



**SEPTEMBER
2019**

MONTHLY TOURIST ARRIVALS REPORT

SRI LANKA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

www.sltda.lk

Photo courtesy of SLTDA, SLRC Lovingly Sri Lanka programme



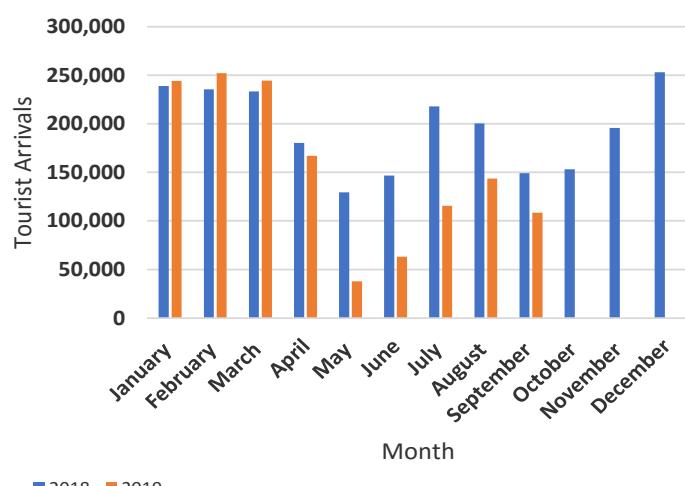
SUMMARY

The total number of international tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during September 2019 was 108,575. In comparison to September last year, there was a decline of 27.2% when the arrivals were 149,087.

This month, the largest source market for tourists was India, followed by the China and United Kingdom. Almost 98 % of tourists travelled by air to Sri Lanka.

As at 30th September 2019, 1,376,312 of tourists had visited Sri Lanka for this year. It is a decline of 20.5% over last year when 1,731,922 of tourists has visited the country during the same period.

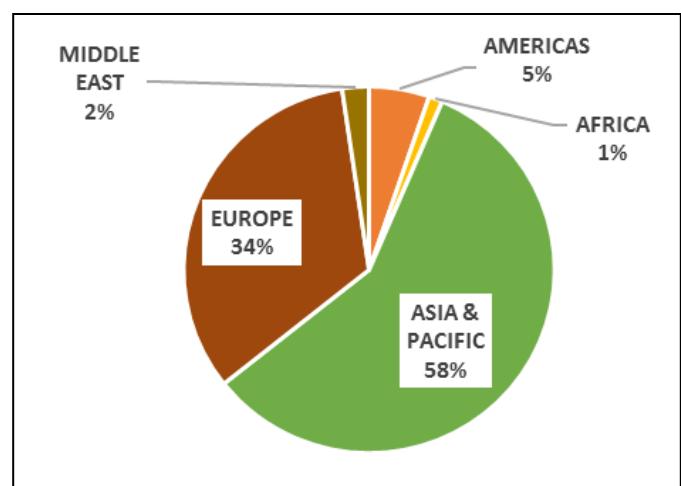
Month	2018	2019	% change 2018/2019
January	238,924	244,239	2.2
February	235,618	252,033	7.0
March	233,382	244,328	4.7
April	180,429	166,975	(7.5)
May	129,466	37,802	(70.8)
June	146,828	63,072	(57.0)
July	217,829	115,701	(46.9)
August	200,359	143,587	(28.3)
September	149,087	108,575	(27.2)
October	153,123		
November	195,582		
December	253,169		
Total	2,333,796		
Up to September	1,731,922	1,376,312	(20.5)



