



World Tourism Organization

International Tourism Highlights

2020 Edition

International tourism trends, 2019

Key trends:

- 2019 was another year of strong growth, though international arrivals grew below the exceptional rates seen in 2017 (+7%) and 2018 (+6%).
- Demand was somewhat weaker for travel to advanced economy destinations in different regions.
- Uncertainty surrounding Brexit, geopolitical and trade tensions, and the global economic slowdown, weighed on growth.
- 2019 was also the year of major shifts in the sector with the collapse of travel group Thomas Cook and several low-cost airlines in Europe.
- All regions enjoyed an increase in arrivals in 2019, led by the Middle East (+8%). Asia and the Pacific and Europe both saw 4% growth.
- Against a backdrop of global economic slowdown, tourism spending continued to grow, most notably among the world's top ten spenders.
- France reported the strongest increase in international tourism expenditure among the world's top ten outbound markets (+11%), while the United States of America led growth in absolute terms (+USD 8 billion).

+4%

1,460 million

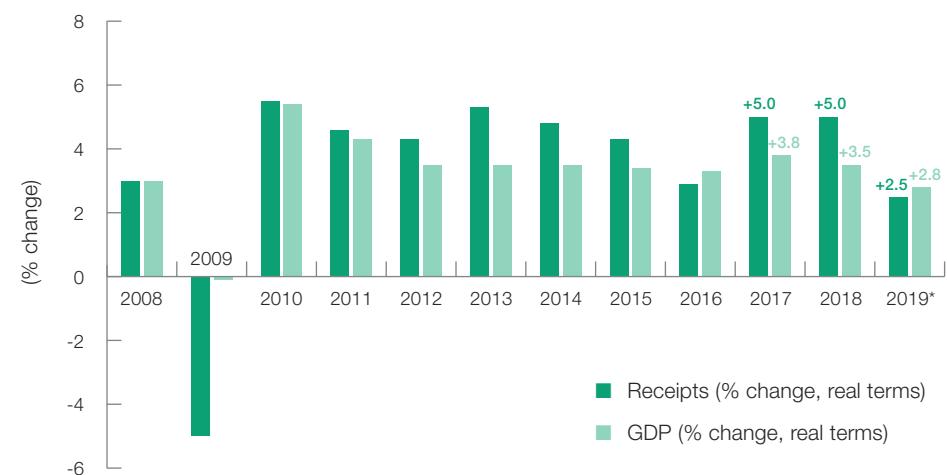
Total international tourist arrivals

+3%

USD 1,481 billion

Total international tourism receipts

Between 2009 and 2019, real growth in international tourism receipts (54%) exceeded growth in world GDP (44%)



International tourism receipts and world GDP (real change, %)

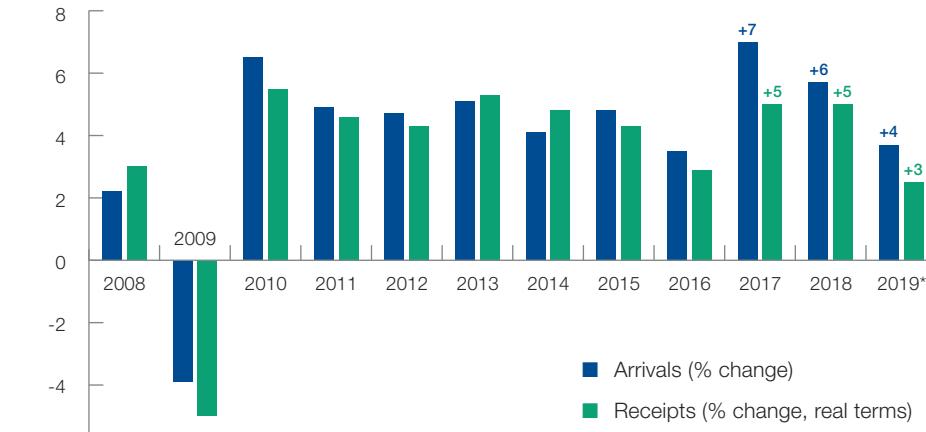
Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

2019 – 10th consecutive year of sustained growth

Tourism has seen continued expansion over time, despite occasional shocks, underlining the sector's strength and resilience

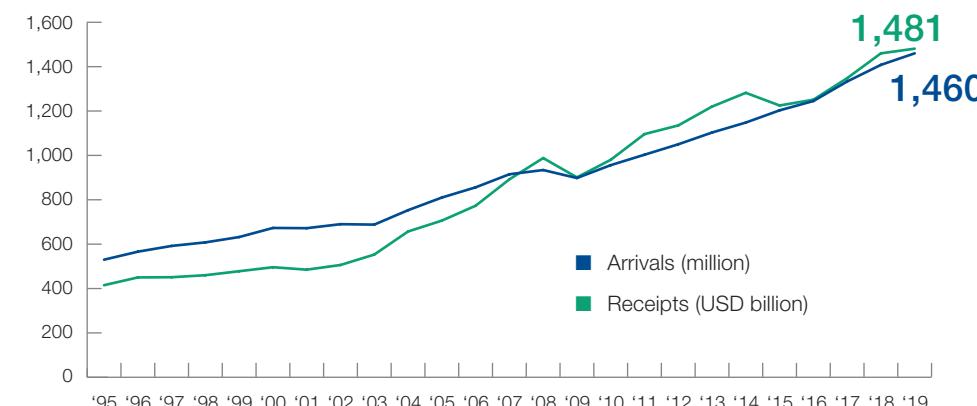


International tourist arrivals and tourism receipts (% change)

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

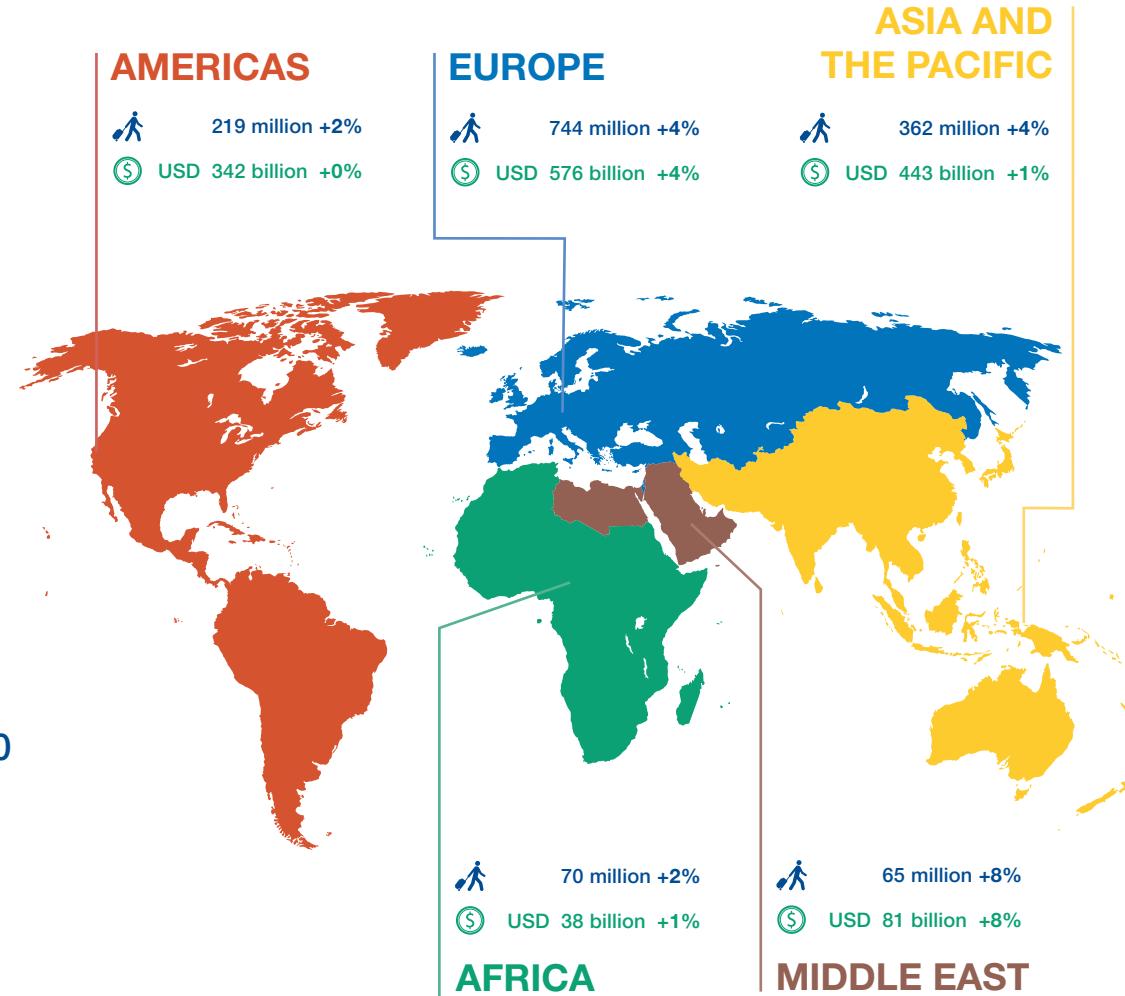
* Provisional data.



International tourist arrivals (million) and tourism receipts (USD billion)

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

* Provisional data.



Map of international tourist arrivals (million) and tourism receipts (USD billion)

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Export revenues from tourism

Total exports from international tourism reached USD 1.7 trillion in 2019

- **Export earnings from international tourism** (travel and passenger transport) are an important source of foreign revenues for many destinations around the world, helping to create jobs, promote entrepreneurship and develop local economies.
- Tourism is a key component of **export diversification** both for emerging and advanced economies, with a strong capacity to reduce trade deficits and to compensate for weaker export revenues from other goods and services.
- For many small developing countries, including most Small Island Developing States, tourism is a major source of foreign-currency income, which can represent up to 90% of total exports.

