

**MARCH  
2021**

# **MONTHLY TOURIST ARRIVALS REPORT**



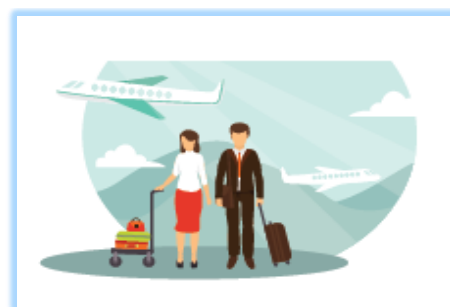
Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority  
[www.sltda.gov.lk](http://www.sltda.gov.lk)



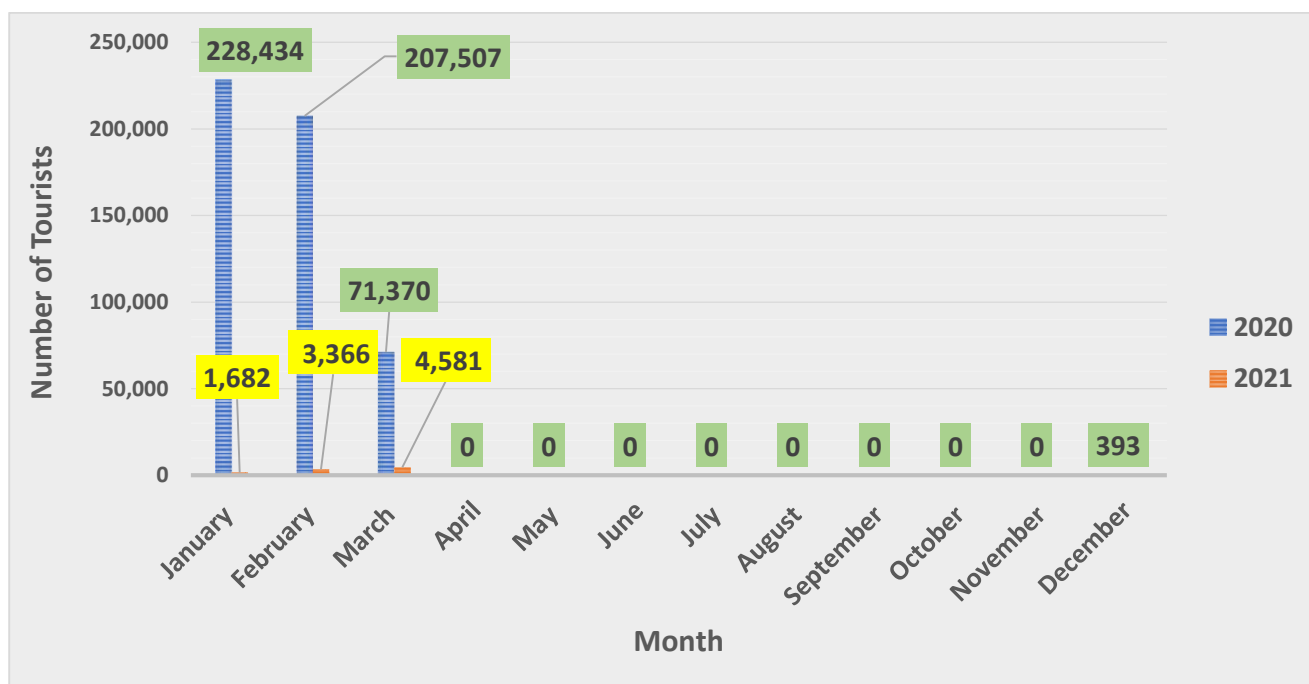
## SUMMARY

The total number of international tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during March 2021 was 4,581. In comparison to March last year (2020), there was a decline of 93.6% when the arrivals were 71,370. As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, 9,629 of tourists has visited Sri Lanka for this year. It is a decline of 98.1% over last year when 507,311 tourists had visited the country during the same period. The figures reflect the unprecedented health, social and economic crisis caused by the the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The largest source markets recorded for the month of March was Kazakhstan, followed by the Germany, and United Kingdom.

