

JANUARY
2021

MONTHLY TOURIST ARRIVALS REPORT



Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority
www.sltda.gov.lk

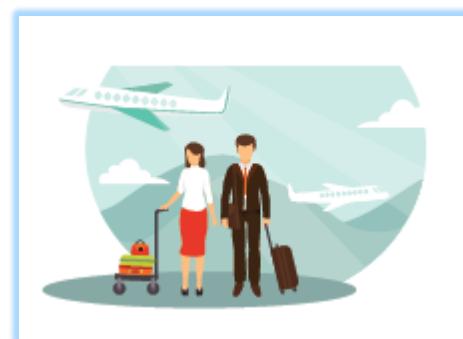


SUMMARY

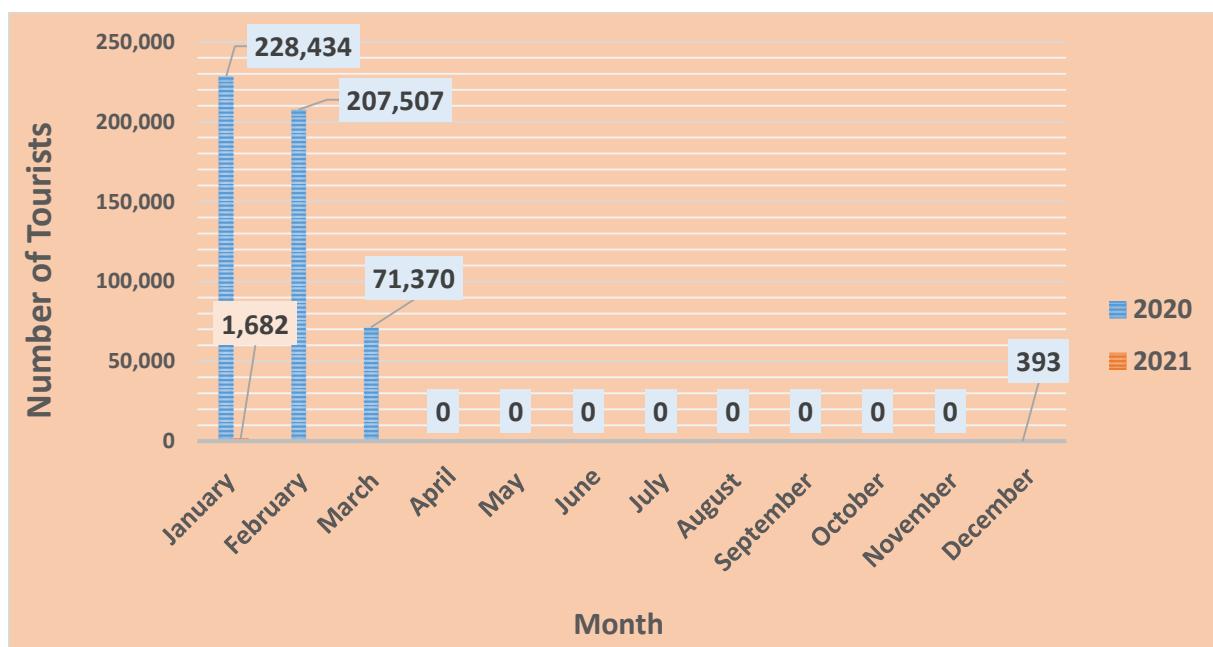
The total number of international tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during January 2021 was 1,682. Sri Lanka reopened its borders on 21st January 2021, following a 10-month pandemic-induced closure since 18th March 2020. In comparison to January last year (2020), there was a decline of 99.3 % when the arrivals were 228,434. The figures reflect the unprecedented health, social and economic crisis caused by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Globally International tourist arrivals plunged by 74% in 2020 over the previous year with the travel restrictions imposed by almost all the destinations since the month of April (World Tourism Barometer, January 2021).

The largest source markets recorded for the month of January was Ukraine, followed by Belarus and China.