TOURIST ARRIVALS BY REGION

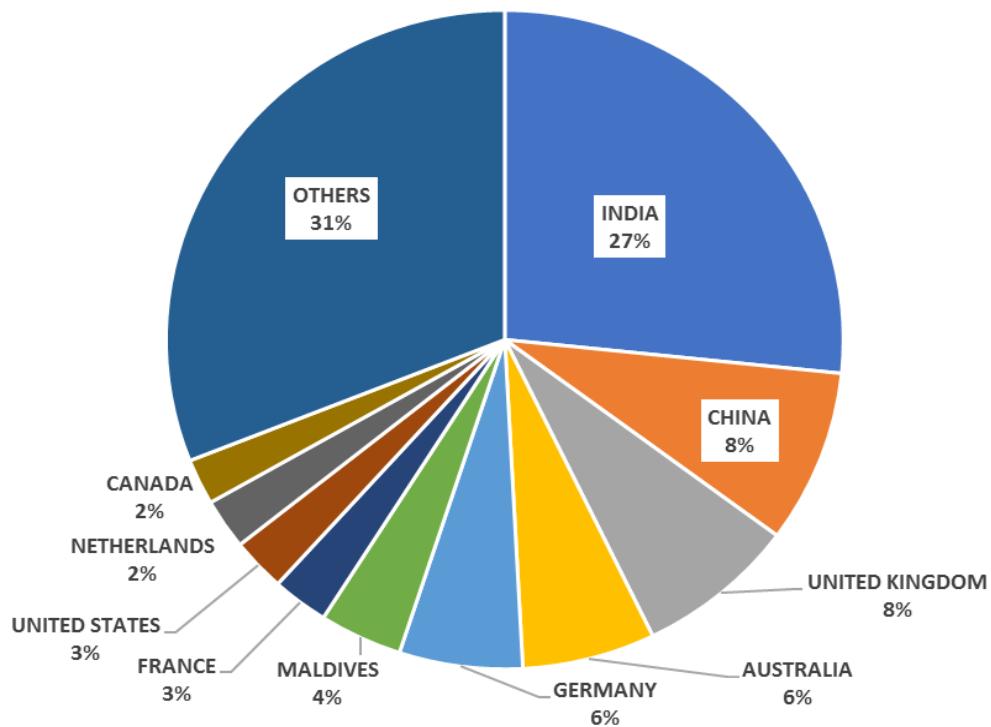
Asia and Pacific became the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 58% of the total traffic received in September 2019.

Europe accounted for 34% of the total traffic, America 5%, Middle East 2% and Africa 1%.



TOP TEN SOURCE MARKETS – SEPTEMBER 2019

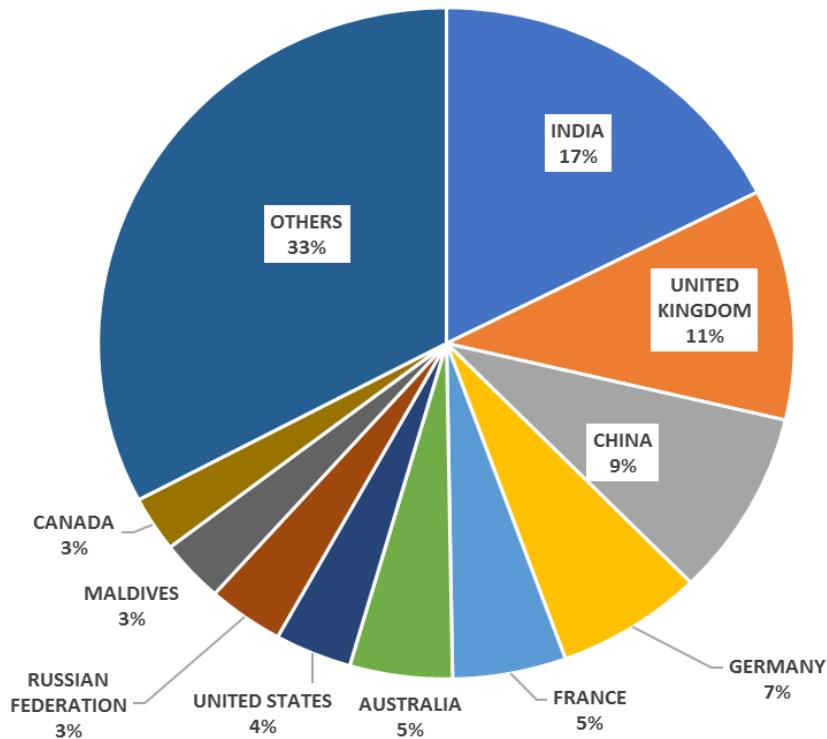
India, China, United Kingdom, Australia and Germany were Sri Lanka's top five international tourist generating markets in the month of September this year. India was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 27% of the total traffic received in September 2019. China accounted for 8% of the total traffic; while United Kingdom, Australia and Germany accounted for 8%, 6% (both) respectively.