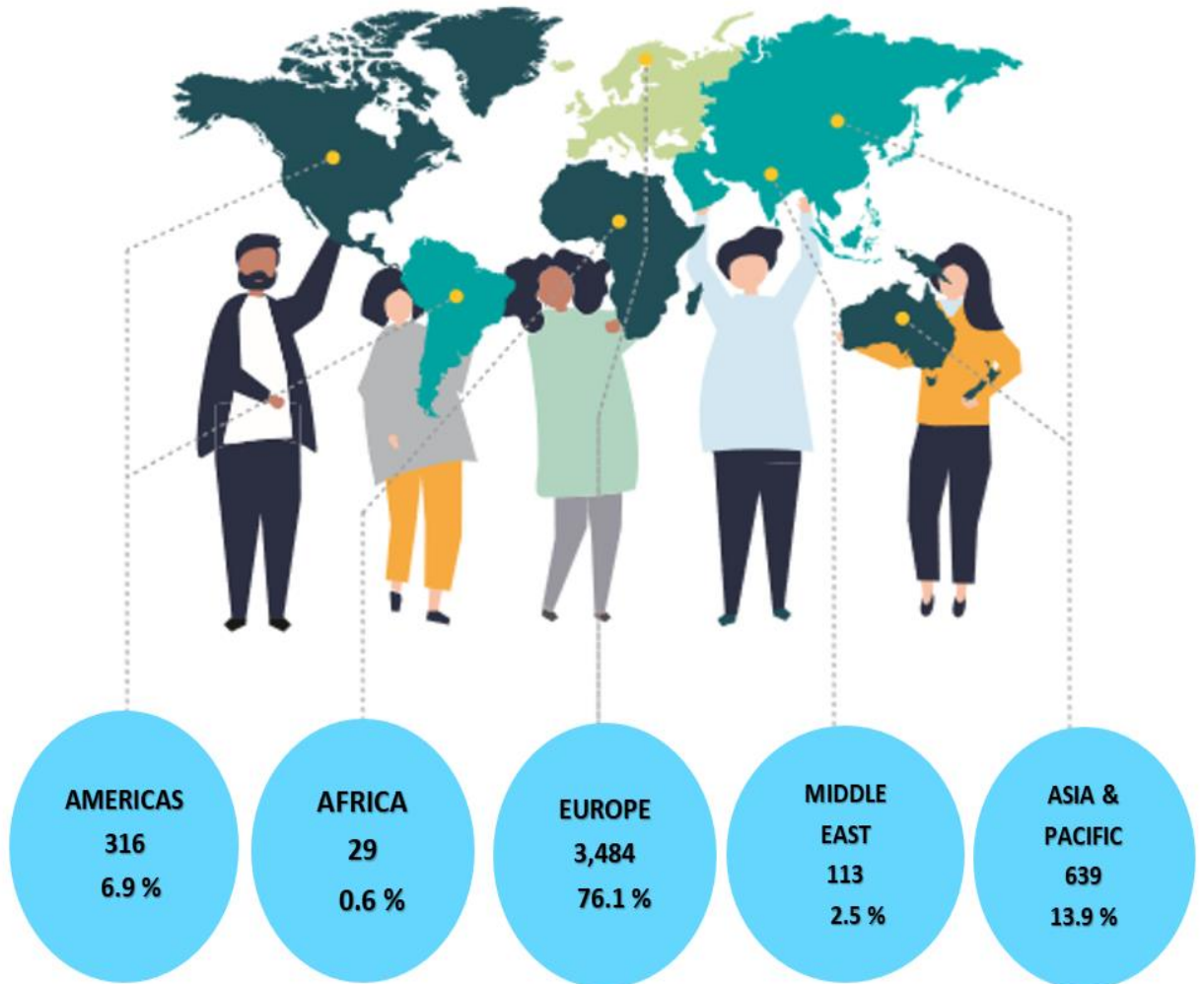
Month	2020	2021	% change 2021/20
January	228,434	1,682	(99.3)
February	207,507	3,366	(98.4)
March	71,370	4,581	(93.6)
April	0	-	-
May	0	-	-
June	0	-	-
July	0	-	-
August	0	-	-
September	0	-	-
October	0	-	-
November	0	-	-
December	393	-	-
<b>Total (Jan ~ March)</b>	<b>507,311</b>	<b>9,629</b>	<b>(98.1)</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>507,704</b>		