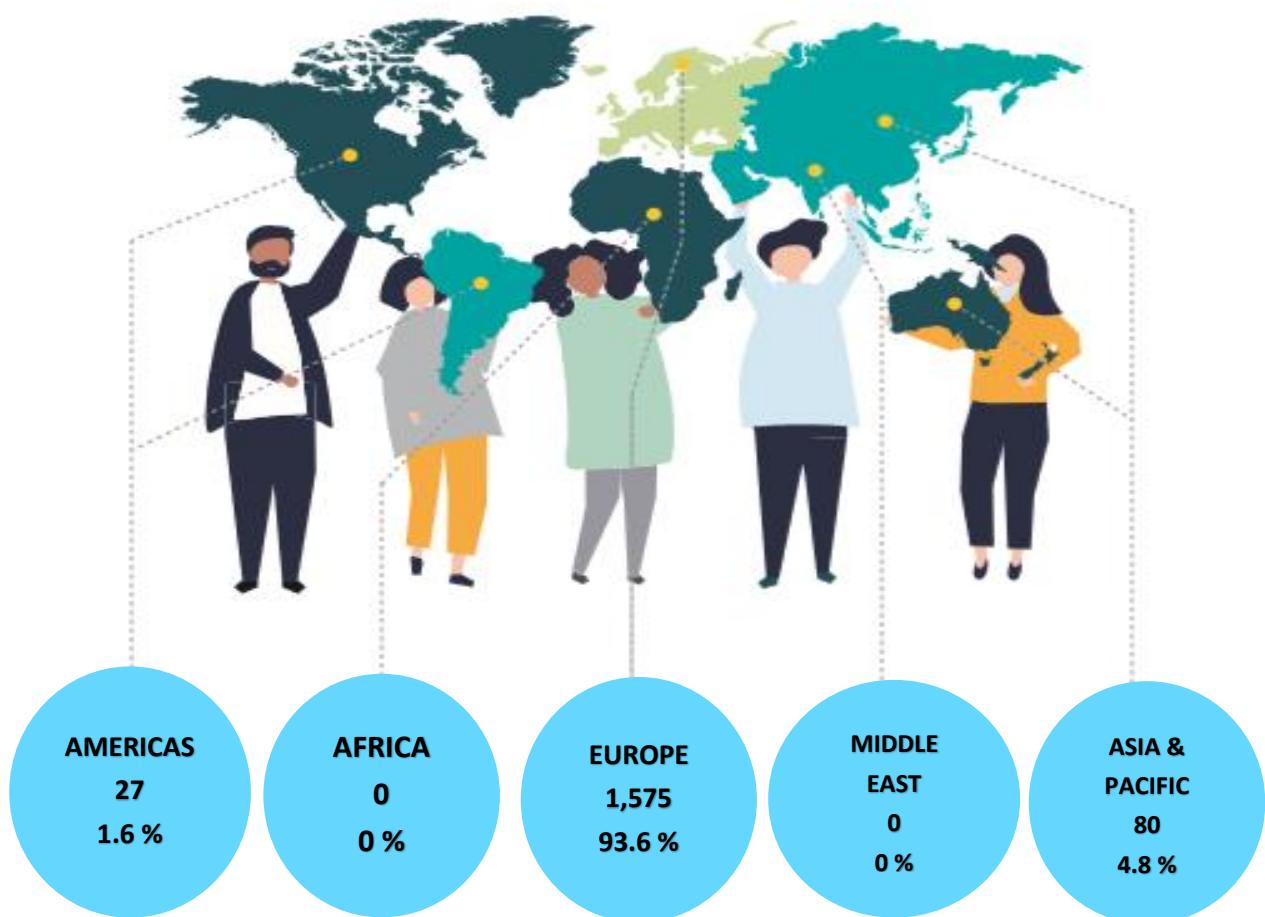
Month	2020	2021	% change 2020/21
January	228,434	1,682	(99.3)
February	207,507		
March	71,370		
April	0		
May	0		
June	0		
July	0		
August	0		
September	0		
October	0		
November	0		
December	393		
Total	507,704	1,682	(99.7)



