

Deal alert.



In brief:

Wilson Partners advised specialist investor Risk Capital Partners on their investment in Simpson Travel.

Sector:

Travel.

Services provided:

Financial and tax due diligence.

“We are delighted to have invested in Simpson Travel and support them on the next stage of their exciting journey. Dan and the team provided excellent support as part of our buy-side due diligence. The financial and tax due diligence output was focused, insightful, and tailored to the nuances of the travel sector. It is always a pleasure to work with their knowledgeable and professional team.”

Jon Jenkins, Partner, Risk Capital Partners

Luxury holidays

About the parties:

Risk Capital's focus is working with entrepreneurs with ambition and helping them to achieve transformational growth through acquisitions, roll-out programmes and bold organic growth strategies.

Risk Capital look to invest £2 to £15 million of equity in established, profitable companies based in the UK. Their flexible and open-minded approach to investing means that they consider most industry sectors, though they have been most successful in the consumer, leisure and retail sub sectors.

Risk Capital Partners' involvement in travel has included Neilson Active Holidays and Cruise.co.uk, which was sold to Bridgepoint Development Capital for £52 million in 2016.

Luke Johnson, co-founder of Risk Capital Partners and former chairman of Pizza Express and Channel 4, was chairman of Neilson Active Holidays from 2014-18 before it was sold. He was also the largest shareholder and a non-executive director at Elegant Hotels, which was sold to Marriott for \$200 million in 2019.

Johnson commented: "We believe Simpson Travel is a terrific brand with a tremendously loyal customer base. We look forward to supporting Ed Pyke (MD) and the management team in their ambitious plans to develop the business."

"We were delighted to support the Risk Capital team on this transaction. Simpson Travel has a strong brand in the sector and can only benefit from the expertise that Luke and Jon will bring to the table."

Dan James, Director - Head of Corporate Finance, Wilson Partners Ltd

