



**February  
2019**

# **MONTHLY TOURIST ARRIVALS REPORT**

**SRI LANKA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

[www.sltda.lk](http://www.sltda.lk)

Photo courtesy of SLTDA, SLRC Lovingly Sri Lanka programme



## SUMMARY

The total number of international tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during February 2019 was 252,033. In comparison to February last year, there was a growth of 7% when the arrivals were 235,618.

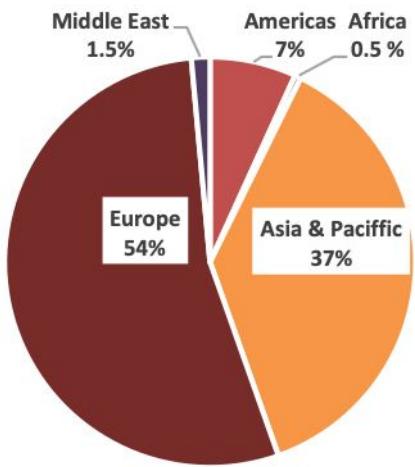
This month, the largest source market for tourists was India, followed by United Kingdom and the China.

Almost 95 % of tourists travelled by air to Sri Lanka.

Month	2018	2019	% change 2018/2019
January	238,924	244,239	2.2
February	235,618	252,033	7.0
March	233,382		
April	180,429		
May	129,466		
June	146,828		
July	217,829		
August	200,359		
September	149,087		
October	153,123		
November	195,582		
December	253,169		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,333,796</b>	<b>496,272</b>	

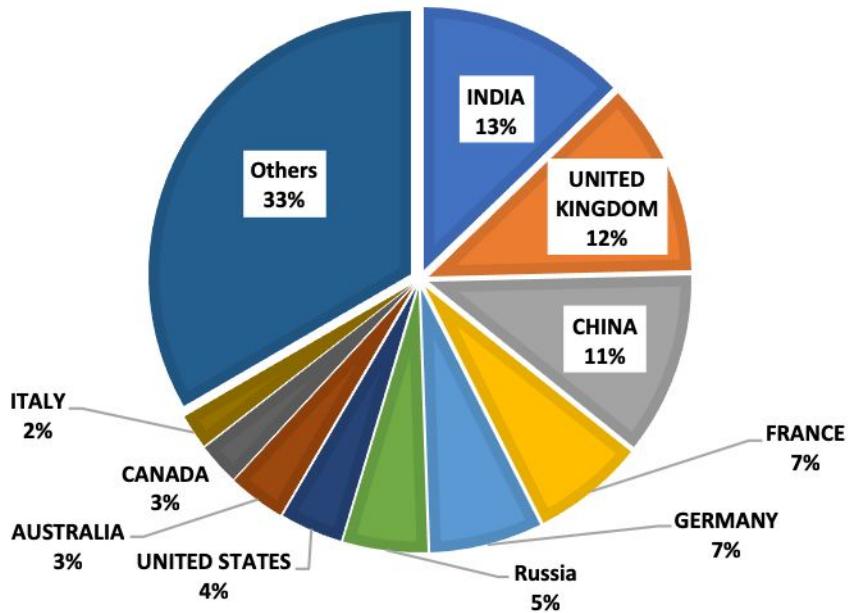
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## TOURIST ARRIVALS BY REGION



## TOP TEN SOURCE MARKETS

India, United Kingdom, China, France and Germany were Sri Lanka's top five international tourist generating markets in the month of February this year. India was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 13% of the total traffic received in February 2019. United Kingdom accounted for 12% of the total traffic; while China, France and Germany accounted for 11%, 7% and 7% respectively.