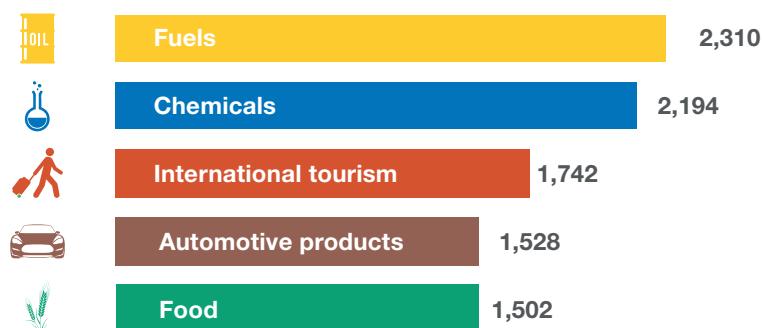
Tourism generates USD 5 billion a day in exports



Note: Export revenues from international tourism are composed of "travel" (receipts in destinations) and "passenger transport" receipts, both credit items in the Balance of Payments of countries.

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and World Trade Organization (WTO).

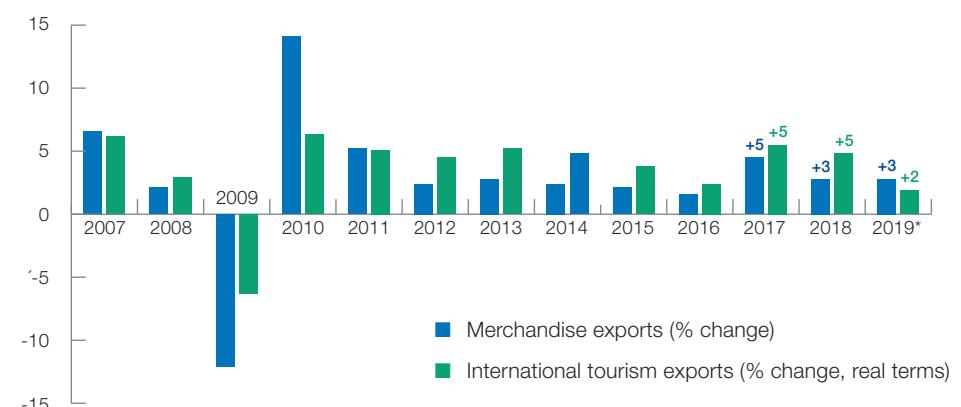
Tourism is the **world's third largest export category** after fuels and chemicals, and ahead of automotive products and food (2019)



Export earnings by product category, 2019 (USD billion)

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and World Trade Organization (WTO).

Export revenues from **international tourism** have grown faster than **merchandise exports** almost every year since 2010



Export revenues from international tourism and merchandise exports (% change)

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and World Trade Organization (WTO). Data as of November 2020. * Provisional data.

Tourism can improve the balance of payments

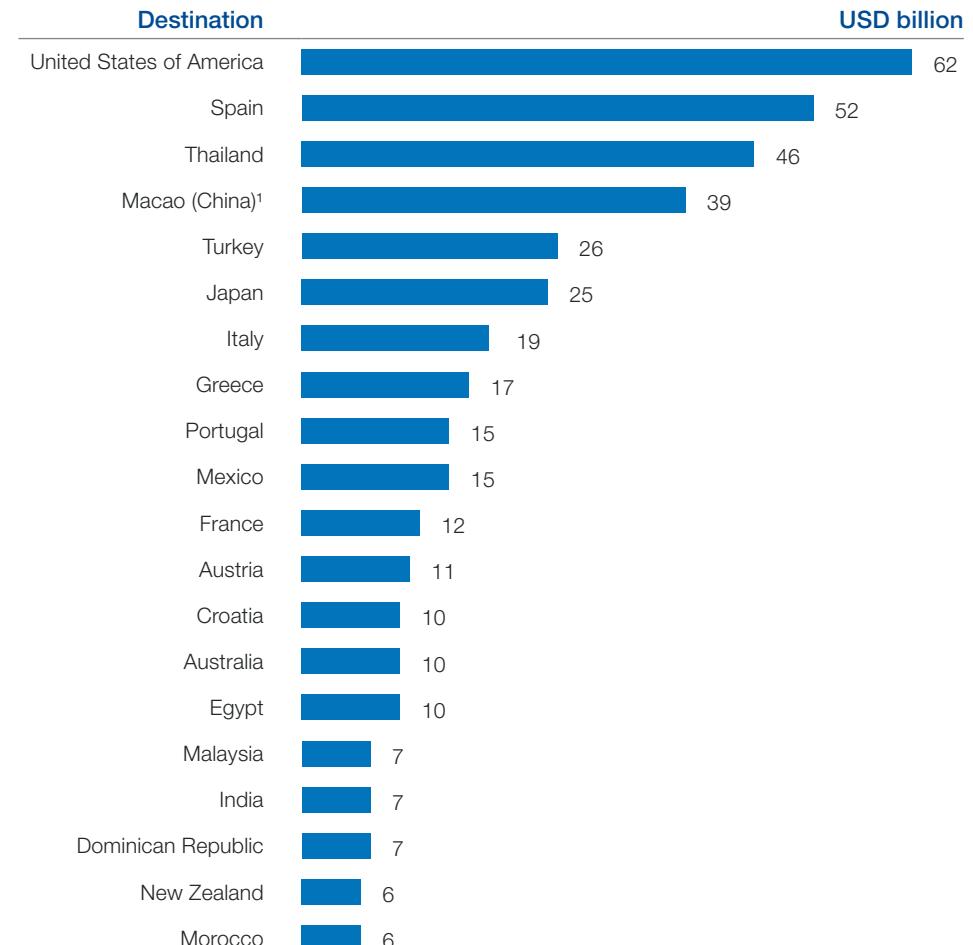
Export revenues from tourism can reduce trade deficits

- As an important export category, international tourism can help improve the balance of payments of countries by **offsetting a trade deficit** or adding to an existing **surplus** from trade in other goods and services.
- Revenues from international tourism are an export (credit item in the balance of payments), while outbound tourism spending is an import (debit item).
- As such, international tourism can generate a **tourism trade surplus** when receipts exceed expenditure, or a deficit (vice versa) in the travel balance of countries.
- In 2019, the United States of America had the world's largest travel surplus with USD 62 billion, resulting from tourism receipts of USD 214 billion and expenditure of USD 152 billion. Spain recorded the world's second largest travel surplus with USD 52 billion.
- Among emerging economies, Thailand and Macao (China) boast the largest travel surpluses, while Mexico, Croatia, Malaysia, India, the Dominican Republic and Morocco recorded a surplus of USD 6 billion to USD 15 billion.

DID YOU
KNOW



Macao (China) has **the largest tourism trade surplus per capita** in the world, followed by small island developing states Aruba, Bahamas and Maldives.



Countries with the largest surplus in the travel balance 2019* (USD billion)

Notes: Travel balance is the difference between international tourism receipts (inbound) and international tourism expenditure (outbound).

¹ Data for Macao (China) corresponds to 2018.

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Economic impact

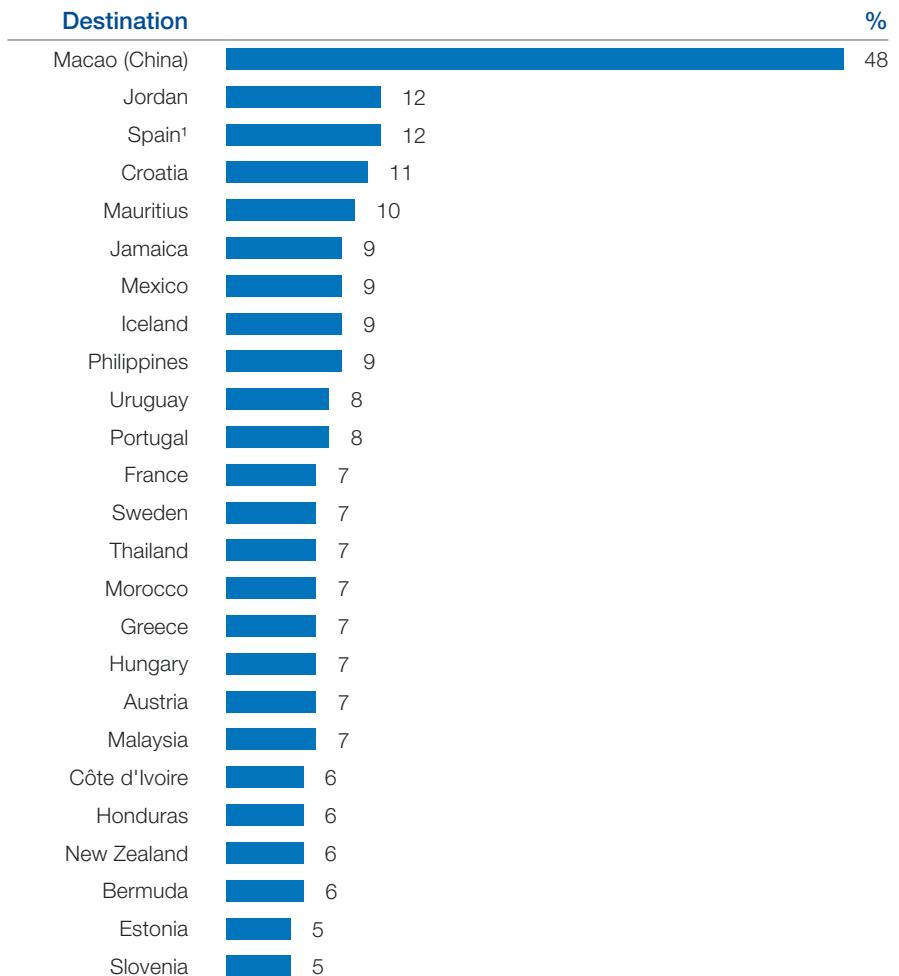
Tourism is a key economic sector in many advanced and emerging economies

- Over the past decades, tourism has experienced continued expansion and diversification to become one of the **largest and fastest-growing economic sectors** in the world.
- Growth in tourism was driven by a relatively strong global economy, growing middle classes and rapid urbanization in emerging economies, affordable travel and visa facilitation, as well as technological advances and new business models.
- Tourism, consisting of both inbound and domestic tourism represents **a major part of gross domestic product** for many economies around the world. This proportion is largest in Macao (China) where tourism accounts for 48% of GDP.
- In Jordan, Spain, Croatia and Mauritius, tourism accounts for 10% or more of those countries' GDP. In France, the world's top tourism destination, tourism represents 7% of GDP.
- Tourism also generates millions of **direct and indirect jobs**, with a high share of women and young people.
- Most tourism enterprises (around 80%) are **micro, small and medium sized enterprises** (MSMEs) which employ a high share of women and young people.
- Women** make up 54% of the tourism workforce (as compared to 39% in the overall economy).