**Tourist Arrivals – March  
4,581**



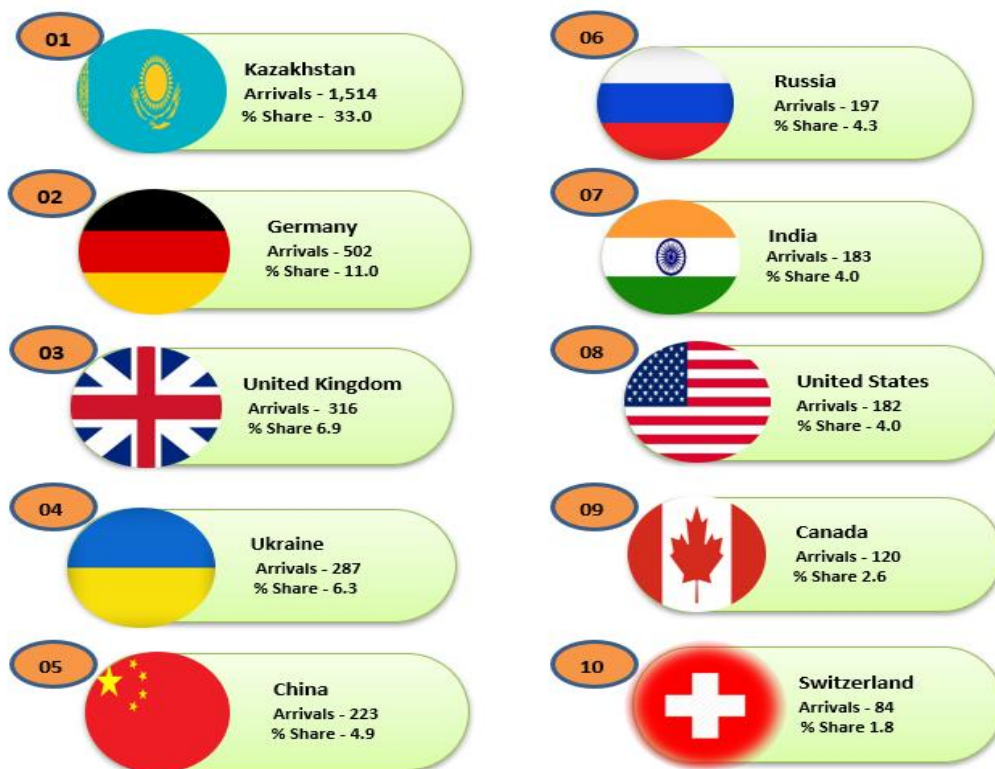
## TOURIST ARRIVALS BY REGION AND PERCENTAGE SHARE- MARCH 2021



Europe became the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 76.1% of the total traffic received in March 2021. Asia and Pacific accounted for 13.9% of the total traffic while Americas accounted for 6.9%. In comparison to March last year all regions have recorded a decline in arrivals. It is noteworthy that arrivals from Kazakhstan and Iran have recorded a growth in comparison to March 2020.