Rank	Country of Residence	Tourist Arrivals September 2019			Tourist Arrivals September 2018	% Change September 2019/2018
		By Air	By Sea	Total		
1	INDIA	28,301	616	28,917	32,300	(10.5)
2	CHINA	9,198	33	9,231	19,600	(52.9)
3	UNITED KINGDOM	8,262	60	8,322	14,226	(41.5)
4	AUSTRALIA	6,894	1	6,895	8,746	(21.2)
5	GERMANY	6,392	4	6,396	9,668	(33.8)
6	MALDIVES	4,303	1	4,304	4,695	(8.3)
7	FRANCE	2,919	9	2,928	4,316	(32.2)
8	UNITED STATES	2,829	1	2,830	4,406	(35.8)
9	NETHERLANDS	2,673	0	2,673	4,049	(34.0)
10	CANADA	2,438	0	2,438	2,903	(16.0)

TOP TEN SOURCE MARKETS – JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER - 2019

India, United Kingdom, China, Germany and France were Sri Lanka's top five international tourist generating markets from January to September this year. India was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 17% of the total traffic received from January to September 2019. UK accounted for 11% of the total traffic; while China, Germany and France accounted for 9%, 7% and 5% respectively.



Rank	Country of Residence	Tourist Arrivals (Jan - Sep) 2019	Tourist Arrivals (Jan - Sep) 2018	% Change (Jan - Sep 2019 & Jan - Sep 2018)
1	INDIA	241,666	301,784	(19.9)
2	UNITED KINGDOM	152,991	187,704	(18.5)
3	CHINA	123,220	209,912	(41.3)
4	GERMANY	93,886	111,590	(15.9)
5	FRANCE	72,559	85,365	(15.0)
6	AUSTRALIA	65,578	78,756	(16.7)
7	UNITED STATES	49,180	56,947	(13.6)
8	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	48,692	42,053	15.8
9	MALDIVES	41,461	51,413	(19.4)
10	CANADA	36,779	42,099	(12.6)

INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

	September 2019			Total Tourist Arrivals September 2018	% Change September (19/18)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to September 2019	Total Tourist Arrivals up to September 2018	% Change up to September 2019					
	Tourist Arrivals												
	By Air	By Sea	Total										
AMERICAS	5,712	2	5,714	7,802	(26.8)	92,431	106,380	(13.1)					
North America	5,331	1	5,332	7,382	(27.8)	87,058	100,242	(13.2)					
Canada	2,438	0	2,438	2,903	(16.0)	36,779	42,099	(12.6)					
Mexico	64	0	64	73	(12.3)	1,099	1,196	(8.1)					
United States	2,829	1	2,830	4,406	(35.8)	49,180	56,947	(13.6)					
Caribbean & Central America	60	0	60	68	(11.8)	618	679	(9.0)					
Costa Rica	8	0	8	26	(69.2)	93	103	(9.7)					
Jamaica	1	0	1	7	(85.7)	48	87	(44.8)					
Others	51	0	51	37	37.8	477	491	(2.9)					
South America	321	1	322	352	(8.5)	4,755	5,459	(12.9)					
Argentina	44	0	44	92	(52.2)	1,016	1,450	(29.9)					
Brazil	115	0	115	102	12.7	1,942	2,082	(6.7)					
Chile	59	0	59	55	7.3	702	735	(4.5)					
Colombia	57	0	57	43	32.6	499	484	3.1					
Others	46	1	47	60	(21.7)	596	708	(15.8)					
AFRICA	1,276	12	1,288	1,069	20.5	8,541	10,343	(17.4)					
North Africa	212	0	212	294	(27.9)	1,867	2,210	(15.5)					
Morocco	69	0	69	63	9.5	724	735	(1.5)					
Sudan	89	0	89	142	(37.3)	445	674	(34.0)					
Others	54	0	54	89	(39.3)	698	801	(12.9)					
Sub-Saharan Africa	1,064	12	1,076	775	38.8	8,538	8,133	5.0					
Kenya	427	0	427	55	676.4	1,338	510	162.4					
Mauritius	25	0	25	79	(68.4)	409	497	(17.7)					
Nigeria	15	2	17	47	(63.8)	130	312	(58.3)					
South Africa	234	6	240	413	(41.9)	4,473	4,930	(9.3)					
Others	363	4	367	181	102.8	2,188	1,884	16.1					

