

**October  
2018**



# **MONTHLY TOURIST ARRIVALS REPORT**

**SRI LANKA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

[www.sltda.lk](http://www.sltda.lk)

Photo courtesy of SLTDA, SLRC Lovingly Sri Lanka programme



## SUMMARY

The total number of international tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during October 2018 was 153,123. In comparison to October last year, there is a growth of 0.5% when the arrivals were 152,429.

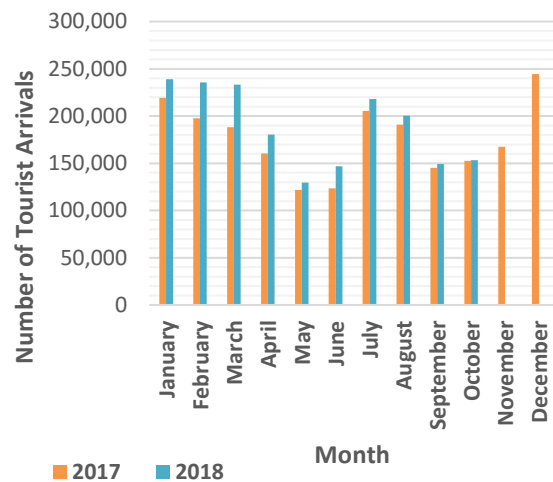
This month, the largest source market for tourists is India, followed by China and United Kingdom.

Almost 98% of tourists travelled by air to Sri Lanka.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018, 1,885,045 tourists had visited Sri Lanka for this year. It is a 10.6% growth over last year when 1,704,360 tourists had visited the country during the same period.

Month	2017	2018*	% Change 2017/2018
January	219,360	238,924	8.9
February	197,517	235,618	19.3
March	188,076	233,382	24.1
April	160,249	180,429	12.6
May	121,891	129,466	6.2
June	123,351	146,828	19.0
July	205,482	217,829	6.0
August	190,928	200,359	4.9
September	145,077	149,087	2.8
October	152,429	153,123	0.5
November	167,511		
December	244,536		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,116,407</b>		
<b>Up to October</b>	<b>1,704,360</b>	<b>1,885,045</b>	<b>10.6</b>

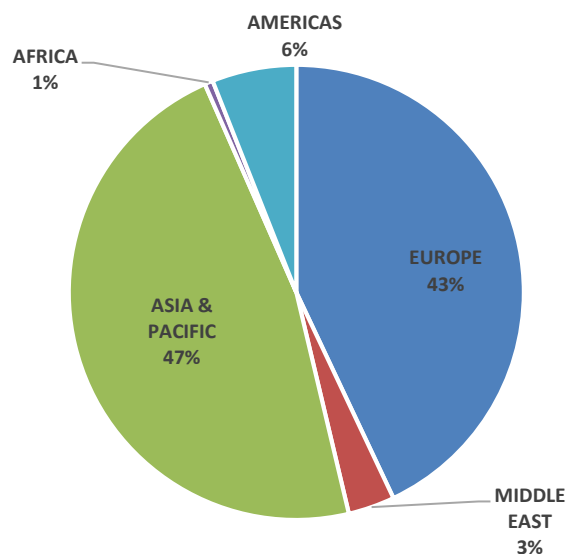
\*Rebased



## TOURIST ARRIVALS BY REGION

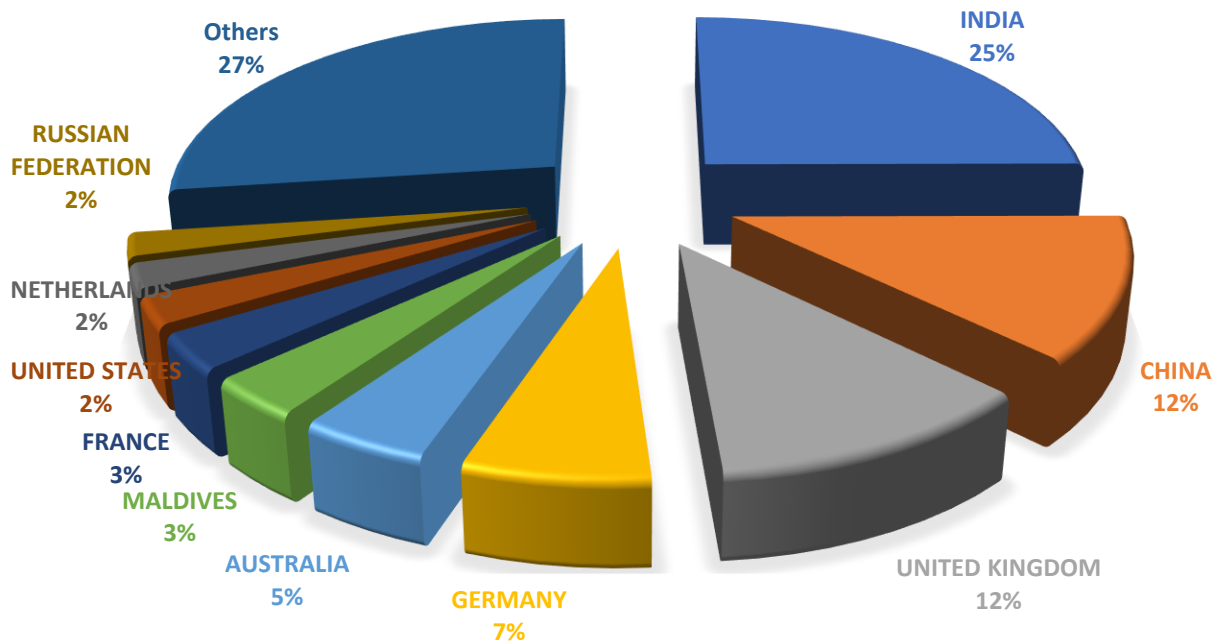
Asia and Pacific continued to be the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 47% of the total traffic received in October 2018.

