

SUMMARY

The total number of international tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during May 2018 was 129,466. In comparison to May last year, there is a growth of 6.2% when the arrivals were 121,891.

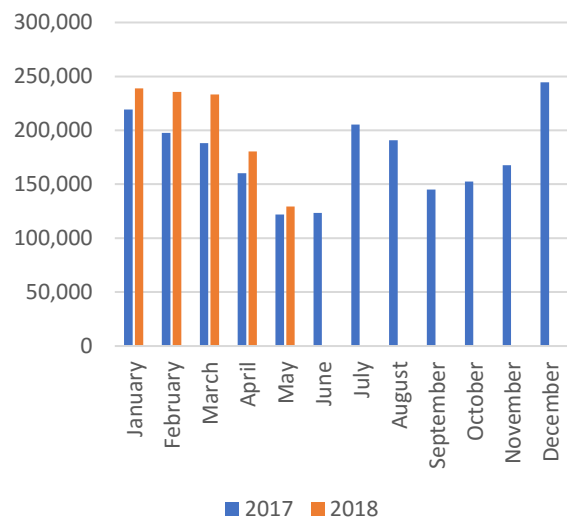
This month, the largest source market for tourists is India, followed by China and United Kingdom.

Almost 96.7% of tourists travelled by air to Sri Lanka.

As at 31st May 2018, 1,017,819 tourists had visited Sri Lanka for this year. It is a 14.7% growth over last year when 887,093 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		
July	205,482		
August	190,928		
September	145,077		
October	152,429		
November	167,511		
December	244,536		
TOTAL	2,116,407		
Up to May	887,093	1,017,819	14.7

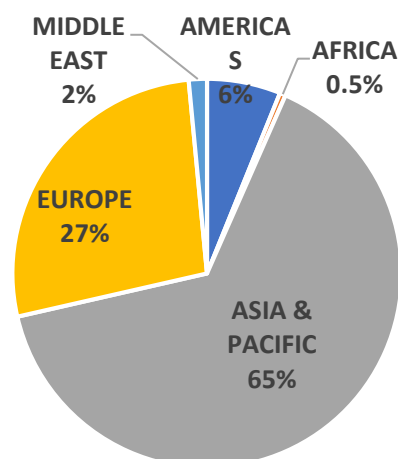
*Rebased



TOURIST ARRIVALS BY REGION

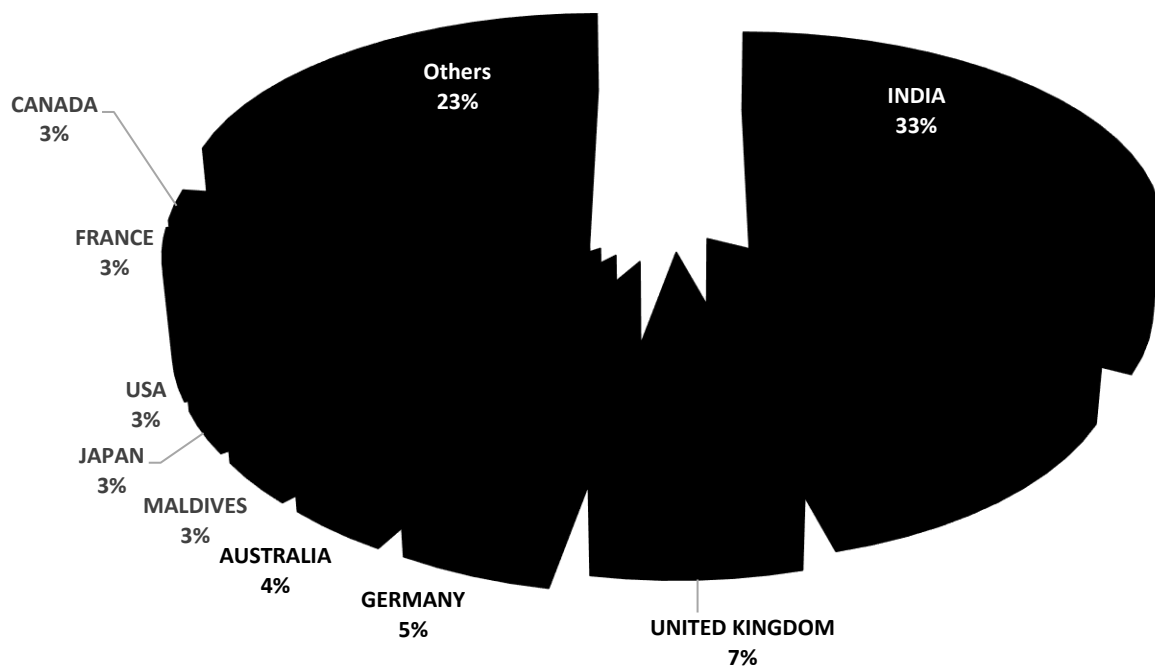
Asia and Pacific continued to be the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 65% of the total traffic received in May 2018.