	September 2019			Total Tourist Arrivals September 2018	% Change September (19 /18)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to September 2019	Total Tourist Arrivals up to September 2018	% Change up to September 2019					
	Tourist Arrivals												
	By Air	By Sea	Total										
ASIA & PACIFIC	61,773	1,060	62,833	81,114	(22.5)	592,461	804,871	(26.4)					
North East Asia	12,874	52	12,926	25,552	(49.4)	160,524	267,854	(40.1)					
China	9,198	33	9,231	19,600	(52.9)	123,220	209,912	(41.3)					
Japan	2,245	5	2,250	4,480	(49.8)	22,692	39,304	(42.3)					
South Korea	733	12	745	970	(23.2)	8,785	11,927	(26.3)					
Taiwan	653	2	655	474	38.2	5,660	6,556	(13.7)					
Others	45	0	45	28	60.7	167	155	7.7					
South East Asia	5,229	279	5,508	6,200	(11.2)	50,398	62,936	(19.9)					
Cambodia	36	0	36	37	(2.7)	2,659	660	302.9					
Indonesia	492	27	519	381	36.2	3,604	3,965	(9.1)					
Malaysia	1,454	7	1,461	1,903	(23.2)	12,175	16,963	(28.2)					
Myanmar	249	16	265	159	66.7	2,406	2,300	4.6					
Philippines	1,157	215	1,372	1,306	5.1	10,802	14,856	(27.3)					
Singapore	1,013	4	1,017	1,520	(33.1)	9,870	14,449	(31.7)					
Thailand	604	7	611	658	(7.1)	6,680	6,973	(4.2)					
Vietnam	208	3	211	222	(5.0)	2,058	2,531	(18.7)					
Others	16	0	16	14	14.2	139	239	(41.8)					
Oceania	7,884	1	7,885	9,692	(18.6)	74,750	88,805	(15.8)					
Australia	6,894	1	6,895	8,746	(21.2)	65,578	78,756	(16.7)					
New Zealand	954	0	954	923	3.4	9,007	9,811	(8.2)					
Others	36	0	36	23	56.5	165	238	(30.7)					
South Asia	35,786	728	36,514	39,670	(8.0)	306,789	385,276	(20.4)					
Afghanistan	50	0	50	34	47.1	358	696	(48.6)					
Bangladesh	672	21	693	771	(10.1)	5,941	7,838	(24.2)					
Bhutan	23	0	23	38	(39.5)	227	467	(51.4)					
India	28,301	616	28,917	32,300	(10.5)	241,666	301,784	(19.9)					
Iran	251	2	253	230	10.0	2,358	5,021	(53.0)					
Maldives	4,303	1	4,304	4,695	(8.3)	41,461	51,413	(19.4)					
Nepal	367	58	425	377	12.7	3,653	3,789	(3.6)					
Pakistan	1,819	30	1,849	1,225	50.9	11,125	14,268	(22.0)					