## TOP TEN SOURCE MARKETS –MARCH 2021

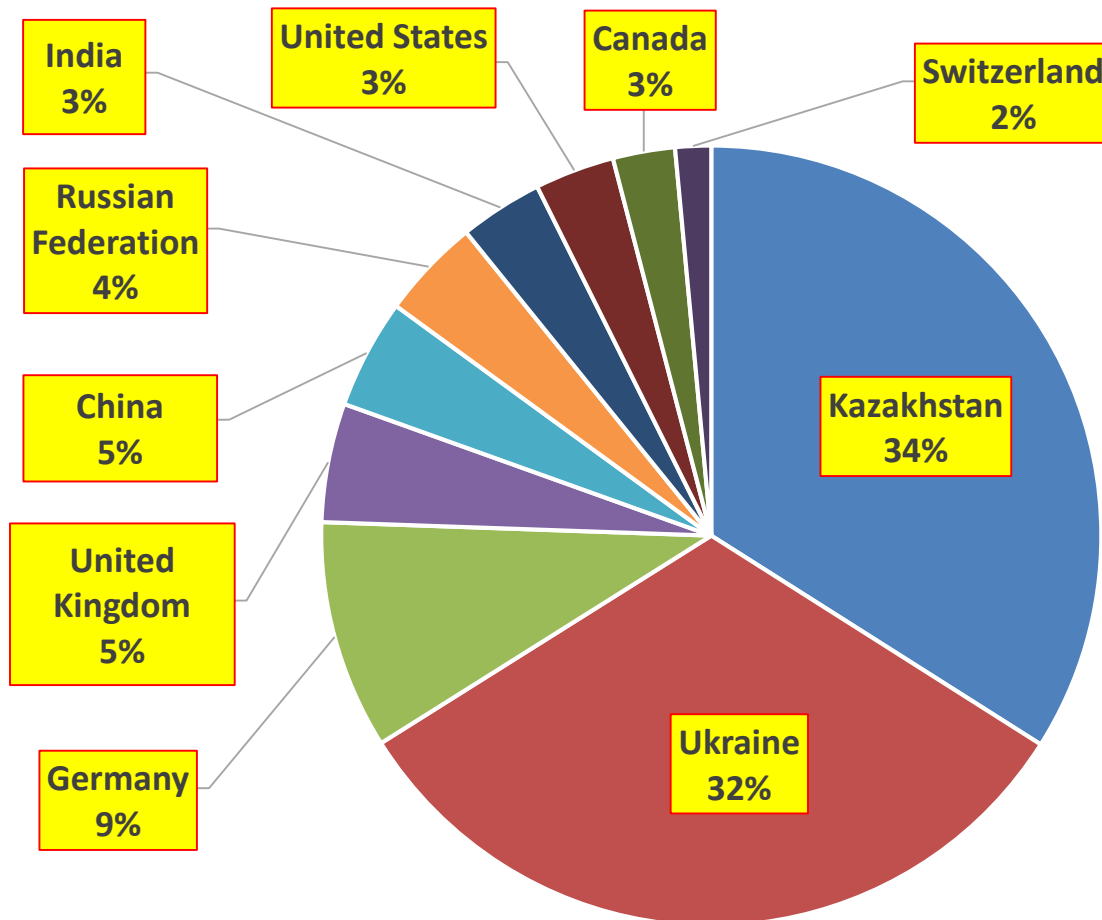
Kazakhstan, Germany, United Kingdom, Ukraine and China were Sri Lanka's top five international tourist generating markets in the month of March this year. Kazakhstan was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 33 % of the total traffic received in above period. Germany accounted for 11% of the total traffic; while United Kingdom, Ukraine and China accounted for 6.9%, 6.3% and 4.9% respectively. The increased tourist arrivals from the Central and Eastern European countries could be partly owing to the pilot project carried out from 28th December 2020 by the Government of Sri Lanka. This has resulted in Kazakhstan and Ukraine moving in to the top positions of the main source markets. Further the presence of countries from the Americas, Western Europe and South Asiain regions among the top source markets indicates the gradual revitalisation of tourism industry in Sri Lanka.



Rank	Country of Residence	Tourist Arrivals March 2021			Tourist Arrivals March 2020
		By Air	By Sea	Total	
1	Kazakhstan	1,514	-	1,514	478
2	Germany	502	-	502	6,608
3	United Kingdom	316	-	316	7,969
4	Ukraine	287	-	287	2,155
5	China	223	-	223	1,688
6	Russian Federation	197	-	197	8,833
7	India	183	-	183	12,600
8	United States	182	-	182	1,545
9	Canada	120	-	120	1,444
10	Switzerland	84	-	84	957

## TOP TEN SOURCE MARKETS – JANUARY TO MARCH - 2021

Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Germany, United Kingdom and China were Sri Lanka's top five international tourist generating markets from January to March this year. Kazakhstan was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 34% of the total traffic received from January to March 2021 and it has recorded a growth of 17.7% compared to 2020 in terms of total arrivals for the consecutive months of January, February and March. Ukraine accounted for 32% of the total traffic; while Germany and China accounted for 9%, 5% (both) respectively.



Rank	Country of Residence	Tourist Arrivals (Jan-March) 2021	Tourist Arrivals (Jan - March) 2020	% Change (Jan - Mar 2021 & Jan - Mar 2020)
1	Kazakhstan	2,746	2,333	17.7
2	Ukraine	2,592	16,776	(84.5)
3	Germany	766	34,507	(97.8)
4	United Kingdom	398	55,455	(99.3)
5	China	367	26,147	(98.6)
6	Russian Federation	336	49,397	(99.3)
7	India	279	89,357	(99.7)
8	United States	267	16,842	(98.4)
9	Canada	208	12,436	(98.3)
10	Switzerland	120	6,389	(98.1)

## INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

	March 2021			Total Tourist Arrivals March 2020	% Change March (21/20)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to March 2021	Total Tourist Arrivals up to March 2020	% Change up to March 2021/20
	Tourist Arrivals							
	By Air	By Sea	Total					
<b>AMERICAS</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>3,273</b>	<b>(90.3)</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>31,843</b>	<b>(98.4)</b>
<b>North America</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>3,019</b>	<b>(89.9)</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>29,627</b>	<b>(98.4)</b>
Canada	120	0	120	1,444	(91.7)	208	12,436	(98.3)
Mexico	2	0	2	30	(93.3)	5	349	(98.6)
United States	182	0	182	1,545	(88.2)	267	16,842	(98.4)
<b>Caribbean &amp; Central America</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>(86.4)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>(96.9)</b>
Costa Rica	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	-
Jamaica	1	0	1	-	-	1	25	(96.0)
Others	2	0	2	22	(90.9)	6	168	(96.4)
<b>South America</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>(96.1)</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1,990</b>	<b>(99.2)</b>
Argentina	-	-	-	52	-	-	416	-
Brazil	3	0	3	71	(95.8)	6	875	(99.3)
Chile	-	-	-	26	-	1	271	(99.6)
Colombia	3	0	3	41	(92.7)	5	201	(97.5)
Others	3	0	3	42	(92.9)	3	227	(98.7)
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>(92.2)</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2,880</b>	<b>(98.8)</b>
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>(99.7)</b>
Morocco	-	-	-	50	-	1	311	(99.7)
Sudan	-	-	-	36	-	1	143	(99.3)
Others	-	-	-	34	-	-	235	-
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>(88.5)</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2,191</b>	<b>(98.5)</b>
Kenya	1	0	1	15	(93.3)	1	110	(99.1)
Mauritius	2	0	2	19	(89.5)	3	170	(98.2)
Nigeria	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-
South Africa	23	0	23	134	(82.8)	24	1,364	(98.2)
Others	3	0	3	85	(96.5)	5	522	(99.0)

	March 2021			Total Tourist Arrivals March 2020	% Change March (21/20)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to March 2021	Total Tourist Arrivals up to March 2020	% Change up to March 2021/20
	Tourist Arrivals							
	By Air	By Sea	Total					
<b>ASIA &amp; PACIFIC</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>24,299</b>	<b>(97.4)</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>181,154</b>	<b>(99.4)</b>
<b>North East Asia</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>(90.6)</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>37,320</b>	<b>(98.9)</b>
China	223	0	223	1,688	(86.8)	367	26,147	(98.6)
Japan	12	0	12	712	(98.3)	22	6,644	(99.7)
South Korea	7	0	7	87	(92.0)	12	2,499	(99.5)
Taiwan	3	0	3	109	(97.2)	3	1,985	(99.8)
Others	-	-	-	4	-	-	45	-
<b>South East Asia</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>(99.0)</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>14,927</b>	<b>(99.5)</b>
Cambodia	1	0	1	74	(98.6)	1	372	(99.7)
Indonesia	3	0	3	198	(98.5)	11	1,114	(99.0)
Malaysia	3	0	3	695	(99.6)	7	3,494	(99.8)
Myanmar	1	0	1	128	(99.2)	6	532	(98.9)
Philippines	8	0	8	1,160	(99.3)	29	4,249	(99.3)
Singapore	4	0	4	453	(99.1)	5	2,545	(99.8)
Thailand	6	0	6	217	(97.2)	8	1,880	(99.6)
Vietnam	5	0	5	97	(94.8)	5	709	(99.3)
Others	-	-	-	6	-	-	32	-
<b>Oceania</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>2,895</b>	<b>(98.8)</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>22,706</b>	<b>(99.7)</b>
Australia	29	0	29	2,590	(98.9)	56	20,283	(99.7)
New Zealand	7	0	7	302	(97.7)	15	2,342	(99.4)
Others	-	-	-	3	-	-	99	-
<b>South Asia</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>15,776</b>	<b>(97.9)</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>106,201</b>	<b>(99.6)</b>
Afghanistan	1	0	1	17	(94.1)	1	146	(99.3)
Bangladesh	3	0	3	212	(98.6)	9	1,986	(99.5)
Bhutan	1	0	1	2	(50.0)	1	208	(99.5)
India	183	0	183	12,600	(98.5)	279	89,357	(99.7)
Iran	65	0	65	25	160.0	65	648	(68.8)
Maldives	56	0	56	2,183	(97.4)	86	9,407	(99.1)
Nepal	1	0	1	235	(99.6)	2	1,384	(99.9)
Pakistan	17	0	17	502	(96.6)	30	3,065	(99.0)

