

**MAY
2018**



MONTHLY TOURIST ARRIVALS REPORT

SRI LANKA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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Photo courtesy of SLTDA, SLRC Lovingly Sri Lanka programme



SUMMARY

The total number of international tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during May 2018 was 129,466. In comparison to May last year, there is a growth of 6.2% when the arrivals were 121,891.

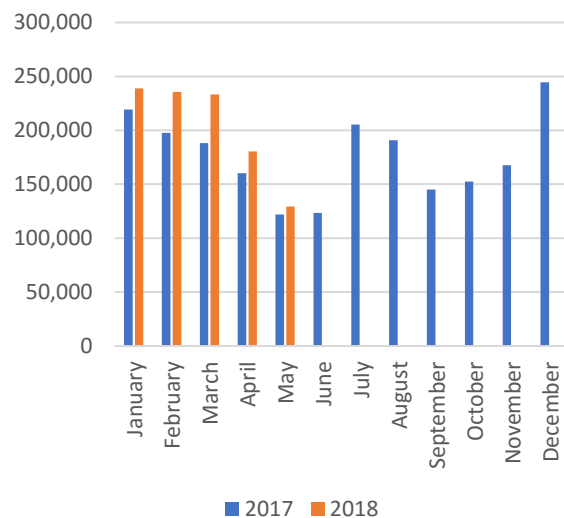
This month, the largest source market for tourists is India, followed by China and United Kingdom.

Almost 96.7% of tourists travelled by air to Sri Lanka.

As at 31st May 2018, 1,017,819 tourists had visited Sri Lanka for this year. It is a 14.7% growth over last year when 887,093 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 | | |
| July | 205,482 | | |
| August | 190,928 | | |
| September | 145,077 | | |
| October | 152,429 | | |
| November | 167,511 | | |
| December | 244,536 | | |
| TOTAL | 2,116,407 | | |
| Up to May | 887,093 | 1,017,819 | 14.7 |

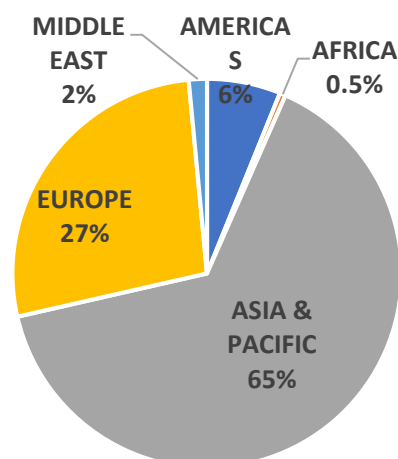
*Rebased



TOURIST ARRIVALS BY REGION

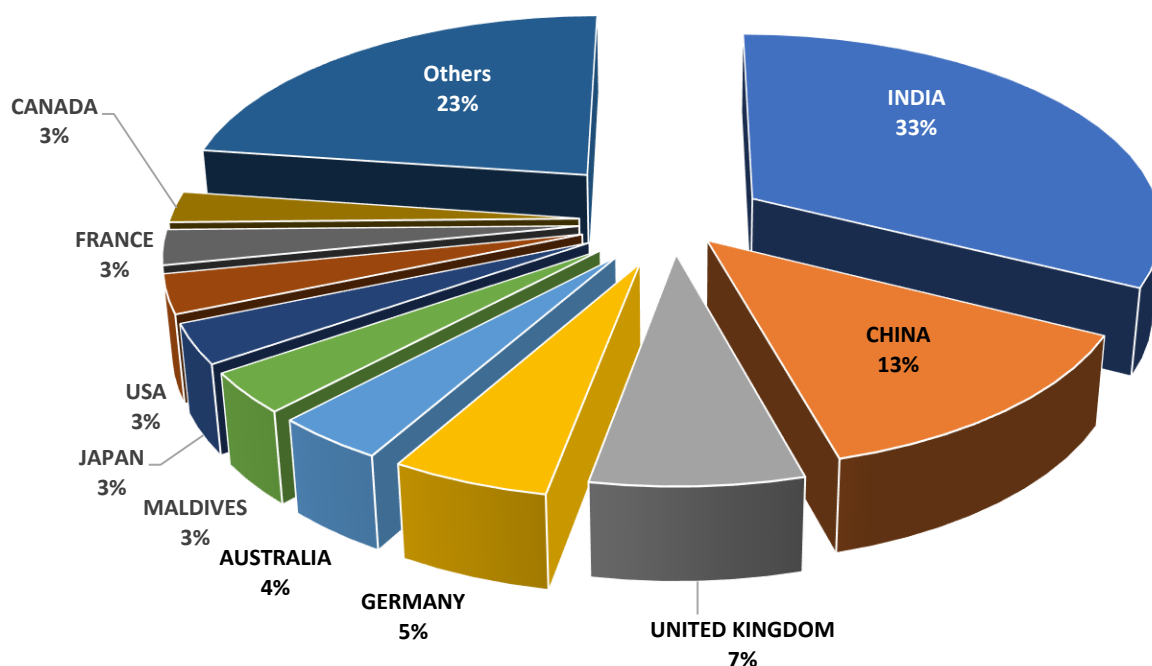
Asia and Pacific continued to be the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 65% of the total traffic received in May 2018.

