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DUBAI

Gulf News Report

Dubai welcomed more tourists than ever before in 2023, attracting 17.15 million international overnight visitors over the course of the year, according to the latest data published by Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism (DET).

Representing a 19.4 per cent year-on-year growth over the 14.36 million tourist arrivals in 2022, last year's figure also exceeded the previous record of 16.73 million visitors registered in 2019.

Shaikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Dubai Crown Prince and Chairman of The Executive Council of Dubai, said: "The best ever performance of Dubai's tourism sector in 2023 is a testament to the foresight of His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. His Highness's commitment to fostering resilience, excellence and innovation across economic sectors and encouraging meaningful public-private partnerships that deliver value has had a transformative impact on tourism development in the emirate."

Top global attraction

Celebrating a record-breaking year in 2023, Dubai further bolstered its ranking as the No.1 global destination for an unprecedented third successive year in the Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards 2024, the first city to achieve this unique accolade.

The tourism sector's performance closely parallels the emirate's 3.3 per cent GDP growth in the first nine months of 2023, further highlighting the symbiotic relationship between tourism and economic prosperity.

2023: Dubai tourism's best year ever

EMIRATE SEES RECORD-BREAKING PERFORMANCE, BOLSTERING ITS RANKING AS NO. 1 GLOBAL DESTINATION FOR THIRD SUCCESSIVE YEAR

17.15^m

tourists visited Dubai in 2023, which is the highest in the emirate's history

77.4%

hotel occupancy rate in 2023 — among the highest in the world



The best ever performance of Dubai's tourism sector in 2023 is a testament to the foresight of His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai."

Shaikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum | Crown Prince of Dubai

19.4%

year-on-year increase in number of visitors achieved by Dubai in 2023

14.36^m

tourists arrived in Dubai in 2022 as the emirate showed robust performance post Covid

16.73^m

visitors registered in 2019, which was the previous record for tourist arrival in Dubai

3.3%

Dubai's GDP growth in the first nine months of 2023 mirrors tourism sector's performance

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