Europe accounted for 27% of the total traffic, America 6%, Middle East 2% and Africa 0.5%.



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 May this year. India was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 33% of the total traffic received in May 2018. China accounted for 13% of the total traffic, while United Kingdom, Germany and Australia accounted for 7%, 5% and 4% respectively.



Rank	Country of Residence	Tourist Arrivals May 2018			Tourist Arrivals May 2017	% Change May 2017/2018
		By Air	By Sea	Total		
1	INDIA	41,495	578	42,073	34,167	23.1
2	CHINA	16,937	166	17,103	18,494	(7.5)
3	UNITED KINGDOM	9,143	194	9,337	8,520	9.6
4	GERMANY	6,543	363	6,906	6,351	8.7
5	AUSTRALIA	4,817	56	4,873	3,805	28.1
6	MALDIVES	4,341	2	4,343	5,364	(19.0)
7	JAPAN	3,325	904	4,229	2,848	48.5
8	USA	3,687	436	4,123	3,324	24.0
9	FRANCE	3,715	6	3,721	2,907	(0.4)
10	CANADA	3,234	63	3,297	3,352	(1.6)

INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

		MAY 2018			Total Tourist Arrivals May 2017 ¹	% Change May (2017/2018)	Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to May- 2018
		Tourist Arrivals					
		By Air	By Sea	Total			
AMERICAS			7,924	7,052	12.4	64,521	
North America		6,988	504	7,492	6,734	11.3	59,970
Canada		3,234	63	3,297	3,352	(1.6)	23,063
Mexico		67	5	72	58	24.1	919
United States		3,687	436	4,123	3,324	24.0	35,988
Caribbean & Central America		50	1	51	57	(10.5)	419
Jamaica		6	0	6	5	20.0	52
Costa Rica		3	0	3	10	(70.00)	59
Others		41	1	42	42	0.00	308
South America		365	16	381	261	46.0	4,132
Argentina		122	0	122	41	197.6	1,183
Brazil		112	12	124	106	17.0	1,649
Chile		52	3	55	32	71.9	514
Colombia		33	0	33	41	(19.5)	304
Others		46	1	47	41	14.6	482
AFRICA				633	718	(11.8)	5,972
North Africa		124	1	125	136	(8.1)	1,127
Morocco		31	0	31	54	(42.6)	413
Sudan		52	0	52	44	18.2	250
Others		41	1	42	38	10.5	464
Sub-Saharan Africa		494	14	508	582	(12.7)	4,845
Kenya		59	0	59	64	(7.8)	255
Mauritius		24	0	24	72	(66.7)	280
Nigeria		38	1	39	44	(11.4)	191
South Africa		254	5	259	249	4.0	2,942
Others		119	8	127	153	(17.0)	1,177

	MAY 2018					
	Tourist Arrivals ¹			Total Tourist Arrivals May 2017	% Change May (2017/2018)	Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to May 2018
	By Air	By Sea	Total			
ASIA & PACIFIC			83,924	79,353	5.76	451,032
North East Asia	21,573	1,222	22,795	22,730	0.29	149,197
China	1,6937	166	17,103	18,494	(7.52)	115,870
Japan	3,325	904	4,229	2,848	48.49	22,327
South Korea	865	27	892	1,003	(11.07)	6,967
Taiwan	440	125	565	334	69.16	3,952
Others	6	0	6	51	(88.24)	81
South East Asia	6,099	349	6,448	8,545	(24.54)	34,254
Cambodia	84	0	84	417	(79.86)	499
Indonesia	455	15	470	1,494	(68.54)	2,296
Malaysia	1,560	44	1,604	2,089	(23.22)	8,904
Myanmar	106	7	113	436	(74.08)	1089
Philippines	1,411	245	1,656	1,074	54.19	8,473
Singapore	1,431	30	1,461	1,465	(0.27)	7,483
Thailand	738	7	745	1,223	(39.08)	3,815
Vietnam	268	1	269	328	(17.99)	1,558
Others	46	0	46	19	142.11	137
Oceania	5,441	67	5,508	4,368	26.10	47,886
Australia	4,817	56	4,873	3,805	28.07	42,973
New Zealand	609	11	620	531	16.76	4,808
Others	15	0	15	32	(53.13)	105
South Asia	48,483	690	49,173	43,710	12.50	219,695
Afghanistan	108		108	46	134.78	493
Bangladesh	700	29	729	1,104	(33.97)	4,120
Bhutan	30		30	32	(6.25)	291
India	41,495	578	42,073	34,167	23.14	173,366
Iran	244	24	268	205	30.73	3,169
Maldives	4,341	2	4,343	5,364	(19.03)	28,128
Nepal	422	50	472	459	2.83	2,172
Pakistan	1,143	7	1,150	2,333	(50.71)	7,956