Europe accounted for 43% of the total traffic, America 6%, Middle East 3% and Africa 1%.



## TOP TEN SOURCE MARKETS

India, China, United Kingdom, Germany and Australia were Sri Lanka's top five international tourist generating markets in the month of October this year. India was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 25% of the total traffic received in October 2018. China and United Kingdom accounted for 12% of the total traffic, while Germany and Australia accounted for 7% and 5% respectively.



Rank	Country of Residence	Tourist Arrivals October 2018			Tourist Arrivals October 2017	% Change October 2017/2018
		By Air	By Sea	Total		
1	INDIA	37,609	560	38,169	36,996	3.2
2	CHINA	18,836	46	18,882	21,846	(13.6)
3	UNITED KINGDOM	16,882	791	17,673	12,518	41.2
4	GERMANY	9,897	23	9,920	10,180	(2.6)
5	AUSTRALIA	6,847	65	6,912	5,198	33.0
6	MALDIVES	5,222	1	5,223	5,121	2.0
7	FRANCE	4,777	7	4,784	5,132	(6.8)
8	UNITED STATES	3,597	117	3,714	3,531	5.2
9	NETHERLANDS	3,217	5	3,222	3,044	5.8
10	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	3,043	53	3,096	3,980	(22.2)

## INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

	OCTOBER 2018			Total Tourist Arrivals October 2017	% Change October (2017/2018)	Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to October 2018
	Tourist Arrivals <sup>1</sup>					
	By Air	By Sea	Total			
<b><u>AMERICAS</u></b>	<b>6,507</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>6,654</b>	<b>6,474</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>113,034</b>
<b>North America</b>	<b>6,056</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>6,199</b>	<b>6,018</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>106,441</b>
Canada	2,385	21	2,406	2,408	(0.1)	44,505
Mexico	74	5	79	79	0.0	1,275
United States	3,597	117	3,714	3,531	5.2	60,661
<b>Caribbean &amp; Central America</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>(8.7)</b>	<b>742</b>
Jamaica	4	0	4	10	(60.0)	91
Costa Rica	6	0	6	6	0.0	109
Others	53	0	53	53	0.0	542
<b>South America</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>5,851</b>
Argentina	87	0	87	84	3.6	1,537
Brazil	124	1	125	134	(6.7)	2,207
Chile	59	0	59	57	3.5	794
Colombia	52	0	52	50	4.0	536
Others	66	3	69	62	11.3	777
<b><u>AFRICA</u></b>	<b>829</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>(2.1)</b>	<b>11,178</b>
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>(29.1)</b>	<b>2,356</b>
Morocco	73	0	73	60	21.7	808
Sudan	24	0	24	101	(76.2)	698
Others	49	0	49	45	8.9	850
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>8,822</b>
Kenya	111	0	111	39	184.6	621
Mauritius	28	0	28	46	(39.1)	525
Nigeria	36	0	36	31	16.1	348
South Africa	350	4	354	310	14.2	5,284
Others	158	2	160	221	(27.6)	2,044

