



**October
2018**

MONTHLY TOURIST ARRIVALS REPORT

SRI LANKA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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.

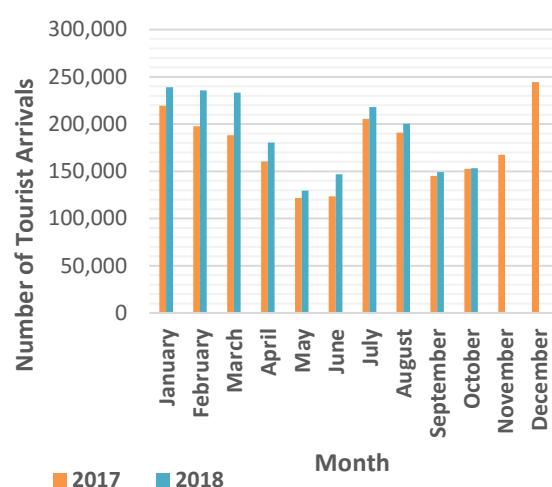
This month, the largest source market for tourists is India, followed by China and United Kingdom.

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

As at 31st 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		
TOTAL	2,116,407		
Up to October	1,704,360	1,885,045	10.6

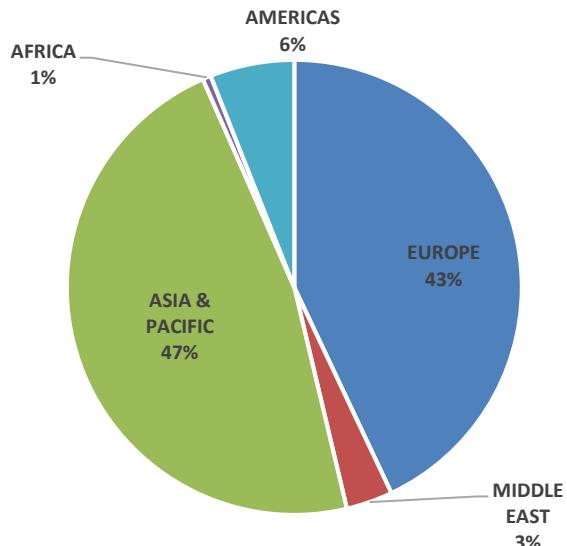
*Rebased



TOURIST ARRIVALS BY REGION

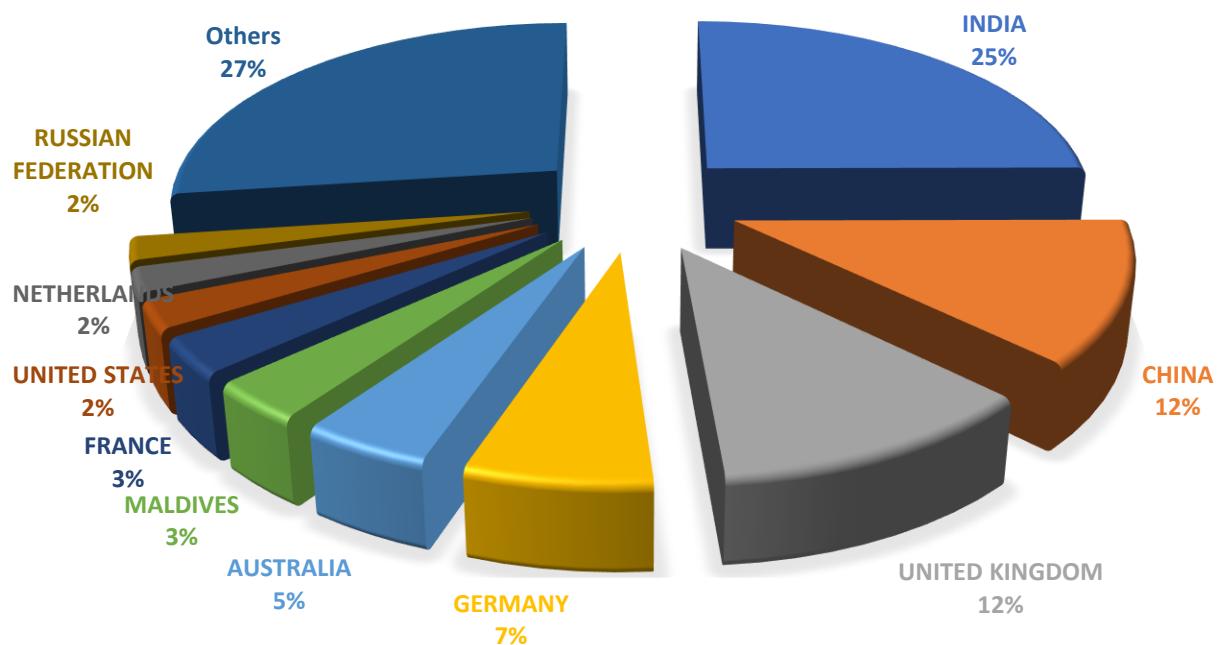
Asia and Pacific continued to be the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 47% of the total traffic received in October 2018.

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 ¹								
	By Air	By Sea	Total						
AMERICAS	6,507	147	6,654	6,474	2.8	113,034			
North America	6,056	143	6,199	6,018	3.0	106,441			
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			
Caribbean & Central America	63	0	63	69	(8.7)	742			
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			
South America	388	4	392	387	1.3	5,851			
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			
AFRICA	829	6	835	853	(2.1)	11,178			
North Africa	146	0	146	206	(29.1)	2,356			
Morocco	73	0	73	60	21.7	808			
Sudan	24	0	24	101	(76.2)	698			
Others	49	0	49	45	8.9	850			
Sub-Saharan Africa	683	6	689	647	6.5	8,822			
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			

	OCTOBER 2018			Total Tourist Arrivals October 2017	% Change October (2017/2018)	Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to October 2018			
	Tourist Arrivals ¹								
	By Air	By Sea	Total						
ASIA & PACIFIC	82,206	1,193	83,399	88,056	(5.3)	888,270			
North East Asia	23,183	74	23,257	26,834	(13.3)	291,111			
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			
South East Asia	5,257	370	5,627	8,047	(30.1)	68,563			
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			
Oceania	7,812	69	7,881	5,991	31.5	96,686			
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			
South Asia	45,954	680	46,634	47,184	(1.2)	431,910			
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			

	OCTOBER 2018					
	Tourist Arrivals ¹			Total Tourist Arrivals October 2017	% Change October (2017 /2018)	Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to October 2018
	By Air	By Sea	Total			
EUROPE	58,117	1,466	59,583	53,918	10.5	810,177
Northern Europe	20,927	819	21,746	15,985	36.0	270,653
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
Western Europe	21,709	80	21,789	22,299	(2.3)	318,730
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
Central / Eastern Europe	9,463	332	9,795	9,892	(1.0)	131,087
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

	OCTOBER 2018			Total Tourist Arrivals October 2017	% Change October (2017/2018)	Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to October 2018			
	Tourist Arrivals ¹								
	By Air	By Sea	Total						
Southern / Mediterranean Europe	6,018	235	6,253	5,742	8.9	89,707			
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			
MIDDLE EAST	2,623	29	2,652	3,128	(15.2)	62,386			
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			
TOTAL	150,282	2,841	153,123	152,429	0.5	1,885,045			

¹ Rebased

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