Tourist Arrivals – January
1,682



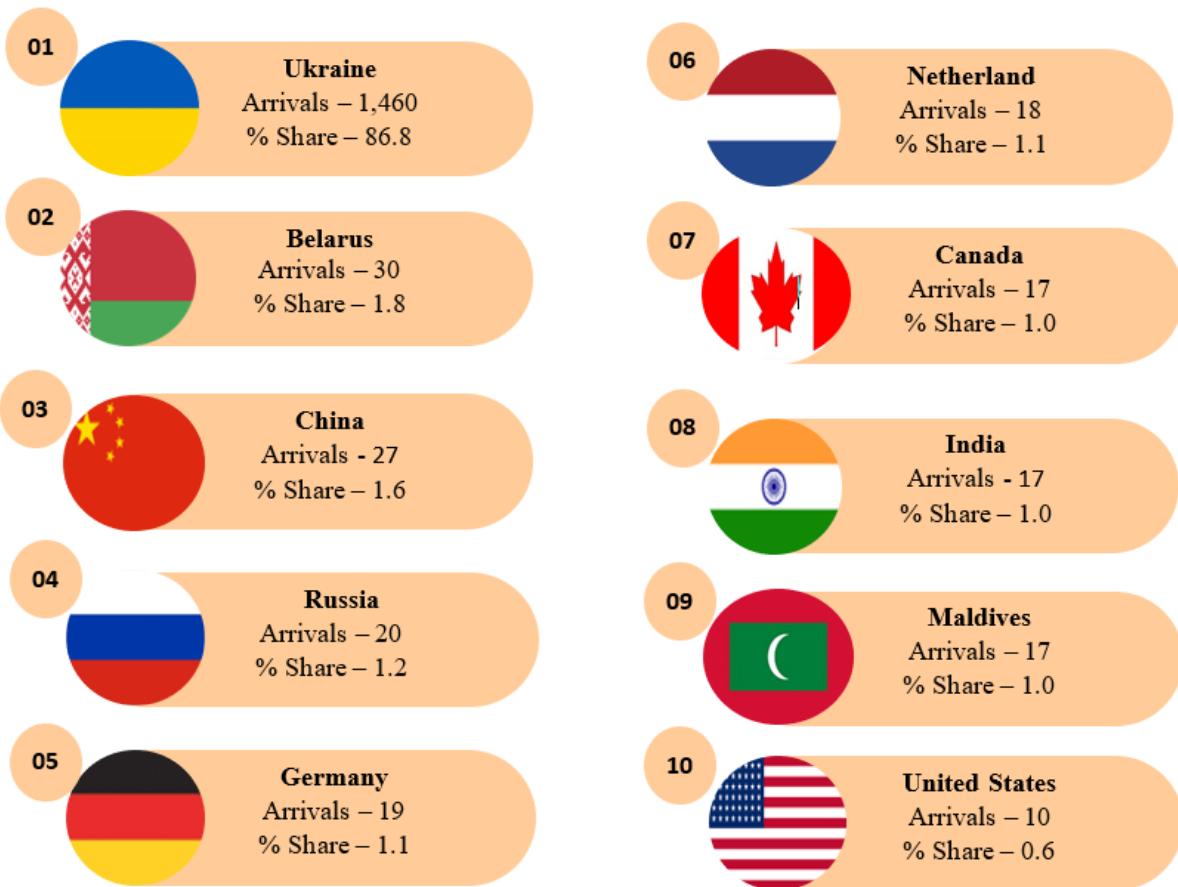
TOURIST ARRIVALS BY REGION AND PERCENTAGE SHARE JANUARY 2021



Europe became the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 93.6 % of the total traffic received in January 2021. Asia and Pacific accounted for 4.8% of the total traffic while Americas accounted for 1.6 %. Globally, all the regions were severely impacted by the pandemic and Asia and Pacific being the first to suffer the impact of the pandemic recorded a decline of 83%, while Middle East and Africa recorded a drop of 75%. The decline recorded for Americas was 69% (World Tourism Barometer, January 2021).

TOP TEN SOURCE MARKETS – JANUARY 2021

Ukraine, Belarus, China, Russian Federation and Germany were Sri Lanka's top five international tourist generating markets in the month of January this year. Ukraine was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 86.8 % of the total traffic received in above period. Belarus accounted for 1.8 % of the total traffic; while China, Russian Federation and Germany accounted for 1.6 %, 1.2 % and 1.1 % respectively. It is noteworthy that increased tourist arrivals from the Central and Eastern European countries is mainly due to the pilot project carried out from 28th December 2020 by the Government of Sri Lanka.



Rank	Country of Residence	Tourist Arrivals January 2021			Tourist Arrivals January 2020
		By Air	By Sea	Total	
1	UKRAINE	1,460	-	1,460	8,549
2	BELARUS	30	-	30	1,099
3	CHINA	27	-	27	22,363
4	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	20	-	20	19,616
5	GERMANY	19	-	19	11,494
6	NETHERLANDS	18	-	18	3,538
7	CANADA	17	-	17	5,510
8	INDIA	17	-	17	41,448
9	MALDIVES	17	-	17	4,264
10	UNITED STATES	10	-	10	7,494

INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

	January 2021			Total Tourist Arrivals January 2020	
	Tourist Arrivals				
	By Air	By Sea	Total		
AMERICAS	27	0	27	14,224	
North America	27	0	27	13,142	
Canada	17	0	17	5,510	
Mexico	-	-	-	138	
United States	10	0	10	7,494	
Caribbean & Central America	-	-	-	80	
Costa Rica	-	-	-	9	
Jamaica	-	-	-	7	
Others	-	-	-	64	
South America	-	-	-	1,002	
Argentina	-	-	-	224	
Brazil	-	-	-	467	
Chile	-	-	-	128	
Colombia	-	-	-	88	
Others	-	-	-	95	
AFRICA	-	-	-	1,297	
North Africa	-	-	-	306	
Morocco	-	-	-	125	
Sudan	-	-	-	67	
Others	-	-	-	114	
Sub-Saharan Africa	-	-	-	991	
Kenya	-	-	-	45	
Mauritius	-	-	-	107	
Nigeria	-	-	-	12	
South Africa	-	-	-	686	
Others	-	-	-	141	

	January 2021			Total Tourist Arrivals January 2020	
	Tourist Arrivals				
	By Air	By Sea	Total		
ASIA & PACIFIC	80	0	80	92,201	
North East Asia	28	0	28	28,181	
China	27	0	27	22,363	
Japan	1	0	1	2,917	
South Korea	-	-	-	1,577	
Taiwan	-	-	-	1,296	
Others	-	-	-	28	
South East Asia	12	0	12	5,584	
Cambodia	-	-	-	146	
Indonesia	3	0	3	401	
Malaysia	1	0	1	1,399	
Myanmar	1	0	1	190	
Philippines	6	0	6	1,199	
Singapore	1	0	1	1,214	
Thailand	-	-	-	736	
Vietnam	-	-	-	287	
Others	-	-	-	12	
Oceania	6	0	6	9,192	
Australia	3	0	3	8,115	
New Zealand	3	0	3	1,035	
Others	-	-	-	42	
South Asia	34	0	34	46,904	
Afghanistan	-	-	-	65	
Bangladesh	-	-	-	1,014	
Bhutan	-	-	-	137	
India	17	0	17	41,448	
Iran	-	-	-	330	
Maldives	17	0	17	4,264	
Nepal	-	-	-	589	
Pakistan	-	-	-	1,397	

	January 2021			
	Tourist Arrivals			
	By Air	By Sea	Total	Total Tourist Arrivals January 2020
EUROPE	1,575	0	1,575	122,761
Northern Eur.	3	0	3	38,414
Denmark	-	-	-	2,176
Finland	-	-	-	986
Norway	-	-	-	1,379
Sweden	-	-	-	3,099
United Kingdom	3	0	3	21,138
Others	-	-	-	996
Western Eur.	49	0	49	38,124
Austria	5	0	5	1,674
Belgium	-	-	-	1,243
France	4	0	4	9,352
Germany	19	0	19	11,494
Netherlands	18	0	18	3,538
Switzerland	3	0	3	2,508
Others	-	-	-	61
Central / Eastern Europe	1,520	0	1,520	32,833
Belarus	-	-	-	1,099
Czech Republic	-	-	-	2,673
Estonia	-	-	-	394
Hungary	-	-	-	758
Kazakhstan	1	0	1	1,182
Lithuania	-	-	-	514
Poland	-	-	-	5,577
Romania	-	-	-	785
Russian Federation	20	0	20	19,616
Slovakia	-	-	-	539
Ukraine	1,460	0	1460	8,549
Others	39	-	39	1,197

	January 2021			
	Tourist Arrivals			
	By Air	By Sea	Total	Total Tourist Arrivals January 2020
Southern / Mediterranean Europe	3	0	3	13,390
Greece	-	-	-	598
Italy	2	0	2	4,454
Portugal	-	-	-	568
Spain	-	-	-	1,509
Turkey	1	0	1	1,145
Israel	-	-	-	1,688
Others	-	-	-	1,112
MIDDLE EAST	0	0	0	5,042
Bahrain	-	-	-	404
Egypt	-	-	-	404
Iraq	-	-	-	71
Jordan	-	-	-	361
Kuwait	-	-	-	465
Lebanon	-	-	-	212
Oman	-	-	-	768
Qatar	-	-	-	69
Saudi Arabia	-	-	-	3,914
United Arab Emirates	-	-	-	199
Others	-	-	-	244
TOTAL	1,682	0	1,682	228,434

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