	March 2021			Total Tourist Arrivals March 2020	% Change March (21/20)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to March 2021	Total Tourist Arrivals up to March 2020	% Change up to March 2021/20
	Tourist Arrivals							
	By Air	By Sea	Total					
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>3,484</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,484</b>	<b>42,804</b>	<b>(93.3)</b>	<b>7,945</b>	<b>281,203</b>	<b>(97.2)</b>
<b>Northern Eur.</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>10,099</b>	<b>(96.0)</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>75,146</b>	<b>(99.3)</b>
Denmark	21	0	21	506	(95.8)	32	4,905	(99.3)
Finland	7	0	7	275	(97.5)	9	2,298	(99.6)
Norway	21	0	21	336	(93.8)	35	3,019	(98.8)
Sweden	22	0	22	723	(97.0)	31	7,061	(99.6)
United Kingdom	316	0	316	7,969	(96.0)	398	55,455	(99.3)
Others	16	0	16	290	(94.5)	34	2,408	(98.6)
<b>Western Eur.</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>14,235</b>	<b>(94.8)</b>	<b>1,159</b>	<b>82,229</b>	<b>(98.6)</b>
Austria	38	0	38	602	(93.7)	62	4,300	(98.6)
Belgium	9	0	9	628	(98.6)	16	3,371	(99.5)
France	72	0	72	4,056	(98.2)	116	24,838	(99.5)
Germany	502	0	502	6,608	(92.4)	766	34,507	(97.8)
Netherlands	35	0	35	1,355	(97.4)	74	8,656	(99.1)
Switzerland	84	0	84	957	(91.2)	120	6,389	(98.1)
Others	3	0	3	29	(89.7)	5	168	(97.0)
<b>Central / Eastern Europe</b>	<b>2,217</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,217</b>	<b>16,170</b>	<b>(86.3)</b>	<b>6,064</b>	<b>100,373</b>	<b>(94.0)</b>
Belarus	23	0	23	438	(94.7)	67	2,638	(97.5)
Czech Republic	52	0	52	1,280	(95.9)	69	7,599	(99.1)
Estonia	8	0	8	140	(94.3)	11	1,185	(99.1)
Hungary	6	0	6	175	(96.6)	12	1,588	(99.2)
Kazakhstan	1,514	0	1,514	478	216.7	2,746	2,333	17.7
Lithuania	11	0	11	143	(92.3)	16	1,054	(98.5)
Poland	45	0	45	1,638	(97.3)	56	11,908	(99.5)
Romania	4	0	4	246	(98.4)	6	1,724	(99.7)
Russian Federation	197	0	197	8,833	(97.8)	336	49,397	(99.3)
Slovakia	26	0	26	244	(89.3)	40	1,513	(97.4)
Ukraine	287	0	287	2,155	(86.7)	2,592	16,776	(84.5)
Others	44	0	44	400	(89.0)	113	2,658	(95.7)



	March 2021			Total Tourist Arrivals March 2020	% Change March (21/20)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to March 2021	Total Tourist Arrivals up to March 2020	% Change up to March 2020
	Tourist Arrivals							
	By Air	By Sea	Total					
<b>Southern / Mediterranean Europe</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>(94.7)</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>23,455</b>	<b>(99.2)</b>
Greece	3	0	3	357	(99.2)	4	1,573	(99.7)
Italy	34	0	34	406	(91.6)	59	8,603	(99.3)
Portugal	4	0	4	184	(97.8)	8	1,602	(99.5)
Spain	36	0	36	496	(92.7)	54	3,385	(98.4)
Turkey	15	0	15	163	(90.8)	19	2,121	(99.1)
Israel	14	0	14	329	(95.7)	15	3,556	(99.6)
Others	15	0	15	365	(95.9)	24	2,615	(99.1)
<b>MIDDLE EAST</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>(81.8)</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>10,231</b>	<b>(98.8)</b>
Bahrain	8	0	8	14	(42.9)	8	549	(98.5)
Egypt	9	0	9	152	(94.1)	12	956	(98.7)
Iraq	3	0	3	15	(80.0)	3	138	(97.8)
Jordan	34	0	34	60	(43.3)	38	627	(93.9)
Kuwait	3	0	3	34	(91.2)	3	825	(99.6)
Lebanon	48	0	48	48	0.0	54	483	(88.8)
Oman	1	0	1	48	(97.9)	1	1,045	(99.9)
Qatar	-	-	-	7	-	1	129	(99.2)
Saudi Arabia	1	0	1	179	(99.4)	1	4,755	-
United Arab Emirates	4	0	4	30	(86.7)	4	352	(98.9)
Others	2	0	2	34	(94.1)	2	372	(99.5)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,581</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,581</b>	<b>71,370</b>	<b>(93.6)</b>	<b>9,629</b>	<b>507,311</b>	<b>(98.1)</b>

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