DID YOU
KNOW



Domestic tourism is over **six times** larger than international tourism (in number of overnight trips). Domestic tourism expenditure is **higher** than inbound spending in most large destinations.



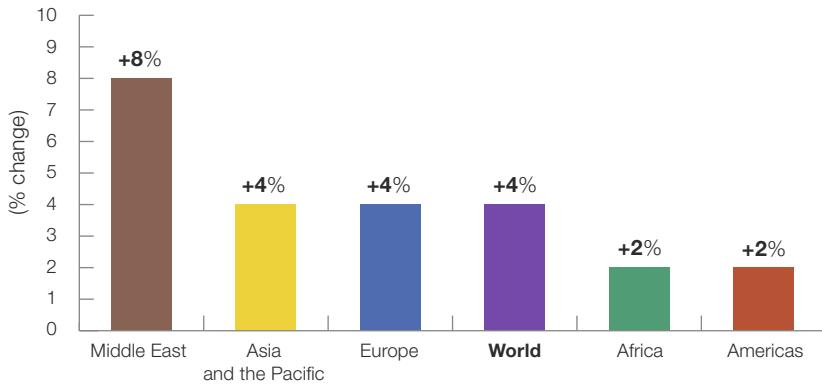
Economic contribution of tourism (direct tourism GDP as a % of total GDP), 2018

Notes: Destinations with available Tourism Gross Domestic Product data for 2018, 2017 or 2016, where Tourism GDP is 5% or more of total GDP.
When Tourism GDP was not available, "tourism gross value added (TGVA)" or "tourism internal consumption" was used.
1 Data for Spain corresponds to both direct and indirect contribution.
Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Regional tourism results

The Middle East led growth in both arrivals and receipts in 2019

The Middle East recorded the highest growth in arrivals, followed by Asia and the Pacific and Europe



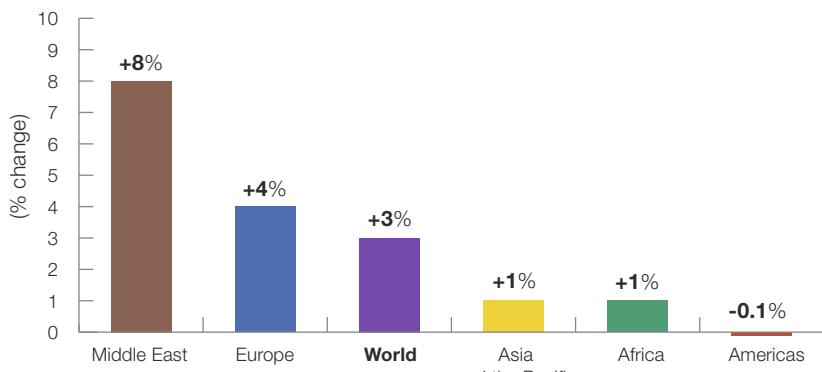
International tourist arrivals by regions, 2019* (% change)

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

The Middle East and Europe enjoyed above-average growth in tourism earnings



International tourism receipts by regions, 2019* (% change, real terms)

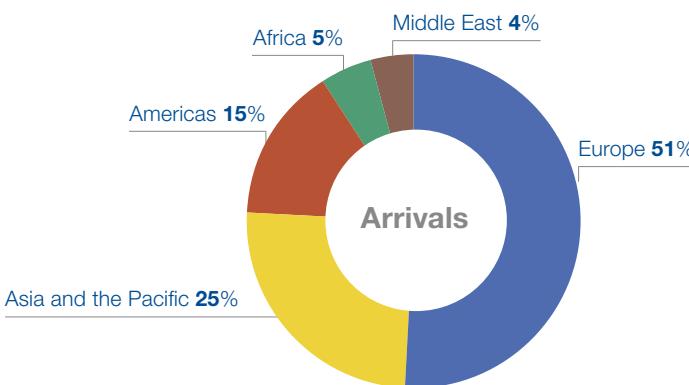
Note: Percentage change in receipts based on USD values.

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Europe accounts for half of the world's international arrivals, followed by Asia and the Pacific, with 1 in 4 arrivals



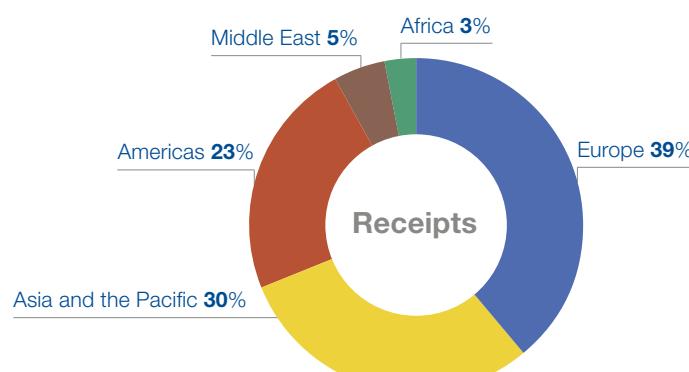
International tourist arrivals by region, 2019* (% share)

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Europe represents almost 40% of international tourism receipts, followed by Asia and the Pacific with almost one third



International tourism receipts by region, 2019* (% share)

Note: Percentages based on USD values.

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Top destinations

7 out of the 10 top destinations are featured in both rankings

The world's top 10 destinations receive **40%** of global arrivals



Top 10 destinations by international tourist arrivals, 2019*

¹ Data for France corresponds to 2018.

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

The top 10 tourism earners account for almost **50%** of total tourism receipts



Top 10 destinations by international tourism receipts, 2019*

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

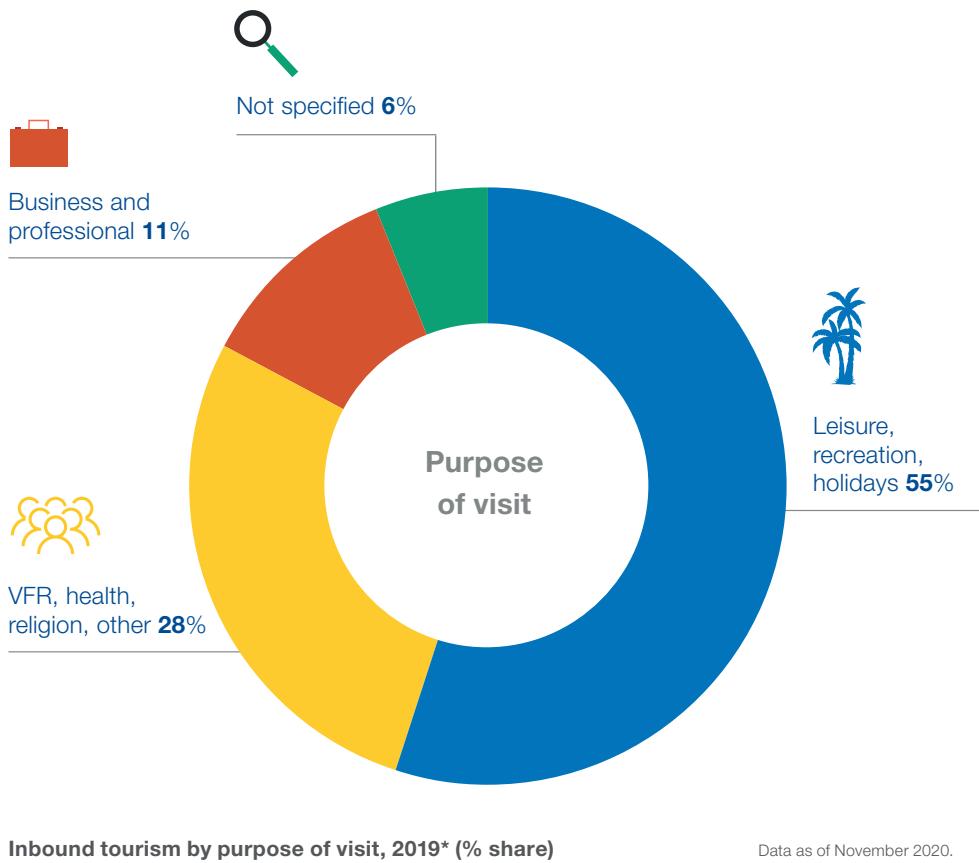


The number of destinations earning **USD 1 billion or more** from international tourism has almost doubled since 1998

