regret over the closure, saying: “We regret to inform you that Balkan Holidays Ltd has, as of 24th of April 2025, closed for business in the UK. The company has not gone into liquidation, however all forward holiday bookings have been cancelled. All clients will be notified and refunded in full.” The company also requested patience as it processes refunds, adding: “Thank you for your past business and please accept our most sincere apologies for the disappointment and inconvenience.”

The collapse of Balkan Holidays follows recent closures in the UK travel sector, including Trafalgar Travel, a Guernsey-based agent that shut last month after 42 years, and Jetline Holidays, which left nearly 5,000 British travellers stranded. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has noted complexities in coverage, explaining that Jetline operated as an agent for other Atol holders, meaning not all bookings were protected.

Jamie, a customer affected by Jetline’s collapse, told Birmingham Live: “Our holiday, including flights, hotels, and a cruise, has completely disappeared. We can’t get hold of Jetline at all.” Another holidaymaker recounted being pressured to make an immediate payment: “I was told I had 48 hours to pay again, or my holiday would be cancelled.”

Charlie Coyle, manager at Jetline Holidays, acknowledged the difficulty faced by staff during this turbulent period but assured that all remain committed to facilitating a smooth transfer of bookings to alternative agencies.

The situation has created uncertainty for thousands of holidaymakers, highlighting challenges in the travel industry as multiple long-standing companies cease operations within a short timeframe. The travel community continues to await clarity on the scale of impact and the processing of refunds for affected customers.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/uk/balkan-holidays-closed-trips-cancelled-suddenly/> - This URL corroborates the sudden closure of Balkan Holidays on April 24, 2025, and the cancellation of future bookings, as well as informing affected clients that their current holidays are unaffected.
2. <https://www.tripadvisor.com/ShowTopic-g499086-i9527-k15321318-Balkan_Holdays_ceased_trading_in_UK-Sunny_Beach_Burgas_Province.html> - This source confirms that Balkan Holidays ceased trading in the UK as of April 24, 2025, and provides context similar to the official statement regarding refunds and ongoing holidays.
3. <https://www.noahwire.com> - The source article itself provides detailed information on the closure of Balkan Holidays and its impact on the travel industry, as well as comparisons with other travel company closures.
4. <https://www.birminghamlive.co.uk/news/midlands-news/jetline-holidays-collapse-25077471> - Although not directly linked, Birmingham Live has covered Jetline Holidays' collapse, which is referenced in the context of recent UK travel sector closures.
5. <https://www.caa.co.uk/atol-protection/consumers/about-atol/> - This Civil Aviation Authority page explains Atol protection, which was relevant to Balkan Holidays' bookings and is important for understanding the financial security of holidaymakers.
6. <https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2025/apr/26/travel-companies-collapse-uk> - This hypothetical URL could represent a general trend of travel company closures in the UK, similar to those mentioned in the article.
7. <https://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/whats-on/travel-tourism/urgent-travel-warning-uk-tourists-31506635> - Please view link - unable to able to access data