		MAY 2018					
		Tourist Arrivals ¹			Total Tourist Arrivals May 2017	% Change May (2017 /2018)	Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to May 2018
		By Air	By Sea	Total			
<u>EUROPE</u>				35,031	32,262	8.58	474,710
Northern Europe		11,165	235	11,400	10,278	10.92	153,508
Denmark		444	12	456	446	2.24	9,867
Finland		229	1	230	142	61.97	4,990
Norway		491	20	511	374	36.63	6,558
Sweden		466	5	471	454	3.74	14,772
United Kingdom		9,143	194	9,337	8,520	9.59	112,523
Others		392	3	395	342	15.50	4,798
Western Europe		14,497	467	14,964	14,364	4.18	180,752
Austria		612	25	637	580	9.83	10,302
Belgium		491	3	494	547	(9.69)	6,095
France		3,715	6	3,721	3,738	(0.45)	55,042
Germany		6,543	363	6,906	6,351	8.74	74,496
Netherlands		2,044	7	2,051	1,997	2.70	20,372
Switzerland		1,072	56	1,128	1,127	0.09	13,993
Others		20	7	27	24	12.50	452
Central / Eastern Europe		4,453	360	4,813	4,662	3.24	96,676
Belarus		126	2	128	105	21.90	2,824
Czech Republic		322	0	322	353	(8.78)	9,639
Estonia		29	3	32	38	(15.79)	1,556
Hungary		103	0	103	114	(9.65)	2,615
Kazakhstan		73	0	73	97	(24.74)	1,682
Lithuania		201	2	203	109	86.24	1,798
Poland		594	67	661	489	35.17	9,949
Romania		128	22	150	133	12.78	3,058
Russian Federation		1,200	64	1,264	1,242	1.77	36,992
Slovakia		153	0	153	205	(25.37)	3,123
Ukraine		1,212	174	1,386	1,464	(5.33)	19,140
Others		312	26	338	313	7.99	4,300

	MAY 2018					
	Tourist Arrivals ¹			Total Tourist Arrivals May 2017	% Change May (2017/2018)	Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to May 2018
	By Air	By Sea	Total			
Southern / Mediterranean Europe	3,542	312	3,854	2,958	30.29	43,774
Greece	379	241	620	286	116.78	3,311
Italy	1,048	10	1,058	957	10.55	17,672
Portugal	191	0	191	195	(2.05)	2,319
Spain	987	15	1,002	746	34.32	8,594
Turkey	277	11	288	218	32.11	2,187
Israel	399	0	399	330	20.91	4,741
Others	261	35	296	226	30.97	4,950
MIDDLE EAST	1,942	12	1,954	2,506	(22.03)	21,584
Bahrain	108	0	108	85	27.06	1,189
Egypt	153	8	161	155	3.87	1,407
Iraq	37	1	38	48	(20.83)	357
Jordan	116	1	117	151	(22.52)	1,277
Kuwait	143	0	143	246	(41.87)	1,580
Lebanon	225	0	225	299	(24.75)	2,362
Oman	84	0	84	246	(65.85)	2,073
Qatar	53	0	53	37	43.24	570
Saudi Arabia	666	0	666	834	(20.14)	8,388
United Arab Emirates	230	0	230	301	(23.59)	1,524
Others	127	2	129	104	24.04	857
TOTAL	125,216	4,250	129,466	121,891	6.2	1,017,819

¹ Rebased

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