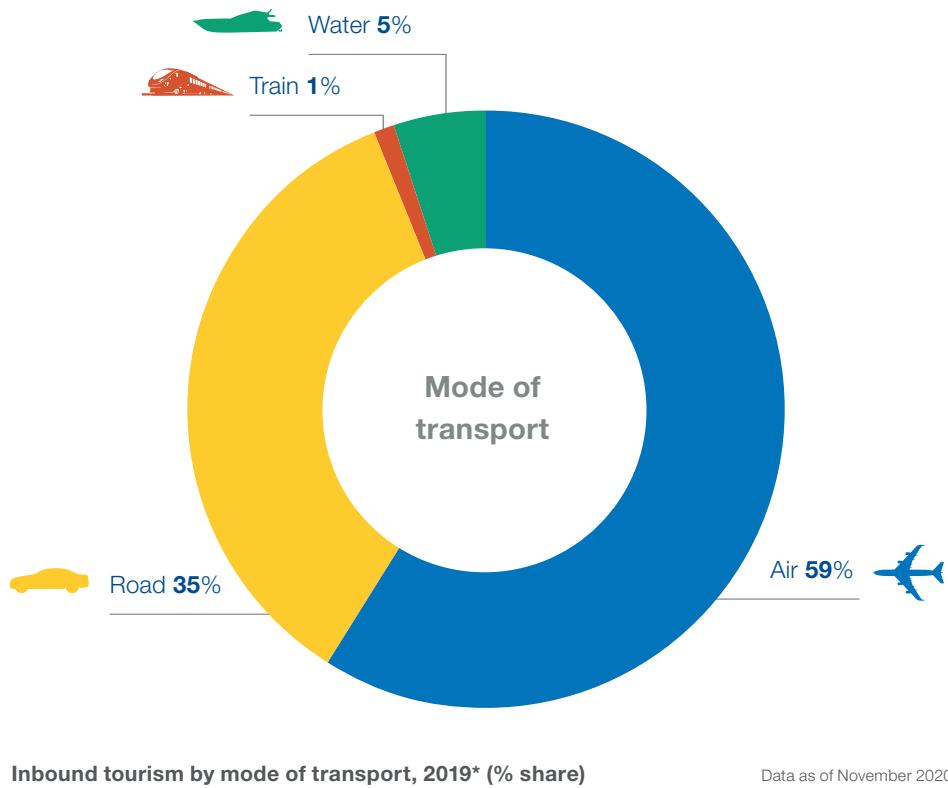
Means and purpose of travel

Travelling for leisure and by air dominates international tourism

- Leisure travel is the main purpose of visit in all world regions except the Middle East, where visiting friends and relatives (VFR), or for health or religious purposes predominates.
- The share of leisure travel has grown from 50% in 2000 to 55% in 2019.



- The share of air travel has increased from 46% in 2000 to 59% in 2019, while land transport has decreased from 49% to 35% in the same period.



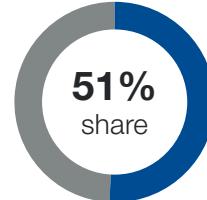
Europe

Southern Mediterranean destinations continued to lead growth

International tourist arrivals 2019



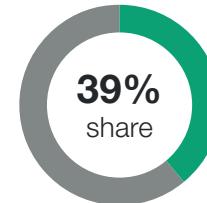
+4%



International tourism receipts 2019



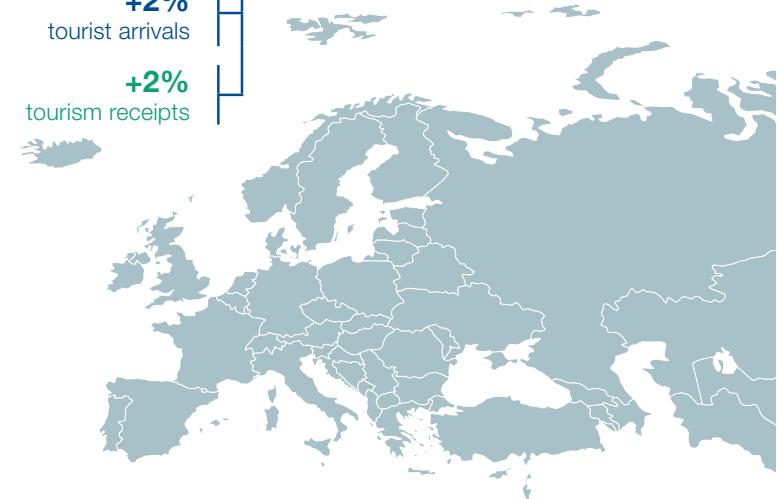
+4%



- In 2019 intraregional demand fuelled much tourism in Europe, though performance among major European source markets was uneven, amid weakening economies. Demand from overseas source markets held up well.
- The collapse of British travel group Thomas Cook and several European low-cost airlines, as well as the slower outbound market from the United Kingdom in view of the Brexit impasse affected key European destinations.
- Southern Mediterranean Europe** led growth and continued to show remarkable performance, yet somewhat less bullish than in previous years. Virtually all destinations reporting data saw positive results in arrivals and most of them recorded strong growth in terms of earnings. Balkan destinations showed upbeat results and the more mature destinations in the Mediterranean reported positive results with particularly robust growth in Italy, Portugal, Greece and Malta.
- Results across destinations in **Central and Eastern Europe** were mixed as outbound travel from Russia slowed down to some destinations.
- In **Western Europe**, the Netherlands posted robust results, building on the tourist dispersal actions undertaken to promote tourism beyond Amsterdam.
- Northern Europe** saw modest performance overall with mixed results across destinations. Bookings out of the United Kingdom were slower to euro area destinations in particular, while the lower value of the pound favored travel to more affordable destinations outside the euro area.

Western Europe

+2%
tourist arrivals
+2%
tourism receipts



Northern Europe

+2%
tourist arrivals
+6%
tourism receipts

Southern / Mediterranean Europe

+5%
tourist arrivals
+7%
tourism receipts

Central Eastern Europe

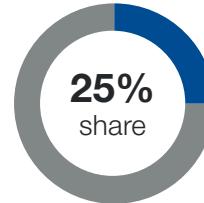
+4%
tourist arrivals
+2%
tourism receipts

Note: Change over 2018. Receipts in real terms.

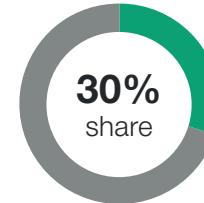
Asia and the Pacific

South Asia and South-East Asia showed robust results

International tourist arrivals 2019

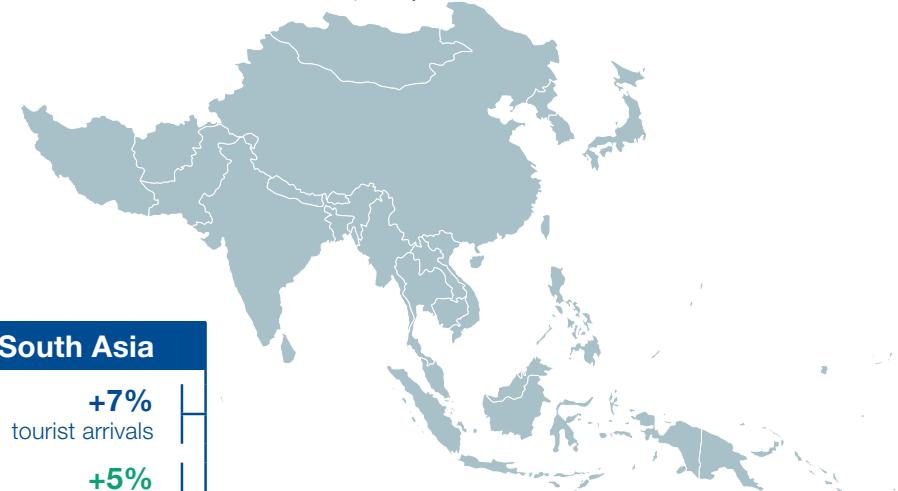


International tourism receipts 2019



- Chinese outbound travel continued to fuel growth in many destinations inside and outside the region, though Chinese spending on travel abroad was somewhat lower.
- South Asia** achieved the fastest growth among Asian subregions with the Maldives recorded double-digit growth capitalizing on the increase in visitors from the Chinese and European markets. Nepal and Bhutan continued to show strong results, while India, the subregion's largest destination, posted strong growth in receipts.
- South-East Asia** recorded robust growth in 2019, with many destinations achieving double-digit rates. Myanmar led growth benefiting from a surge in Chinese visitors thanks to visa facilitation and enhanced air connectivity. Brunei, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Philippines, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam enjoyed robust results.
- Growth in **Oceania** was rather slow, with modest performance by larger destinations Australia and New Zealand, partly due to the softening of Chinese visitors. By contrast, smaller island destinations Guam, French Polynesia and Samoa recorded solid growth.
- Results in **North-East Asia** were led by the Republic of Korea, thanks to increased visitors from China and South-East Asian markets. Arrivals in China, the regions' largest destination, went up while the 2019 Rugby World Cup boosted international arrivals in Japan in September. By contrast, the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong suffered a decline in arrivals from mainland China amid protests taking place during the second half of 2019.

North-East Asia



South Asia



South-East Asia



Oceania

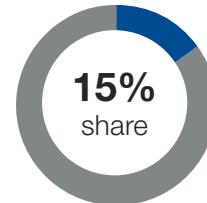


Note: Change over 2018. Receipts in real terms.

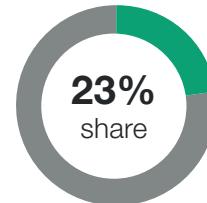
The Americas

Uneven performance across destinations

International tourist arrivals 2019



International tourism receipts 2019



- In the **Caribbean**, many smaller island destinations saw double-digit growth in 2019. Among the larger destinations, Bahamas and Jamaica enjoyed continued solid growth while tourism to Cuba and the Dominican Republic was weaker.
- In **North America**, Mexico and Canada showed robust results, while the United States of America, the largest destination in the Americas, saw weaker results.
- Central America** showed uneven results across destinations. Costa Rica, the subregion's most visited destination, posted solid results. El Salvador, Nicaragua and Belize show above-average growth.
- International arrivals to **South America** went down with mixed performance throughout the year. Several destinations recorded a strong decline in tourist arrivals from Argentina. Outbound travel from Argentina slowed sharply impacting neighboring destinations such as Paraguay, Chile and Uruguay. By contrast, arrivals went up in Argentina benefiting from a favourable exchange rate.
- Political turmoil and social protests emerging in the subregion between September and October took a toll on inbound tourism in several countries.
- Spending from major source market Brazil saw also a decline, though much less pronounced. Brazil announced visa exemptions in June to tourists from some markets.