Europe accounted for 27% of the total traffic, America 6%, Middle East 2% and Africa 0.5%.



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 May this year. India was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 33% of the total traffic received in May 2018. China accounted for 13% of the total traffic, while United Kingdom, Germany and Australia accounted for 7%, 5% and 4% respectively.



| Rank | Country of Residence | Tourist Arrivals May 2018 | | | Tourist Arrivals May 2017 | % Change May 2017/2018 |
|------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| | | By Air | By Sea | Total | | |
| 1 | INDIA | 41,495 | 578 | 42,073 | 34,167 | 23.1 |
| 2 | CHINA | 16,937 | 166 | 17,103 | 18,494 | (7.5) |
| 3 | UNITED KINGDOM | 9,143 | 194 | 9,337 | 8,520 | 9.6 |
| 4 | GERMANY | 6,543 | 363 | 6,906 | 6,351 | 8.7 |
| 5 | AUSTRALIA | 4,817 | 56 | 4,873 | 3,805 | 28.1 |
| 6 | MALDIVES | 4,341 | 2 | 4,343 | 5,364 | (19.0) |
| 7 | JAPAN | 3,325 | 904 | 4,229 | 2,848 | 48.5 |
| 8 | USA | 3,687 | 436 | 4,123 | 3,324 | 24.0 |
| 9 | FRANCE | 3,715 | 6 | 3,721 | 2,907 | (0.4) |
| 10 | CANADA | 3,234 | 63 | 3,297 | 3,352 | (1.6) |

INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

| | MAY 2018 | | | Total Tourist Arrivals May 2017 ¹ | % Change May (2017/2018) | Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to May- 2018 |
|--|------------------|------------|--------------|--|--------------------------|---|
| | Tourist Arrivals | | | | | |
| | By Air | By Sea | Total | | | |
| AMERICAS | | | 7,924 | 7,052 | 12.4 | 64,521 |
| North America | 6,988 | 504 | 7,492 | 6,734 | 11.3 | 59,970 |
| Canada | 3,234 | 63 | 3,297 | 3,352 | (1.6) | 23,063 |
| Mexico | 67 | 5 | 72 | 58 | 24.1 | 919 |
| United States | 3,687 | 436 | 4,123 | 3,324 | 24.0 | 35,988 |
| | | | | | | |
| Caribbean & Central America | 50 | 1 | 51 | 57 | (10.5) | 419 |
| Jamaica | 6 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 20.0 | 52 |
| Costa Rica | 3 | 0 | 3 | 10 | (70.00) | 59 |
| Others | 41 | 1 | 42 | 42 | 0.00 | 308 |
| | | | | | | |
| South America | 365 | 16 | 381 | 261 | 46.0 | 4,132 |
| Argentina | 122 | 0 | 122 | 41 | 197.6 | 1,183 |
| Brazil | 112 | 12 | 124 | 106 | 17.0 | 1,649 |
| Chile | 52 | 3 | 55 | 32 | 71.9 | 514 |
| Colombia | 33 | 0 | 33 | 41 | (19.5) | 304 |
| Others | 46 | 1 | 47 | 41 | 14.6 | 482 |
| | | | | | | |
| AFRICA | | | 633 | 718 | (11.8) | 5,972 |
| North Africa | 124 | 1 | 125 | 136 | (8.1) | 1,127 |
| Morocco | 31 | 0 | 31 | 54 | (42.6) | 413 |
| Sudan | 52 | 0 | 52 | 44 | 18.2 | 250 |
| Others | 41 | 1 | 42 | 38 | 10.5 | 464 |
| | | | | | | |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | 494 | 14 | 508 | 582 | (12.7) | 4,845 |
| Kenya | 59 | 0 | 59 | 64 | (7.8) | 255 |
| Mauritius | 24 | 0 | 24 | 72 | (66.7) | 280 |
| Nigeria | 38 | 1 | 39 | 44 | (11.4) | 191 |
| South Africa | 254 | 5 | 259 | 249 | 4.0 | 2,942 |
| Others | 119 | 8 | 127 | 153 | (17.0) | 1,177 |

