



Back row l-r: Tom Spencer, Dr Kate Harland, David McNiven, Claire Steiner, Brad Armitage, Adela Rokytova, Paul Prigmore Front row l-r: Tom Lavender, Dominika Jasiak, Amy Hope, Ian Thomas

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## Exploring graduate careers in travel and tourism

**Business students from Northumbria University, Newcastle, have heard from industry experts on career opportunities in travel and tourism.**

The Institute of Travel and Tourism (ITT) Future You Roadshow, hosted by Northumbria University, was held recently in Newcastle with guest speakers and an audience of tourism students from Northumbria University, and Newcastle College. A panel discussion also debated the power of networking,

attracting new talent and career progression.

Industry leaders from some of the region's most successful and high-profile travel and tourism organisations, including NewcastleGateshead Initiative, Newcastle International Airport, Saddle Skedaddle and Nirvana Europe, sharing their insight and knowledge of the industry. The roadshow also benefited from an international perspective with a keynote talk by Stuart Birkwood, General Manager of Radisson RED Dubai. Speaking about the event, Stuart said: "I am very keen to stay connected to higher education and help to inspire current and prospective students and hoteliers both in the UK and in the Middle East. It's been great to be part of the event and to have the opportunity to share my tips and experience of working in this fantastic industry as an expat hotel professional."

The ITT Future You Roadshows are hosted annually by ITT Centres of Excellence across the UK, including Northumbria University. They are an opportunity for students to meet and hear from some of the biggest names in the travel and tourism industry.

Adela Rokytova, an ITT Student Ambassador and Business with Tourism Management student at Northumbria University, said of the event: "I appreciated this inspiring ITT Future You Event, especially as I am in my final year and constantly doubting myself and my future career. It was full of excellent speakers representing various successful businesses. I especially enjoyed listening to their real-life ups and downs which led to the career they have secured and enjoy. I am very grateful for this opportunity, and I hope to one day motivate others the way these panellists inspired me."

Dr Kate Harland, Lecturer at Northumbria's Newcastle Business School and ITT Education and Training Committee member, said: "These roadshows showcase what it is like to build successful careers in our industry by connecting students with tourism and hospitality experts in a powerful and impactful way. They offer an inclusive environment for students to network with inspirational speakers who are passionate about the sector, and offering guidance to the next generation of travel and tourism professionals. I am extremely grateful to all our guests, it has been another hugely successful event."

For more information on studying at Newcastle Business School please visit: [www.northumbria.ac.uk/nbs](http://www.northumbria.ac.uk/nbs)

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