North America



Caribbean



Central America



South America

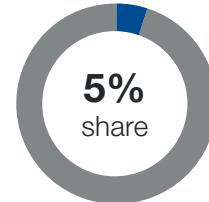


Note: Change over 2018. Receipts in real terms.

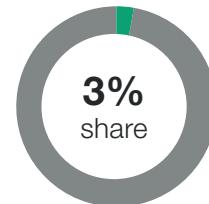
Africa

Solid results in North Africa

International tourist arrivals 2019



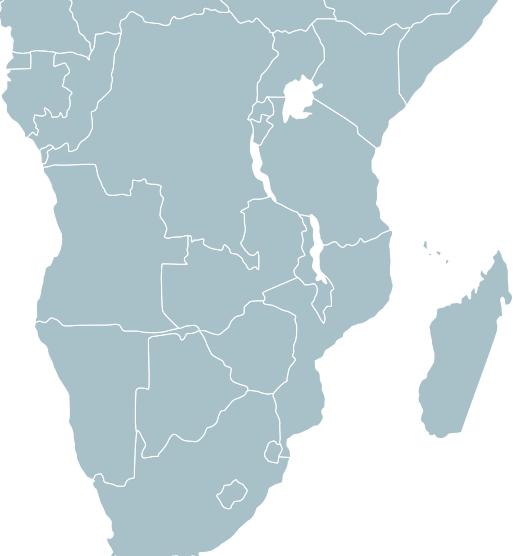
International tourism receipts 2019



- Growth was led by **North Africa**, as Tunisia continued to grow at double-digit and tourism receipts followed the same trend fuelled by a strong increase from the French market. Morocco, the most visited African destination, grew at a robust rate.
- In **Subsaharan Africa**, island destinations Madagascar and Comoros recorded double-digit growth in arrivals following strong results last year, while Cabo Verde and the Seychelles continued to capitalize on increased air connectivity.
- South Africa**, the subregion's most visited destination, announced visa facilitation measures and destination marketing efforts to spur tourist arrivals.



Subsaharan Africa

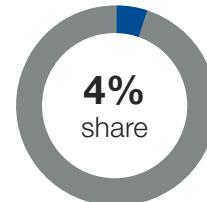


Note: Change over 2018. Receipts in real terms.

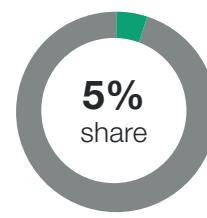
The Middle East

Fastest-growing region in both arrivals and receipts

International tourist arrivals 2019



International tourism receipts 2019



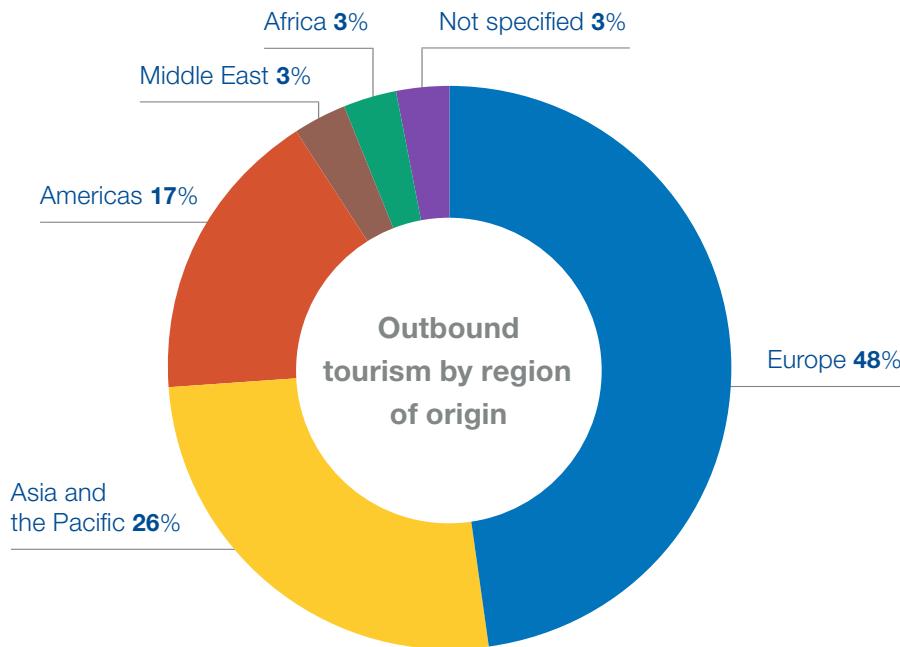
- Tourism is a major pillar in some destinations, while some oil-based economies are opening up for strong tourism development.
- Saudi Arabia rebounded with a particularly busy summer season. The Kingdom put in place a new e-visa or visa upon arrival scheme to ease the entry to around 50 countries as well as a new marketing and events international campaign.
- Egypt's tourism has enjoyed a remarkable rebound in the past two years, with a particular surge in arrivals from Germany.
- Arrivals in Qatar, the most open visa country in the Middle East, grew at double-digit building on visa facilitation measures to attract long-haul markets. The preparations of the 2022 FIFA World Cup also contributed to the influx of foreign tourists in the country.
- The emirate of Dubai (United Arab Emirates) saw an increase in arrivals fuelled by an increase of visitors from India, the emirate's top market.
- Oman, Bahrain, Jordan and Palestine also saw robust results in 2019.

Note: Change over 2018. Receipts in real terms.

Outbound tourism

France showed the highest growth in spending among the top 10 world spenders

Europe accounts for almost 1 in 2 trips in the world



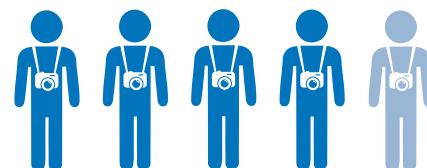
International arrivals by generating region, 2019* (% share)

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

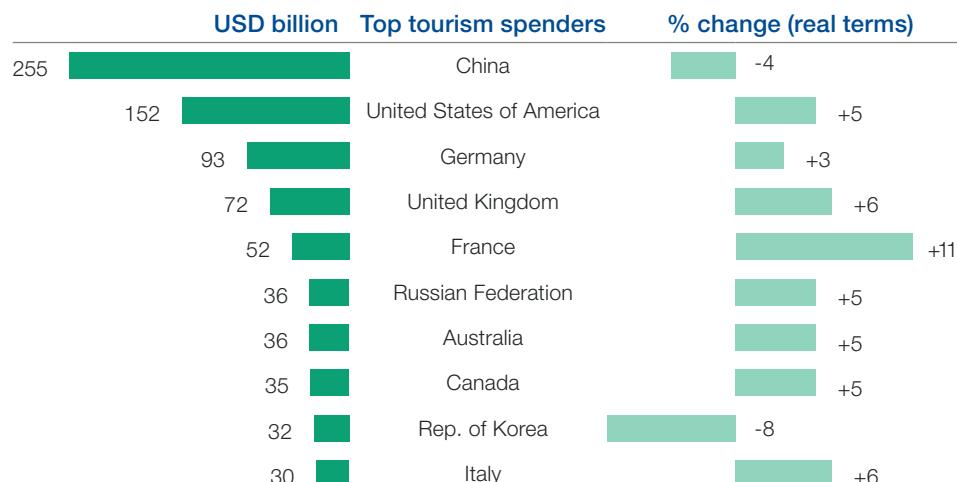
Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

4 out of 5 tourists travel within their own region



China remains the world's largest spender, with one fifth of international tourism spending, followed by the United States of America



Top 10 countries by international tourism spending, 2019*

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Statistical annex

Outbound tourism by generating region

Including estimates for countries with missing data

	International tourist arrivals								Share (%)	Change (%)	Av. annual growth (%)				
	(million)														
	2000	2005	2011	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*							
World	673	810	1,003	1,203	1,245	1,333	1,408	1,460	100	5.7	3.7	4.8			
From															
Europe	396.4	450.7	512.0	581.8	592.8	636.6	676.0	702.7	48.1	6.2	4.0	4.1			
Asia and the Pacific	113.8	152.9	220.7	293.6	314.4	337.6	367.7	381.7	26.1	8.9	3.8	7.1			
Americas	130.6	136.5	163.3	200.2	211.6	227.3	239.3	244.7	16.8	5.2	2.3	5.2			
Middle East	12.8	21.5	31.9	39.7	36.3	36.8	40.4	43.8	3.0	9.6	8.5	3.0			
Africa	14.9	19.4	30.1	36.0	39.6	42.5	45.3	47.0	3.2	6.5	3.8	5.8			
Origin not specified ¹	4.1	28.9	45.0	51.9	50.4	51.7	40.0	40.2	2.8						
Same region	539.0	630.8	760.6	906.1	941.0	1,003.3	1,070.0	1,103.9	75.6	6.6	3.2	4.8			
Other regions	129.5	150.2	197.4	245.1	253.8	277.6	298.6	315.9	21.6	7.6	5.8	5.8			

¹ Countries that could not be allocated to a specific region of origin. As information is derived from inbound tourism data this occurs when data on the country of origin is missing or when a category such as 'other countries of the world' is used grouping countries together that are not separately specified.

Data as of November 2020.

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

* Provisional data.