| | MAY 2018 | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| | Tourist Arrivals ¹ | | | Total Tourist Arrivals May 2017 | % Change May (2017/2018) | Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to May 2018 |
| | By Air | By Sea | Total | | | |
| ASIA & PACIFIC | | | 83,924 | 79,353 | 5.76 | 451,032 |
| North East Asia | 21,573 | 1,222 | 22,795 | 22,730 | 0.29 | 149,197 |
| China | 1,6937 | 166 | 17,103 | 18,494 | (7.52) | 115,870 |
| Japan | 3,325 | 904 | 4,229 | 2,848 | 48.49 | 22,327 |
| South Korea | 865 | 27 | 892 | 1,003 | (11.07) | 6,967 |
| Taiwan | 440 | 125 | 565 | 334 | 69.16 | 3,952 |
| Others | 6 | 0 | 6 | 51 | (88.24) | 81 |
| | | | | | | |
| South East Asia | 6,099 | 349 | 6,448 | 8,545 | (24.54) | 34,254 |
| Cambodia | 84 | 0 | 84 | 417 | (79.86) | 499 |
| Indonesia | 455 | 15 | 470 | 1,494 | (68.54) | 2,296 |
| Malaysia | 1,560 | 44 | 1,604 | 2,089 | (23.22) | 8,904 |
| Myanmar | 106 | 7 | 113 | 436 | (74.08) | 1089 |
| Philippines | 1,411 | 245 | 1,656 | 1,074 | 54.19 | 8,473 |
| Singapore | 1,431 | 30 | 1,461 | 1,465 | (0.27) | 7,483 |
| Thailand | 738 | 7 | 745 | 1,223 | (39.08) | 3,815 |
| Vietnam | 268 | 1 | 269 | 328 | (17.99) | 1,558 |
| Others | 46 | 0 | 46 | 19 | 142.11 | 137 |
| | | | | | | |
| Oceania | 5,441 | 67 | 5,508 | 4,368 | 26.10 | 47,886 |
| Australia | 4,817 | 56 | 4,873 | 3,805 | 28.07 | 42,973 |
| New Zealand | 609 | 11 | 620 | 531 | 16.76 | 4,808 |
| Others | 15 | 0 | 15 | 32 | (53.13) | 105 |
| | | | | | | |
| South Asia | 48,483 | 690 | 49,173 | 43,710 | 12.50 | 219,695 |
| Afghanistan | 108 | | 108 | 46 | 134.78 | 493 |
| Bangladesh | 700 | 29 | 729 | 1,104 | (33.97) | 4,120 |
| Bhutan | 30 | | 30 | 32 | (6.25) | 291 |
| India | 41,495 | 578 | 42,073 | 34,167 | 23.14 | 173,366 |
| Iran | 244 | 24 | 268 | 205 | 30.73 | 3,169 |
| Maldives | 4,341 | 2 | 4,343 | 5,364 | (19.03) | 28,128 |
| Nepal | 422 | 50 | 472 | 459 | 2.83 | 2,172 |
| Pakistan | 1,143 | 7 | 1,150 | 2,333 | (50.71) | 7,956 |

