



TRAINING DAY (SAVER)

There are some things they don't want you to know – such as how to travel from Brighton to London by train for £5 return. Roger Wheeler investigates...

By now most people should have heard about **DaySave tickets** – these are very good deals offered by both **Southern** and **First Capital** – but maybe not. These tickets are not promoted by either train company but for **£10** on **Southern** and **£11** on **First Capital** (the new name for **Thameslink**) you can travel anywhere on their respective networks for a whole day, breaking your journey wherever and whenever, and for a group of four it's only **£20**. So four of you could pop up to London (off-peak weekdays, anytime at weekends) for a day for just **£5** each. **Individual DaySaves** cost **£10** – still great value compared with the standard 'cheap' day return, which they would prefer to sell you.

They will not sell these tickets at the station's ticket counters but they can be bought at **Brighton Visitor Information Centre** next to the Royal Pavilion shop or at either of the **One Stop Travel** shops, at the bottom of St James's St and in Brighton Station.



But you can get an even better deal: **Southern Value Advance**, about the least publicised ticket anywhere, at just **£3** each way on **Southern trains**. The website gives no information about how to buy these tickets, so you have to call the 0845 premium-rate information number – or do you? No. Just log onto the excellent **www.saynoto0870** site, type in the 0845 number and, surprise, **0800 138 1016** is Southern's free customer service number. They would obviously prefer you called the higher-rate number.

There, a slightly embarrassed young man tells you that they don't publicise these tickets but is happy to tell you how to buy them. It appears that they can only be bought from the station ticket counter. You can only travel from Brighton to Victoria, you have to buy up to one day in advance of travel and you have to specify exactly which train you want to travel on. But if you can plan, then no problem.

They do like to confuse everyone, but with a bit of effort you can go places for quite a reasonable cost. Southern Railways is owned by the **Go-Ahead Group**, which also owns the 'wonderful' **Brighton & Hove Bus Company**. We can only hope that one day soon we might be able to travel around Brighton & Hove by bus at a reasonable cost, but that is just a dream.

You can also get from **Brighton** to **Birmingham** for about **£18** return – but we'll save that for another day.

ANTI-GAY JAMAICA CONDEMNED

In the light of growing anti-gay crimes and threats in Jamaica, the **International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association (IGLTA)** has strongly condemned Jamaica's climate of fear, hatred and hostility towards all LGBT people. IGLTA has called on Jamaica's community leaders to help put an end to the oppression, and has declared solidarity with Jamaica's LGBT group, **J-Flag**. IGLTA states: "It is not our intention to provoke reprisals or political condemnation in Jamaica by supporting a



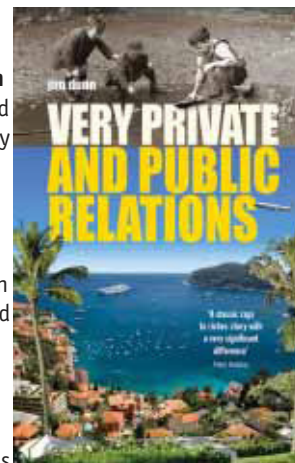
global tourism boycott. We understand this step could be counterproductive to making true progress in that Caribbean nation, and instead we want to focus on education, publicity and market competition to highlight and help curb these terrible abuses."

IGLTA is the world's leading authority, resource and representative of gay and lesbian travel. Members come from 55 countries and consist of accommodation providers, airlines, tour operators, travel agents, tourism offices and other key players in the tourism industry. IGLTA works to help the tourism industry attract gay and lesbian consumers and learn more about the gay and lesbian market. **www.igлта.org**.

VERY PRIVATE & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Scurrilous, witty and painfully honest, **Jim Dunn** describes growing up underprivileged and gay in 1950s Glasgow. Long before gay meant anything but jolly, he learned very quickly what it was like to live in a world of isolation, secret lives and a gnawing fear of discovery. He takes us on a rollicking ride from poor boy growing up in a small town on the west coast of Scotland to the five-star lifestyle of a pioneer in travel PR. Along the way he tells us about his life as a mummy's boy and his forbidden gay encounters on the 'love train' home from Glasgow. He later emerges from this underworld with his first real love – with whom he has built a remarkably successful travel PR business and shared an enduring partnership for 40 years. Jim readily admits that he couldn't type, write or understand one end of PR from the other when he started, but that didn't stop him from creating the UK's leading travel and leisure PR consultancy over the next 30 years.

'The amiable Jim Dunn recounts his Private and Public climb from Scottish slum to Suffolk villa with Bentley – an ascent from Gourock up into those international five Stars. As you'd expect, he reads well and is extremely honest – perhaps too honest...' Alan Whicker, CBE
Very Private & Public Relations is published by **Thorogood Publishing Ltd**, at **£12.99**.



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