International tourist arrivals and tourism receipts

International tourism by (sub)region

	International tourist arrivals							International tourism receipts								
	(million)			Share (%)	Change (%)		Av. annual growth (%)	(USD billion)			(EUR billion)			Share (%)	Change (%) (real terms) ²	
	2010	2018	2019*	2019*	18/17	19*/18	'10-'19*	2010	2018	2019*	2010	2018	2019*	2019*	18/17	19*/18
World	956	1,408	1,460	100	5.7	3.7	4.8	980	1,460	1,481	739	1,237	1,323	100	5.0	2.5
Advanced economies ¹	515	762	776	53.2	4.1	1.9	4.7	644	948	946	485	803	845	63.8	4.1	1.6
Emerging economies ¹	441	647	684	46.8	7.6	5.7	5.0	336	512	536	253	434	478	36.2	6.5	4.3
Europe	491.2	716.3	744.0	51.0	5.9	3.9	4.7	427.5	572.4	576.4	322.4	484.7	514.9	38.9	4.9	4.5
Northern Europe	57.6	81.0	82.4	5.6	0.0	1.7	4.1	61.8	93.0	94.6	47	79	85	6.4	0.9	6.0
Western Europe	154.4	200.2	204.9	14.0	3.9	2.4	3.2	152.5	181.8	178.6	115	154	160	12.1	3.5	1.9
Central/Eastern Europe	102.2	146.5	152.8	10.5	8.6	4.3	4.6	48.3	69.0	68.7	36	58	61	4.6	8.4	1.6
Southern/Medit. Europe	177.1	288.6	303.9	20.8	7.7	5.3	6.2	164.9	228.6	234.4	124	194	209	15.8	6.7	6.9
- of which EU-27	357.6	524.2	539.4	36.9	4.6	2.9	4.7	324.3	431.7	428.8	245	365	383	28.9	3.9	3.7
Asia and the Pacific	208.2	347.5	361.6	24.8	7.2	4.1	6.3	254.3	436.5	443.2	191.8	369.6	395.9	29.9	8.8	1.1
North-East Asia	111.5	169.2	170.6	11.7	6.1	0.8	4.8	122.9	193.3	187.6	93	164	168	12.7	11.5	-3.4
South-East Asia	70.5	128.6	138.5	9.5	6.7	7.7	7.8	68.5	138.4	147.6	52	117	132	10.0	5.6	4.2
Oceania	11.5	17.0	17.5	1.2	2.8	2.4	4.8	42.8	61.1	61.8	32	52	55	4.2	6.9	5.9
South Asia	14.7	32.7	35.1	2.4	18.9	7.4	10.1	20.1	43.7	46.2	15	37	41	3.1	10.5	4.8
Americas	150.3	215.9	219.3	15.0	2.4	1.5	4.3	215.2	338.2	341.8	162.3	286.4	305.3	23.1	0.4	-0.1
North America	99.5	142.2	146.4	10.0	3.5	3.0	4.4	164.8	263.6	265.7	124	223	237	17.9	0.1	-0.9
Caribbean	19.5	25.8	26.5	1.8	0.1	2.6	3.4	23.3	32.7	34.6	18	28	31	2.3	0.7	5.1
Central America	7.8	10.8	10.9	0.7	-2.2	0.8	3.8	6.6	12.3	12.6	5	10	11	0.9	1.3	2.8
South America	23.5	37.1	35.5	2.4	1.3	-4.4	4.7	20.5	29.7	29.0	15	25	26	2.0	2.6	0.3
Africa	50.4	68.6	70.0	4.8	8.3	2.0	3.7	30.4	38.9	38.4	23.0	32.9	34.3	2.6	2.6	0.8
North Africa	19.7	24.1	25.6	1.8	11.1	6.4	3.0	9.7	10.7	11.5	7	9	10	0.8	4.7	9.6
Subsaharan Africa	30.7	44.5	44.3	3.0	6.8	-0.4	4.2	20.8	28.1	26.9	16	24	24	1.8	1.8	-2.6
Middle East	56.1	60.1	65.1	4.5	4.3	8.3	1.7	52.2	74.5	81.5	39.3	63.1	72.8	5.5	6.0	8.5

¹ Classification based on the International Monetary Fund (IMF), see the Statistical Annex of the IMF World Economic Outlook of April 2017, page 175, at www.imf.org/external/ns/cs.aspx?id=29.

² In local currencies, constant prices.

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Europe

International tourist arrivals and tourism receipts by country of destination

Series	International tourist arrivals						International tourism receipts			
	(1000)			Change (%)	18/17	19*/18	Share (%)	(USD million)		Share (%)
	2010	2018	2019*					2010	2018	
Europe	491,234	716,333	744,049	5.9	3.9	100	427,459	572,385	576,382	100
Northern Europe	57,608	81,035	82,385	0.0	1.7	11.1	61,809	93,008	94,611	16.9
Denmark	TF	8,744	12,749	13,285	2.6	4.2	1.8	5,853	9,101	8,848
Finland	TCE	2,319	3,224	3,290	1.4	2.0	0.4	3,051	3,666	3,726
Iceland	TF	489	2,344	2,013	5.4	-14.1	0.3	561	3,114	2,677
Ireland	TF	7,134	10,926	10,951	5.7	0.2	1.5	4,118	6,803	6,425
Norway	TF	4,767	5,688	5,879	-9.0	3.4	0.8	4,707	5,375	4,968
Sweden	TCE	5,183	7,440	..	5.5	8,344	14,899	15,247
United Kingdom	TF	28,911	38,664	39,418	-2.2	1.9	5.3	35,176	50,050	52,721
Western Europe	154,362	200,164	204,908	3.9	2.4	27.5	152,456	181,765	178,623	31.0
Austria	TCE	22,004	30,816	31,884	4.6	3.5	4.3	18,596	23,099	22,942
Belgium	TCE	7,186	9,119	9,343	9.1	2.5	1.3	11,425	8,891	8,870
France	TF	77,648	89,400	..	2.9	57,059	66,031	63,801
Germany	TCE	26,875	38,881	39,563	3.8	1.8	5.3	34,679	42,977	41,638
Liechtenstein	TCE	64	87	98	10.3	12.3	0.0
Luxembourg	TCE	793	1,018	1,041	-2.7	2.3	0.1	4,149	4,995	4,936
Monaco	THS	279	347	363	-2.3	4.6	0.0
Netherlands	TCE	10,883	18,781	20,128	4.8	7.2	2.7	11,732	17,782	18,487
Switzerland	TF	8,628	11,715	11,818	5.2	0.9	1.6	14,816	17,989	17,949
Central/Eastern Europe	102,202	146,525	152,825	8.6	4.3	20.5	48,272	69,024	68,701	11.9
Armenia	TF	687	1,652	1,894	10.5	14.7	0.3	646	1,329	1,528
Azerbaijan	TF	1,280	2,605	2,876	6.2	10.4	0.4	657	2,634	1,792
Belarus	TCE	677	2,142	2,201	7.1	2.8	0.3	440	883	901
Bulgaria	TF	6,047	9,273	9,312	4.4	0.4	1.3	3,407	4,495	4,287
Czech Republic	TF	8,629	14,283	..	4.5	7,172	7,442	7,303
Estonia	TF	2,511	3,226	3,345	-0.6	3.7	0.4	1,092	1,783	1,745
Georgia	TF	1,067	4,757	5,080	16.9	6.8	0.7	659	3,222	3,269
Hungary	TF	9,510	17,152	16,937	8.7	-1.3	2.3	5,733	6,924	7,305
Kazakhstan	TF	2,991	1,005	2,255	2,463
Kyrgyzstan	VF	855	6,947	..	52.1	160	460	644
Latvia	TF	1,373	1,946	1,935	-0.2	-0.6	0.3	642	1,059	1,017
Lithuania	TF	1,507	2,825	2,875	11.9	1.8	0.4	967	1,505	1,493
Poland	TF	..	19,623	21,155	6.6	7.8	2.8	9,414	13,863	13,705
Rep. Moldova	TCE	64	160	174	10.4	8.6	0.0	163	381	396
Romania	TCE	1,346	2,797	2,684	1.3	-4.0	0.4	1,140	3,400	3,576
Russian Federation	VF	22,281	24,551	24,419	0.7	-0.5	3.3	8,830	11,591	10,961
Slovakia	TF	5,415	2,233	3,200	3,203
Tajikistan	VF	160	1,250	..	190.1	2	9	14
Turkmenistan	TF
Ukraine	TF	21,203	14,207	13,438	-1.5	-5.4	1.8	3,788	1,445	1,620
Uzbekistan	VF	975	5,346	6,749	98.7	26.2	0.9	121	1,144	1,481
Southern/Mediterranean Europe	177,062	288,610	303,932	7.7	5.3	40.8	164,921	228,588	234,447	40.7
Albania	TF	2,191	5,142	5,919	10.7	15.1	0.8	1,626	2,193	2,332
Andorra	TF	1,808	3,042	3,090	1.3	1.6	0.4
Bosnia and Herzg.	TCE	365	1,053	1,198	14.0	13.8	0.2	594	1,101	1,176
Croatia	TCE	8,967	16,645	17,353	6.7	4.3	2.3	7,231	11,127	11,753
Cyprus	TF	2,173	3,939	3,977	7.8	1.0	0.5	2,137	3,472	3,254
North Macedonia	TCE	262	707	758	12.2	7.1	0.1	197	382	396
Greece	TF	15,007	30,123	31,348	10.8	4.1	4.2	12,742	18,998	20,351
Israel	TF	2,803	4,121	4,552	14.1	10.5	0.6	4,903	7,225	7,600
Italy	TF	43,626	61,567	64,513	5.7	4.8	8.7	38,786	49,262	49,596
Malta	TF	1,339	2,599	2,753	14.3	5.9	0.4	1,079	1,859	1,901
Montenegro	TCE	1,088	2,077	2,510	10.6	20.8	0.3	732	1,182	1,230
Portugal	TCE/TF	6,832	22,800	24,600	7.5	7.9	3.3	10,077	20,140	20,633
San Marino	THS	60	84	111	7.3	32.3	0.0
Serbia	TCE	683	1,711	1,847	14.2	8.0	0.2	764	1,547	1,606
Slovenia	TCE	2,049	4,425	4,702	10.9	6.3	0.6	2,639	3,193	3,081
Spain	TF	52,677	82,808	83,509	1.1	0.8	11.2	58,829	81,689	79,708
Turkey	TF	31,364	45,768	51,192	21.7	11.9	6.9	22,585	25,220	29,829

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Please see page 23 for symbols and abbreviations.