| | MAY 2018 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | Tourist Arrivals ¹ | | | Total Tourist Arrivals May 2017 | % Change May (2017 /2018) | Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to May 2018 |
| | By Air | By Sea | Total | | | |
| EUROPE | | | 35,031 | 32,262 | 8.58 | 474,710 |
| Northern Europe | 11,165 | 235 | 11,400 | 10,278 | 10.92 | 153,508 |
| Denmark | 444 | 12 | 456 | 446 | 2.24 | 9,867 |
| Finland | 229 | 1 | 230 | 142 | 61.97 | 4,990 |
| Norway | 491 | 20 | 511 | 374 | 36.63 | 6,558 |
| Sweden | 466 | 5 | 471 | 454 | 3.74 | 14,772 |
| United Kingdom | 9,143 | 194 | 9,337 | 8,520 | 9.59 | 112,523 |
| Others | 392 | 3 | 395 | 342 | 15.50 | 4,798 |
| | | | | | | |
| Western Europe | 14,497 | 467 | 14,964 | 14,364 | 4.18 | 180,752 |
| Austria | 612 | 25 | 637 | 580 | 9.83 | 10,302 |
| Belgium | 491 | 3 | 494 | 547 | (9.69) | 6,095 |
| France | 3,715 | 6 | 3,721 | 3,738 | (0.45) | 55,042 |
| Germany | 6,543 | 363 | 6,906 | 6,351 | 8.74 | 74,496 |
| Netherlands | 2,044 | 7 | 2,051 | 1,997 | 2.70 | 20,372 |
| Switzerland | 1,072 | 56 | 1,128 | 1,127 | 0.09 | 13,993 |
| Others | 20 | 7 | 27 | 24 | 12.50 | 452 |
| | | | | | | |
| Central / Eastern Europe | 4,453 | 360 | 4,813 | 4,662 | 3.24 | 96,676 |
| Belarus | 126 | 2 | 128 | 105 | 21.90 | 2,824 |
| Czech Republic | 322 | 0 | 322 | 353 | (8.78) | 9,639 |
| Estonia | 29 | 3 | 32 | 38 | (15.79) | 1,556 |
| Hungary | 103 | 0 | 103 | 114 | (9.65) | 2,615 |
| Kazakhstan | 73 | 0 | 73 | 97 | (24.74) | 1,682 |
| Lithuania | 201 | 2 | 203 | 109 | 86.24 | 1,798 |
| Poland | 594 | 67 | 661 | 489 | 35.17 | 9,949 |
| Romania | 128 | 22 | 150 | 133 | 12.78 | 3,058 |
| Russian Federation | 1,200 | 64 | 1,264 | 1,242 | 1.77 | 36,992 |
| Slovakia | 153 | 0 | 153 | 205 | (25.37) | 3,123 |
| Ukraine | 1,212 | 174 | 1,386 | 1,464 | (5.33) | 19,140 |
| Others | 312 | 26 | 338 | 313 | 7.99 | 4,300 |

| | MAY 2018 | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| | Tourist Arrivals ¹ | | | Total Tourist Arrivals May 2017 | % Change May (2017/2018) | Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to May 2018 |
| | By Air | By Sea | Total | | | |
| Southern / Mediterranean Europe | 3,542 | 312 | 3,854 | 2,958 | 30.29 | 43,774 |
| Greece | 379 | 241 | 620 | 286 | 116.78 | 3,311 |
| Italy | 1,048 | 10 | 1,058 | 957 | 10.55 | 17,672 |
| Portugal | 191 | 0 | 191 | 195 | (2.05) | 2,319 |
| Spain | 987 | 15 | 1,002 | 746 | 34.32 | 8,594 |
| Turkey | 277 | 11 | 288 | 218 | 32.11 | 2,187 |
| Israel | 399 | 0 | 399 | 330 | 20.91 | 4,741 |
| Others | 261 | 35 | 296 | 226 | 30.97 | 4,950 |
| | | | | | | |
| MIDDLE EAST | 1,942 | 12 | 1,954 | 2,506 | (22.03) | 21,584 |
| Bahrain | 108 | 0 | 108 | 85 | 27.06 | 1,189 |
| Egypt | 153 | 8 | 161 | 155 | 3.87 | 1,407 |
| Iraq | 37 | 1 | 38 | 48 | (20.83) | 357 |
| Jordan | 116 | 1 | 117 | 151 | (22.52) | 1,277 |
| Kuwait | 143 | 0 | 143 | 246 | (41.87) | 1,580 |
| Lebanon | 225 | 0 | 225 | 299 | (24.75) | 2,362 |
| Oman | 84 | 0 | 84 | 246 | (65.85) | 2,073 |
| Qatar | 53 | 0 | 53 | 37 | 43.24 | 570 |
| Saudi Arabia | 666 | 0 | 666 | 834 | (20.14) | 8,388 |
| United Arab Emirates | 230 | 0 | 230 | 301 | (23.59) | 1,524 |
| Others | 127 | 2 | 129 | 104 | 24.04 | 857 |
| | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 125,216 | 4,250 | 129,466 | 121,891 | 6.2 | 1,017,819 |

¹ Rebased

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