

SUMMARY

The total number of international tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during March 2018 was 233,382. In comparison to March last year, there is a growth of 24.1 % when the arrivals were 188,076.

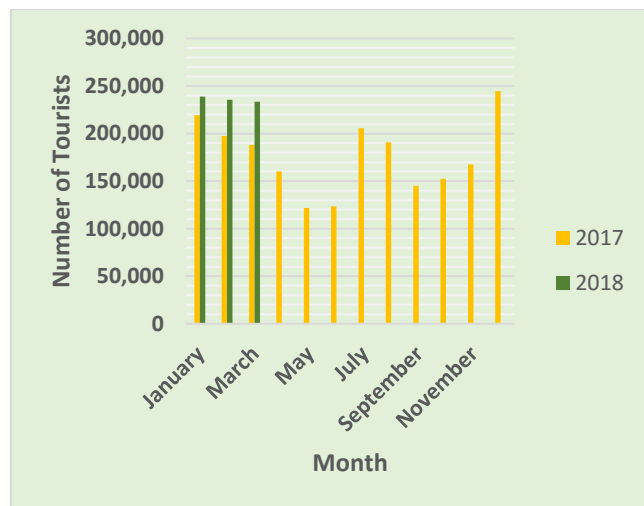
This month, the largest source market for tourists is India, followed by United Kingdom and Germany.

Almost 94% of tourists travelled by air to Sri Lanka.

As at 31st March 2018, 707,924 tourists had visited Sri Lanka for this year. It is a 17.1% growth over last year when 604,953 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 | | |
| May | 121,891 | | |
| 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 Mar | 604,953 | 707,924 | 17.1 |

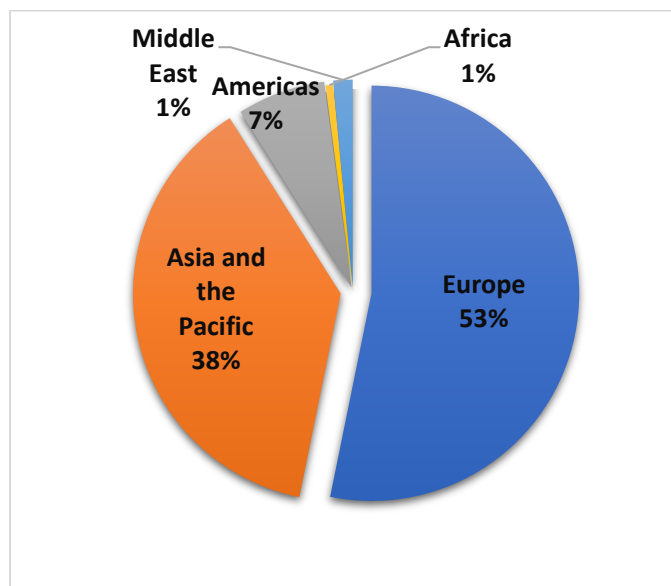
*Rebased



TOURIST ARRIVALS BY REGION

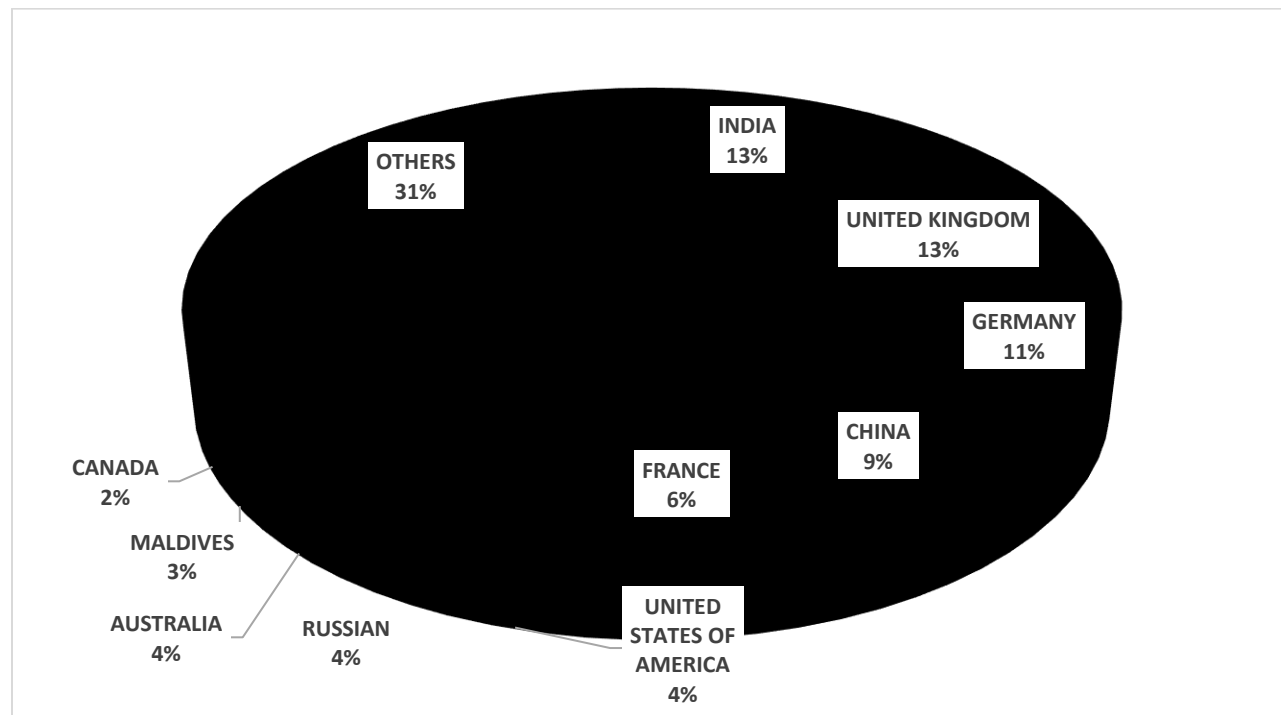
Europe continued to be the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 53% of the total traffic received in March 2018.