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Asia and the Pacific

International tourist arrivals and tourism receipts by country of destination

Series	International tourist arrivals							International tourism receipts			
	(1000)			18/17	Change (%)	Share (%)	(USD million)			Share (%)	
	2010	2018	2019*				2010	2018	2019*		
Asia and the Pacific	208,174	347,520	361,648	7.2	4.1	100	254,301	436,544	443,209	100	
North-East Asia	111,508	169,190	170,611	6.1	0.8	47.2	122,899	193,339	187,553	42.3	
China	TF	55,665	62,900	65,700	3.6	4.5	45,814	40,386	35,832	8.1	
Hong Kong (China)	TF	20,085	29,263	23,752	4.9	-18.8	22,200	36,866	29,043	6.6	
Japan	VF	8,611	31,192	32,182	8.7	3.2	13,199	42,096	46,054	10.4	
Korea (Dem. People's Republic of)	
Korea (Republic of)	VF	8,798	15,347	17,503	15.1	14.0	10,263	18,567	21,628	4.9	
Macao (China)	TF	11,926	18,493	18,633	7.2	0.8	22,276	40,707	39,526	8.9	
Mongolia	TF	456	529	577	12.8	9.1	244	445	513	0.1	
Taiwan Province of China	VF	5,567	11,067	11,864	3.0	7.2	8,721	13,704	14,411	3.3	
South-East Asia	70,473	128,620	138,504	6.7	7.7	38.3	68,547	138,388	147,617	33.3	
Brunei	TF	214	278	323	7.4	16.0	0.1	..	190	217	
Cambodia	TF	2,508	6,201	6,611	10.7	6.6	1,519	4,352	4,769	1.1	
Indonesia	VF/TF	7,003	13,396	15,455	3.5	15.4	4,3	6,958	16,426	16,912	
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	TF	1,670	3,770	4,384	15.7	16.3	1.2	382	734	..	
Malaysia	TF	24,577	25,832	26,101	-0.4	1.0	7.2	18,115	19,622	19,823	
Myanmar	TF	792	3,551	4,364	3.1	22.9	1.2	72	1,652	2,483	
Philippines	TF	3,520	7,168	8,261	8.3	15.2	2.3	2,645	8,240	9,806	
Singapore	TF	9,161	14,673	15,119	5.5	3.0	4.2	14,178	20,418	20,052	
Thailand	TF	15,936	38,178	39,797	7.3	4.2	11.0	20,104	56,366	60,521	
Timor-Leste	TF	40	75	81	1.1	8.2	0.0	31	78	70	
Viet Nam	VF	5,050	15,498	18,009	19.9	16.2	5.0	4,450	10,080	11,830	
Oceania	11,468	17,048	17,453	2.8	2.4	4.8	42,792	61,134	61,817	13.9	
American Samoa	TF	23	20	..	1.2	
Australia	VF	5,872	9,246	9,466	4.9	2.4	2.6	32,584	45,035	45,709	
Cook Islands	TF	104	169	172	4.6	1.7	0.0	111	233	..	
Fiji	TF	632	870	894	3.3	2.8	0.2	634	972	963	
French Polynesia	TF	154	216	237	8.7	9.4	0.1	406	642	..	
Guam	TF	1,197	1,549	1,667	0.3	7.6	0.5	
Kiribati	TF	5	7	..	22.4	4	3	..	
Marshall Islands	TF	5	7	..	13.3	4	9	..	
Micronesia FSM	TF	45	19	24	
N. Mariana Islands	VF	379	518	487	-21.5	-5.9	0.1	
New Caledonia	TF	99	120	130	-0.3	8.4	0.0	129	
New Zealand	TF	2,435	3,686	3,702	3.7	0.4	1.0	6,522	10,875	10,689	
Niue	TF	6	2	
Palau	TF	85	106	94	-13.3	-11.6	0.0	73	
Papua New Guinea	TF	140	140	160	0.7	14.3	0.0	2	3	..	
Samoa	TF	122	164	172	12.4	4.8	0.0	132	191	199	
Solomon Islands	TF	21	28	29	8.4	3.7	0.0	44	81	70	
Tonga	TF	47	54	..	-13.1	16	48	57	
Tuvalu	TF	2	3	..	9.5	2	
Vanuatu	TF	97	116	121	5.9	4.3	0.0	217	295	..	
South Asia	14,726	32,661	35,080	18.9	7.4	9.7	20,063	43,684	46,222	10.4	
Afghanistan	75	28	72	0.0	
Bangladesh	TF	303	81	353	388	0.1	
Bhutan	TF	41	274	316	7.6	15.1	0.1	40	103	120	
India	TF	5,776	17,427	17,910	12.1	2.8	5.0	14,490	28,568	29,962	
Iran	VF	2,938	7,295	9,107	49.9	24.8	2.5	2,438	
Maldives	TF	792	1,484	1,703	6.8	14.7	0.5	1,713	3,028	3,157	
Nepal	TF	603	1,173	1,197	24.8	2.1	0.3	344	641	701	
Pakistan	TF	907	306	391	494	
Sri Lanka	TF	654	2,334	1,914	10.3	-18.0	0.5	576	4,381	3,607	

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Please see page 23 for symbols and abbreviations.

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Americas

International tourist arrivals and tourism receipts by country of destination

Series	International tourist arrivals							International tourism receipts			
	2010	(1000)	2018	2019*	Change (%)		Share (%)	2010	2018	2019*	Share (%)
					18/17	19/18					
Americas	150,335	215,939	219,283	2.4	1.5	100	215,188	338,188	341,824	100	
North America	99,520	142,192	146,426	3.5	3.0	66.8	164,832	263,580	265,678	77.7	
Canada	TF	16,219	21,134	22,145	1.2	4.8	10.1	15,830	26,373	26,971	7,9
Mexico	TF	23,290	41,313	45,024	5.1	9.0	20.5	11,992	22,526	24,573	7,2
United States of America	TF	60,010	79,746	79,256	3.3	-0.6	36.1	137,010	214,680	214,134	62,6
Caribbean	19,521	25,800	26,466	0.1	2.6	12.1	23,274	32,657	34,561	10,1	
Anguilla	TF	62	55	95	-20.1	74.9	0.0	99	108
Antigua and Barbuda	TF	230	269	302	8.7	12.4	0.1	298	641	733	0,2
Aruba	TF	825	1,082	1,118	1.1	3.4	0.5	1,251	2,025	2,091	0,6
Bahamas	TF	1,370	1,624	1,804	11.9	11.1	0.8	2,163	3,355	3,580	1,0
Barbados	TF	532	680	..	2.5	1,038	1,140	1,269	0,4
Bermuda	TF	232	282	269	4.6	-4.4	0.1	442	585	590	0,2
British Virgin Islands	TF	330	192	302	-42.5	57.3	0.1	389
Cayman Islands	TF	288	463	503	10.7	8.6	0.2	485	880
Cuba	TF	2,507	4,684	..	2.0	2,187	2,903
Curaçao	TF	342	432	464	8.2	7.4	0.2	385	593	703	0,2
Dominica	TF	77	63	..	-11.9	94	82	105	0,0
Dominican Republic	TF	4,125	6,569	6,446	6.2	-1.9	2.9	4,162	7,561	7,468	2,2
Grenada	TF	110	161	188	10.0	16.8	0.1	105	199	170	0,0
Guadeloupe	TCE	392	735	..	13.1	510	860
Haiti	TF	255	447	286	-4.3	-36.0	0.1	383	620
Jamaica	TF	1,922	2,473	2,681	5.1	8.4	1.2	2,001	3,099
Martinique	TF	476	537	556	0.3	3.5	0.3	472	533	549	0,2
Montserrat	TF	6	10	10	7.3	1.7	0.0	6	10	10	0,0
Puerto Rico	TF	3,186	3,068	3,180	-12.7	3.6	1.5	3,211	3,282
Saint Lucia	TF	306	396	424	2.5	7.1	0.2	565	901	999	0,3
St. Kitts and Nevis	TF	98	123	131	7.0	6.7	0.1	90	196	202	0,1
St. Maarten	TF	443	178	320	-55.8	80.0	0.1	674	453	682	0,2
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	TF	72	80	85	5.4	6.5	0.0	86	104	118	0,0
Trinidad and Tobago	TF	388	375	389	-4.9	3.5	0.2	450	429	439	0,1
Turks and Caicos	TF	281	441	487	5.9	10.4	0.2	..	787
US Virgin Islands	TF	572	381	..	-28.8	1,223	1,046
Central America	7,808	10,845	10,932	-2.2	0.8	5.0	6,622	12,257	12,629	3,7	
Belize	TF	242	489	503	14.6	2.8	0.2	249	487	510	0,1
Costa Rica	TF	2,100	3,017	3,139	1.9	4.1	1.4	2,246	3,773	4,010	1,2
El Salvador	TF	1,150	1,677	1,766	7.8	5.3	0.8	390	1,014	1,306	0,4
Guatemala	TF	1,119	1,781	1,752	7.3	-1.6	0.8	1,053	1,231	1,221	0,4
Honduras	TF	863	847	724	-0.4	-14.5	0.3	625	592	547	0,2
Nicaragua	TF	1,011	1,256	1,295	-29.7	3.2	0.6	314	544	515	0,2
Panama	TF	1,324	1,779	1,753	-3.5	-1.5	0.8	1,745	4,617	4,521	1,3
South America	23,485	37,102	35,459	1.3	-4.4	16.2	20,460	29,695	28,955	8,5	
Argentina	TF	5,325	6,942	7,399	3.4	6.6	3.4	4,942	5,563	5,241	1,5
Bolivia	TF	679	1,142	1,239	3.0	8.5	0.6	379	815	797	0,2
Brazil	TF	5,161	6,621	6,353	0.5	-4.1	2.9	5,261	5,921	5,995	1,8
Chile	TF	2,801	5,723	4,518	-11.3	-21.1	2.1	1,552	2,871	2,377	0,7
Colombia	TF	2,385	4,020	4,154	10.7	3.4	1.9	2,797	5,556	5,652	1,7
Ecuador	VF	1,047	2,535	2,108	40.4	-16.9	1.0	781	2,272	2,282	0,7
French Guiana	TF
Guyana	TF	152	287	315	15.9	9.8	0.1	80	28
Paraguay	TF	465	1,181	1,216	-24.3	2.9	0.6	217	363	379	0,1
Peru	TF	2,299	4,419	4,372	9.6	-1.1	2.0	2,008	3,557	3,819	1,1
Suriname	TF	205	61	56	53	0,0
Uruguay	TF	2,349	3,469	3,056	-5.6	-11.9	1.4	1,509	2,350	2,011	0,6
Venezuela	TF	526	831

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Please see page 23 for symbols and abbreviations.