	September 2019			Total Tourist Arrivals September 2018	% Change September (19 / 18)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to September 2019	Total Tourist Arrivals up to September 2018	% Change up to September 2019					
	Tourist Arrivals												
	By Air	By Sea	Total										
EUROPE	35,596	608	36,204	55,716	(35.0)	646,069	750,594	(13.9)					
Northern Eur.	10,077	65	10,142	17,070	(40.6)	204,906	248,907	(17.7)					
Denmark	416	0	416	576	(27.8)	14,025	15,278	(8.2)					
Finland	103	1	104	231	(55.0)	5,222	5,972	(12.6)					
Norway	518	4	522	605	(13.7)	10,860	13,454	(19.3)					
Sweden	427	0	427	651	(34.4)	15,415	18,183	(15.2)					
United Kingdom	8,285	60	8,345	14,226	(41.3)	152,991	187,704	(18.5)					
Others	328	0	328	781	(58.0)	6,393	8,316	(23.1)					
Western Eur.	14,892	13	14,905	22,164	(32.8)	244,833	296,941	(17.5)					
Austria	502	0	502	875	(42.6)	10,997	14,578	(24.6)					
Belgium	1,082	0	1,082	1,384	(21.8)	12,138	13,939	(12.9)					
France	2,920	9	2,929	4,316	(32.1)	72,559	85,365	(15.0)					
Germany	6,392	4	6,396	9,668	(33.8)	93,886	111,590	(15.9)					
Netherlands	2,673	0	2,673	4,049	(34.0)	32,263	46,295	(30.3)					
Switzerland	1,304	0	1,304	1,824	(28.5)	22,248	24,363	(8.7)					
Others	19	0	19	48	(60.4)	742	811	(8.5)					
Central / Eastern Europe	5,092	311	5,403	7,594	(28.9)	122,079	121,292	0.6					
Belarus	74	1	75	174	(56.9)	3,247	3,287	(1.2)					
Czech Republic	663	0	663	889	(25.4)	14,439	12,786	12.9					
Estonia	22	1	23	34	(32.4)	1,580	1,708	(7.5)					
Hungary	99	0	99	147	(32.7)	3,001	3,246	(7.5)					
Kazakhstan	58	0	58	132	(56.1)	1,390	2,070	(32.9)					
Lithuania	68	4	72	142	(49.3)	1,886	2,445	(22.9)					
Poland	667	35	702	1,117	(37.2)	13,234	14,078	(6.0)					
Romania	193	16	209	303	(31.0)	3,813	4,057	(6.0)					
Russian Federation	1,586	52	1,638	1,590	3.0	48,692	42,053	15.8					
Slovakia	169	2	171	205	(16.6)	3,628	3,950	(8.2)					
Ukraine	1,140	181	1,321	2,292	(42.4)	21,563	25,545	(15.6)					
Others	353	19	372	569	(34.6)	5,606	6,067	(7.6)					

	September 2019			Total Tourist Arrivals September 2018	% Change September (19 / 18)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to September 2019	Total Tourist Arrivals up to September 2018	% Change up to September 2019					
	Tourist Arrivals												
	By Air	By Sea	Total										
Southern / Mediterranean Europe	5,535	219	5,754	8,888	(35.3)	74,251	83,454	(11.0)					
Greece	313	182	495	511	(3.1)	5,013	5,644	(11.2)					
Italy	1,010	6	1,016	1,654	(38.6)	26,322	29,687	(11.3)					
Portugal	251	0	251	334	(24.9)	3,706	3,896	(4.9)					
Spain	1,930	0	1,930	2,926	(34.0)	18,559	22,175	(16.3)					
Turkey	150	2	152	181	(16.0)	2,977	3,161	(5.8)					
Israel	1,576	0	1,576	2,778	(43.3)	11,117	11,539	(3.7)					
Others	305	29	334	504	(33.7)	6,557	7,352	(10.8)					
MIDDLE EAST	2,535	1	2,536	3,386	(25.1)	34,946	59,734	(41.5)					
Bahrain	140	0	140	99	41.4	1,726	2,357	(26.8)					
Egypt	264	1	265	230	15.2	2,510	2,772	(9.5)					
Iraq	49	0	49	126	(61.1)	596	819	(27.2)					
Jordan	146	0	146	200	(27.0)	2,027	2,289	(11.4)					
Kuwait	98	0	98	154	(36.4)	2,650	2,894	(8.4)					
Lebanon	287	0	287	367	(21.8)	3,285	4,270	(23.1)					
Oman	193	0	193	305	(36.7)	3,273	6,053	(45.9)					
Qatar	31	0	31	56	(44.6)	839	1,455	(42.3)					
Saudi Arabia	985	0	985	1,432	(31.2)	13,350	30,168	(55.7)					
United Arab Emirates	138	0	138	279	(50.5)	2,833	4,535	(37.5)					
Others	204	0	204	138	47.8	1,857	2,122	(12.5)					
TOTAL	106,892	1,683	108,575	149,087	(27.2)	1,376,312	1,731,922	(20.5)					

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