Rank	Country of Residence	Tourist Arrivals February 2019			Tourist Arrivals February 2018	% Change February 2019/2018
		By Air	By Sea	Total		
1	INDIA	31,588	698	32,286	32,914	(1.9)
2	UNITED KINGDOM	26,941	2,809	29,750	23,817	8.8
3	CHINA	27,937	102	28,039	35,929	(22.0)
4	FRANCE	16,976	319	17,295	16,871	2.5
5	GERMANY	16,795	473	17,268	17,066	1.2
6	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	12,819	189	13,008	11,043	17.8
7	UNITED STATES	7,788	1,890	9,678	5,984	61.7
8	AUSTRALIA	7,734	1,076	8,810	5,693	54.8
9	CANADA	5,429	1,040	6,469	3,999	61.8
10	ITALY	4,464	899	5,363	4,843	10.7

## INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

	February 2019	Total Tourist Arrivals February 2018	% Change	Total Tourist Arrivals up to
	Tourist Arrivals			

					February (2019 / 2018)	February 2019
	By Air	By Sea	Total			
<b>AMERICAS</b>	<b>14,071</b>	<b>3,057</b>	<b>17,128</b>	<b>10,823</b>	<b>58.3</b>	<b>31,899</b>
North America	13,328	2,952	16,280	10,070	61.7	30,113
Canada	5,429	1,040	6,469	3,999	61.8	12,309
Mexico	111	22	133	87	52.9	277
United States	7,788	1,890	9,678	5,984	61.7	17,527
Caribbean & Central America	84	10	94	84	11.9	186
Costa Rica	19	2	21	20	5.0	42
Jamaica	7	0	7	7	0.0	9
Others	58	8	66	57	15.8	135
<b>South America</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>1,600</b>
Argentina	141	17	158	254	(37.8)	350
Brazil	196	37	233	156	49.4	563
Chile	172	32	204	104	96.2	336
Colombia	63	5	68	59	15.3	156
Others	87	4	91	96	(5.2)	195
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>1,162</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>3,008</b>
North Africa	228	2	230	248	(7.3)	547
Morocco	96	0	96	101	(5.0)	224
Sudan	24	1	25	49	(49.0)	90
Others	108	1	109	98	11.2	233
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>2,461</b>
Kenya	57	1	58	35	65.7	126
Mauritius	47	3	50	100	(50.0)	150
Nigeria	13	0	13	38	(65.8)	56
South Africa	637	110	747	562	32.9	1,617
Others	120	4	124	179	(30.7)	512

February 2019

	Tourist Arrivals			Total Tourist Arrivals February 2018	% Change February (2019 / 2018)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to February 2019
	By Air	By Sea	Total			
<b>ASIA &amp; PACIFIC</b>	<b>91,396</b>	<b>2,662</b>	<b>94,058</b>	<b>97,726</b>	<b>(3.8)</b>	<b>193,937</b>
North East Asia	35,646	183	35,829	43,718	(18.0)	69,064
China	27,937	102	28,039	35,929	(22.0)	54,453
Japan	4,825	53	4,878	5,263	(7.3)	8,431
South Korea	1,585	21	1,606	1,359	18.2	3,746
Taiwan	1,277	7	1,284	1,152	11.5	2,381
Others	22	0	22	15	46.7	53
<b>South East Asia</b>	<b>7,505</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>7,971</b>	<b>6,474</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>13,826</b>
Cambodia	744	1	745	85	776.5	873
Indonesia	415	69	484	350	38.3	974
Malaysia	2,021	49	2,070	1,744	18.7	3,551
Myanmar	259	15	274	123	122.8	522
Philippines	1,181	304	1,485	1,744	(14.9)	2,729
Singapore	1,475	25	1,500	1,469	2.1	2,617
Thailand	997	2	999	566	76.5	1,937
Vietnam	387	1	388	380	2.1	577
Others	26	0	26	13	100.0	46
<b>Oceania</b>	<b>8,666</b>	<b>1,234</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>6,357</b>	<b>55.7</b>	<b>21,362</b>
Australia	7,734	1,076	8,810	5,693	54.8	19,178
New Zealand	913	157	1,070	655	63.4	2,137
Others	19	1	20	9	122.2	47
<b>South Asia</b>	<b>39,579</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>40,358</b>	<b>41,177</b>	<b>(2.0)</b>	<b>89,685</b>
Afghanistan	47	0	47	150	(68.7)	96
Bangladesh	720	11	731	741	(1.3)	1,677
Bhutan	74	0	74	72	2.8	111
India	31,588	698	32,286	32,914	(1.9)	72,335
Iran	322	4	326	439	(25.7)	530
Maldives	4931	0	4931	4,726	4.3	10,935
Nepal	412	55	467	401	16.5	962
Pakistan	1485	11	1496	1,734	(13.7)	3,039
	<b>February 2019</b>					