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Africa

International tourist arrivals and tourism receipts by country of destination

Series	International tourist arrivals							International tourism receipts			
	(1000)			18/17	Change (%)	Share (%)	(USD million)			Share (%)	
	2010	2018	2019*				2010	2018	2019*		
Africa	50,426	68,585	69,954	8.3	2.0	100	30,445	38,869	38,426	100	
North Africa	19,682	24,081	25,622	11.1	6.4	36.6	9,662	10,735	11,511	30.0	
Algeria	VF	2,070	2,657	2,371	8.4	-10.8	3.4	220	169	165	0.4
Morocco	TF	9,288	12,289	12,932	8.3	5.2	18.5	6,703	7,782	8,179	21.3
Sudan	TF	495	836	..	2.8	94	1,043	821	2.1
Tunisia	TF	7,828	8,299	9,429	17.7	13.6	13.5	2,645	1,741
Subsaharan Africa		30,743	44,505	44,332	6.8	-0.4	63.4	20,782	28,134	26,915	70.0
Angola	TF	425	218	218	-16.5	0.0	0.3	719	544	384	1.0
Benin	TF	199	295	..	5.0	149	162
Botswana	TF	1,973	1,655	..	2.0	510	574
Burkina Faso	THS	274	144	143	0.7	-0.7	0.2	72	121
Burundi	TF	142	2	4
Cameroon	TF	569	159	581
Cabo Verde	THS	336	710	758	6.3	6.8	1.1	278	484	502	1.3
Central African Republic	TF	54	11
Chad	THS	71
Comoros	TF	15	36	45	28.2	25.6	0.1	35	76
Congo	THS	194	156	..	4.7	27
Côte d'Ivoire	VF	252	1,965	2,070	9.2	5.3	3.0	201	443
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	TF	81	11	60.5	99.7	0.3
Djibouti	TF	51	18	57
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea	VF	84
Eswatini	TF	868	782	680	-15.1	-13.0	1.0	51	16	14	0.0
Ethiopia	TF	468	849	812	-9.0	-4.4	1.2	522	969	778	2.0
Gabon	TF	86
Gambia	TF	91	552	..	5.7	74	154
Ghana	TF	931	1,029	1,088	4.8	5.7	1.6	620	944
Guinea	TF	12	2	3	9	0.0
Guinea-Bissau	TF	22	55	52	11.1	-4.7	0.1	13	20
Kenya	TF	1,470	1,931	..	15.4	800	1,072
Lesotho	TF	414	23	24	22	0.1
Liberia	12
Madagascar	TF	196	291	376	13.8	29.2	0.5	309	697	193	0.5
Malawi	TF	746	871	..	4.1	31	38	42	0.1
Mali	TF	169	203	217	5.2	6.9	0.3	205	227
Mauritania	TF	4	11	0.0	..
Mauritius	TF	935	1,399	1,383	4.3	-1.1	2.0	1,282	1,887	1,779	4.6
Mozambique	TF	1,718	2,743	2,019	89.6	-26.4	2.9	108	242	252	0.7
Namibia	TF	984	1,621	1,596	4.1	-1.6	2.3	437	383	350	0.9
Niger	TF	74	157	192	-4.3	22.3	0.3	105	98
Nigeria	TF	1,555	576	1,962	1,449	3.8
Reunion	TF	421	535	534	5.3	-0.2	0.8	389	511	459	1.2
Rwanda	TF	504	202	375
São Tomé and Príncipe	TF	8	33	..	15.6	11	72	44	0.1
Senegal	TF	900	453	496
Seychelles	TF	175	362	384	3.4	6.2	0.5	343	559	590	1.5
Sierra Leone	TF	39	57	..	11.8	26	39
Somalia
South Africa	TF	8,074	10,472	10,229	1.8	-2.3	14.6	9,070	8,944	8,384	21.8
Tanzania	TF	754	1,378	1,443	8.1	4.7	2.1	1,255	2,449	2,605	6.8
Togo	THS	202	573	876	11.5	52.9	1.3	66	153
Uganda	TF	946	1,850	..	31.9	784	1,506	1,463	3.8
Zambia	TF	815	1,072	..	-1.0	492	742	819	2.1
Zimbabwe	VF	2,239	2,567	2,290	5.9	-10.8	3.3	124

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).
Please see page 23 for symbols and abbreviations.

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Middle East

International tourist arrivals and tourism receipts by country of destination

Series		International tourist arrivals						International tourism receipts			
		(1000)	2010	2018	2019*	18/17	Change (%)	Share (%)	2010	2018	2019*
Middle East											
Bahrain	THS/TCE	56,122	60,116	65,114	4.3	8.3	100	52,153	74,512	81,471	100
Egypt	VF	995	4,366	3,849	-0.2	-11.8	5.9	1,362	3,689	3,681	4.5
Iraq	VF	14,731	11,346	13,026	36.8	14.8	20.0	12,528	11,615	13,030	16.0
Jordan	TF	1,518	1,660	1,986	3,593	4.4
Kuwait	THS	4,207	4,150	4,488	8.0	8.1	6.9	3,585	5,248	5,786	7.1
Lebanon	TF	207	290	456	700	0.9
Libya	TF	2,168	1,964	1,936	5.8	-1.4	3.0	7,995	8,400	8,593	10.5
Oman	TF	1,441	2,301	2,500	-0.6	8.6	3.8	783	1,758	1,811	2.2
Palestine	THS	522	606	688	20.5	13.5	1.1	667	245	..	0.3
Qatar	TF	1,700	1,819	2,137	-19.4	17.4	3.3	584	5,565	5,442	6.7
Saudi Arabia	TF	10,850	15,334	17,526	-4.8	14.3	26.9	6,712	13,790	16,382	20.1
Syria	TF	8,546	6,190
United Arab Emirates	THS ¹	7,432	15,920	16,730	0.8	5.1	25.7	8,577	21,375	21,800	26.8
Yemen	TF	1,025	1,161

¹ Dubai only.

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Please see page 23 for symbols and abbreviations.

Data as of November 2020.

* Provisional data.

Methodological notes

Series of international tourist arrivals:

TF = International tourist arrivals at frontiers (overnight visitors, i.e. excluding same-day visitors)
VF = International visitors arrivals at frontiers (tourists and same-day visitors)
THS = International tourists arrivals at hotel and similar establishments
TCE = International tourists arrivals at collective tourism establishments
TD = Departures of tourists (overnight visitors, i.e. excluding same-day visitors)
VD = Departures of both overnight and same-day visitors

* = Provisional figure or data
.. = Figure or data not (yet) available
I = Change of series
n/a = Not applicable
. = Decimal separator
, = Thousands separator

Information in this report reflects data available at the time of publication, as reported by national or international institutions up until November 2020.

It should be noted that data as reflected by UNWTO on international tourism receipts and expenditure for China is based on the balance of payments (BOP) travel credit and debit (as with other countries for reasons of consistency and international comparability) reported by the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) at www.safe.gov.cn/en/BalanceofPayments/. It is to be noted that there is a difference in the data used by UNWTO and those produced by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism (formerly the China National Tourism Administration) for 2014 and subsequent years.

For the latest tourism data and trends, please refer to the *UNWTO World Tourism Barometer* at www.e-unwto.org/loi/wtobarometereng. For tourism statistics online and for data on previous years, see the UNWTO e-library at www.e-unwto.org.

For main concepts, definitions and classifications for the measurement of tourism, please see: *International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics 2008* (IRTS 2008) at statistics. <https://www.e-unwto.org/doi/book/10.18111/9789211615210>.

This report was prepared by the UNWTO Tourism Market Intelligence and Competitiveness Department, under the supervision of Sandra Carvão, Chief of the Department.

Authors include (in alphabetical order): Fernando Alonso, Michel Julian and Javier Ruescas.

The designations and presentation material employed in this report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The **World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)**, a United Nations specialized agency, is the leading international organization with the decisive and central role in promoting the development of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism. It serves as a global forum for tourism policy issues and a practical source of tourism know-how. Its membership includes 159 countries, 6 territories, 2 permanent observers and over 500 Affiliate Members.

Copyright © 2021, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)
Copyright cover photo: © Tomas1111 | Dreamstime.com

ISBN printed version: 978-92-844-2244-9
ISBN electronic version: 978-92-844-2245-6
DOI: 10.18111/9789284422456

Published by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), Madrid, Spain.
First printing: 2021 | All rights reserved. | Printed in Spain.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinions whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Citation:
World Tourism Organization (2021), *International Tourism Highlights, 2020 Edition*,
UNWTO, Madrid, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18111/9789284422456>.