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	By Air	By Sea	Total			
<b>ASIA &amp; PACIFIC</b>	<b>82,206</b>	<b>1,193</b>	<b>83,399</b>	<b>88,056</b>	<b>(5.3)</b>	<b>888,270</b>
<b>North East Asia</b>	<b>23,183</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>23,257</b>	<b>26,834</b>	<b>(13.3)</b>	<b>291,111</b>
China	18,836	46	18,882	21,846	(13.6)	228,794
Japan	2,829	2	2,831	3,111	(9.0)	42,135
South Korea	1,042	24	1,066	1,342	(20.6)	12,993
Taiwan	463	2	465	487	(4.5)	7,021
Others	13	0	13	48	(72.9)	168
<b>South East Asia</b>	<b>5,257</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>5,627</b>	<b>8,047</b>	<b>(30.1)</b>	<b>68,563</b>
Cambodia	28	0	28	76	(63.2)	688
Indonesia	422	50	472	2,073	(77.2)	4,437
Malaysia	1,426	11	1,437	1,764	(18.5)	18,400
Myanmar	120	18	138	240	(42.5)	2,438
Philippines	1,207	253	1,460	1,561	(6.5)	16,316
Singapore	1,214	5	1,219	1,205	1.2	15,668
Thailand	573	8	581	841	(30.9)	7,554
Vietnam	247	25	272	260	4.6	2,803
Others	20	0	20	27	(25.9)	259
<b>Oceania</b>	<b>7,812</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>7,881</b>	<b>5,991</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>96,686</b>
Australia	6,847	65	6,912	5,198	33.0	85,668
New Zealand	943	4	947	765	23.8	10,758
Others	22	0	22	28	(17.9)	260
<b>South Asia</b>	<b>45,954</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>46,634</b>	<b>47,184</b>	<b>(1.2)</b>	<b>431,910</b>
Afghanistan	41	0	41	100	(59.0)	737
Bangladesh	889	5	894	1,096	(18.4)	8,732
Bhutan	29	0	29	69	(58.0)	496
India	37,609	560	38,169	36,996	3.2	339,953
Iran	226	29	255	428	(40.4)	5,276
Maldives	5,222	1	5,223	5,121	2.0	56,636
Nepal	573	69	642	467	37.5	4,431
Pakistan	1,365	16	1,381	2,907	(52.5)	15,649

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	Tourist Arrivals <sup>1</sup>			Total Tourist Arrivals October 2017	% Change October (2017 /2018)	Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to October 2018
	By Air	By Sea	Total			
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>58,117</b>	<b>1,466</b>	<b>59,583</b>	<b>53,918</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>810,177</b>
<b>Northern Europe</b>	<b>20,927</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>21,746</b>	<b>15,985</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>270,653</b>
Denmark	989	5	994	723	37.5	16,272
Finland	362	6	368	254	44.9	6,340
Norway	812	9	821	713	15.1	14,275
Sweden	1,233	1	1,234	1,263	(2.3)	19,417
United Kingdom	16,882	791	17,673	12,518	41.2	205,377
Others	649	7	656	514	27.6	8,972
<b>Western Europe</b>	<b>21,709</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>21,789</b>	<b>22,299</b>	<b>(2.3)</b>	<b>318,730</b>
Austria	1,030	6	1,036	1,069	(3.1)	15,614
Belgium	806	10	816	747	9.2	14,755
France	4,777	7	4,784	5,132	(6.8)	90,149
Germany	9,897	23	9,920	10,180	(2.6)	121,510
Netherlands	3,217	5	3,222	3,044	5.8	49,517
Switzerland	1,945	29	1,974	2,099	(6.0)	26,337
Others	37	0	37	28	32.1	848
<b>Central / Eastern Europe</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>9,795</b>	<b>9,892</b>	<b>(1.0)</b>	<b>131,087</b>
Belarus	256	0	256	293	(12.6)	3,543
Czech Republic	688	0	688	693	(0.7)	13,474
Estonia	191	6	197	190	3.7	1,905
Hungary	337	0	337	256	31.6	3,583
Kazakhstan	86	0	86	163	(47.2)	2,156
Lithuania	228	3	231	195	18.5	2,676
Poland	1,053	56	1,109	906	22.4	15,187
Romania	327	22	349	202	72.8	4,406
Russian Federation	3,043	53	3,096	3,980	(22.2)	45,149
Slovakia	267	0	267	294	(9.2)	4,217
Ukraine	2,517	170	2,687	2,162	24.3	28,232
Others	470	22	492	558	(11.8)	6,559

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<b>Southern / Mediterranean Europe</b>	<b>6,018</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>5,742</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>89,707</b>
Greece	349	175	524	331	58.3	6,168
Italy	1,532	8	1,540	1,230	25.2	31,227
Portugal	598	3	601	385	56.1	4,497
Spain	2,176	2	2,178	1,989	9.5	24,353
Turkey	232	2	234	200	17.0	3,395
Israel	466	0	466	818	(43.0)	12,005
Others	665	45	710	789	(10.0)	8,062
<b><u>MIDDLE EAST</u></b>	<b>2,623</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2,652</b>	<b>3,128</b>	<b>(15.2)</b>	<b>62,386</b>
Bahrain	89	1	90	112	(19.6)	2,447
Egypt	209	16	225	297	(24.2)	2,997
Iraq	38	0	38	66	(42.4)	857
Jordan	179	2	181	177	2.3	2,470
Kuwait	156	1	157	232	(32.3)	3,051
Lebanon	179	0	179	225	(20.4)	4,449
Oman	209	0	209	302	(30.8)	6,262
Qatar	59	0	59	64	(7.8)	1,514
Saudi Arabia	1,028	2	1,030	1,078	(4.5)	31,198
United Arab Emirates	296	0	296	305	(3.0)	4,831
Others	181	7	188	270	(30.4)	2,310
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150,282</b>	<b>2,841</b>	<b>153,123</b>	<b>152,429</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1,885,045</b>

<sup>1</sup> Rebased

\* All visitor arrival statistics in this report are from the Department of Immigration & Emigration.