	Tourist Arrivals			Total Tourist Arrivals February 2018	% Change February (2019 / 2018)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to February 2019
	By Air	By Sea	Total			
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>129,485</b>	<b>6,449</b>	<b>135,934</b>	<b>122,013</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>258,695</b>
<b>Northern Europe</b>	<b>40,374</b>	<b>3,038</b>	<b>43,412</b>	<b>35,701</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>81,826</b>
Denmark	3,947	33	3,980	3,228	23.3	7,039
Finland	1,656	12	1,668	1,499	11.3	3,257
Norway	2,018	35	2,053	1,722	19.2	3,959
Sweden	4,693	46	4,739	4,533	4.5	9,431
United Kingdom	26,941	2,809	29,750	23,817	24.9	55,786
Others	1,119	103	1,222	902	35.5	2,354
<b>Western Europe</b>	<b>46,790</b>	<b>1,171</b>	<b>47,961</b>	<b>46,609</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>86,085</b>
Austria	2,659	50	2,709	3,156	(14.2)	4,997
Belgium	1,617	64	1,681	1,449	16.0	2,959
France	16,976	319	17,295	16,871	2.5	29,187
Germany	16,795	473	17,268	17,066	1.2	31,295
Netherlands	4,941	185	5,126	4,739	8.2	10,227
Switzerland	3,718	78	3,796	3,234	17.4	7,253
Others	84	2	86	94	(8.5)	167
<b>Central / Eastern Europe</b>	<b>31,680</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>32,375</b>	<b>28,601</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>65,208</b>
Belarus	922	8	930	942	(1.3)	1,927
Czech Republic	4,442	7	4,449	3,082	44.4	7,236
Estonia	559	0	559	586	(4.6)	1,060
Hungary	836	20	856	870	(1.6)	1,701
Kazakhstan	327	0	327	407	(19.7)	836
Lithuania	564	10	574	570	0.7	1,025
Poland	3,199	103	3,302	3,195	3.3	7,142
Romania	861	52	913	943	(3.2)	1,804
Russian Federation	12,819	189	13,008	11,043	17.8	26,482
Slovakia	902	11	913	820	11.3	1,693
Ukraine	5,143	210	5,353	5,138	4.2	11,834
Others	1,106	85	1,191	1,005	18.5	2,468
	<b>February 2019</b>					

	Tourist Arrivals			Total Tourist Arrivals February 2018	% Change February (2019 / 2018)	Total Tourist Arrivals up to February 2019
	By Air	By Sea	Total			
<b>Southern / Mediterranean Europe</b>	<b>10,641</b>	<b>1,545</b>	<b>12,186</b>	<b>11,102</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>25,576</b>
Greece	485	209	694	573	21.1	1,460
Italy	4,464	899	5,363	4,843	10.7	11,796
Portugal	550	42	592	581	1.9	1,044
Spain	1,684	87	1,771	1,680	5.4	3,609
Turkey	488	204	692	632	9.5	1,276
Israel	1,526	6	1,532	1,253	22.3	3,431
Others	1,444	98	1,542	1,540	0.1	2,960
<b>MIDDLE EAST</b>	<b>3,672</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3,691</b>	<b>3,894</b>	<b>(5.2)</b>	<b>8,733</b>
Bahrain	162	0	162	147	10.2	556
Egypt	298	6	304	281	8.2	624
Iraq	54	0	54	157	(65.6)	149
Jordan	240	0	240	254	(5.5)	610
Kuwait	467	0	467	403	15.9	1,012
Lebanon	409	1	410	542	(24.4)	799
Oman	355	0	355	573	(38.0)	919
Qatar	119	0	119	75	58.7	184
Saudi Arabia	1,157	0	1,157	1,065	8.6	2,916
United Arab Emirates	271	0	271	247	9.7	617
Others	140	12	152	150	1.3	347
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>239,726</b>	<b>12,307</b>	<b>252,033</b>	<b>235,618</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>496,272</b>

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