Asia and the Pacific accounted for 38 % of the total traffic, America 7%, Middle East 1% and Africa 1%.



TOP TEN SOURCE MARKETS

India, United Kingdom, Germany, China and France were Sri Lanka's top five international tourist generating markets in the month of March this year. India was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 13% of the total traffic received in March 2018. United Kingdom accounted for 13% of the total traffic, while Germany, China and France accounted for 11%, 9% and 6% respectively.



| Rank | Country of Residence | Tourist Arrivals March 2018 | | | Tourist Arrivals March 2017 | % Change March 2017/2018 |
|------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | By Air | By Sea | Total | | |
| 1 | INDIA | 29,986 | 597 | 30,583 | 27,075 | 13.0 |
| 2 | UNITED KINGDOM | 27,367 | 2,999 | 30,366 | 19,451 | 56.1 |
| 3 | GERMANY | 21,447 | 2,976 | 24,423 | 15,207 | 60.6 |
| 4 | CHINA | 20,977 | 124 | 21,101 | 22,172 | (4.8) |
| 5 | FRANCE | 13,839 | 979 | 14,818 | 11,487 | 29.1 |
| 6 | UNITED STATES OF AMERICA | 7,701 | 2,000 | 9,701 | 5,291 | 83.3 |
| 7 | RUSSIAN FEDERATION | 8,956 | 133 | 9,089 | 7,097 | 28.1 |
| 8 | AUSTRALIA | 8,322 | 610 | 8,932 | 5,575 | 60.2 |
| 9 | MALDIVES | 7,237 | 2 | 7,239 | 8,076 | (10.4) |
| 10 | CANADA | 4,660 | 453 | 5,113 | 4,064 | 25.8 |

INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

| | | MARCH 2018 | | | Total Tourist Arrivals March 2017 ¹ | % Change - March (2017 /2018) | Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to March-2018 |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------|--------|--------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| | | Tourist Arrivals | | | | | |
| | | By Air | By Sea | Total | | | |
| <u>AMERICAS</u> | | | | 16,006 | 9,942 | 61.0 | 40,859 |
| North America | | 12,510 | 2,484 | 14,994 | 9,431 | 59.0 | 38,331 |
| Canada | | 4,660 | 453 | 5,113 | 4,064 | 25.8 | 14,794 |
| Mexico | | 149 | 31 | 180 | 76 | 136.8 | 351 |
| United States | | 7,701 | 2000 | 9,701 | 5,291 | 83.3 | 23,186 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Caribbean & Central America | | 92 | 2 | 94 | 65 | 44.6 | 262 |
| Jamaica | | 21 | 1 | 22 | 7 | 214.3 | 38 |
| Costa Rica | | 14 | 0 | 14 | 8 | 75.0 | 43 |
| Others | | 57 | 1 | 58 | 50 | 16.0 | 181 |
| | | | | | | | |
| South America | | 748 | 170 | 918 | 446 | 105.8 | 2,266 |
| Argentina | | 202 | 69 | 271 | 105 | 158.1 | 761 |
| Brazil | | 277 | 80 | 357 | 149 | 139.6 | 739 |
| Chile | | 93 | 16 | 109 | 63 | 73.0 | 312 |
| Colombia | | 72 | 0 | 72 | 63 | 14.3 | 183 |
| Others | | 104 | 5 | 109 | 66 | 65.2 | 271 |
| | | | | | | | |
| <u>AFRICA</u> | | | | 1,413 | 1,046 | 35 | 3,729 |
| North Africa | | 279 | 4 | 283 | 261 | 8.4 | 785 |
| Morocco | | 93 | 4 | 97 | 93 | 4.3 | 284 |
| Sudan | | 53 | 0 | 53 | 73 | (27.4) | 161 |
| Others | | 133 | 0 | 133 | 95 | 40.0 | 340 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | | 1,098 | 32 | 1,130 | 785 | 43.9 | 2,944 |
| Kenya | | 48 | 0 | 48 | 45 | 6.7 | 147 |
| Mauritius | | 60 | 0 | 60 | 27 | 122.2 | 216 |
| Nigeria | | 40 | 2 | 42 | 47 | (10.6) | 124 |
| South Africa | | 764 | 27 | 791 | 472 | 67.6 | 1,941 |
| Others | | 186 | 3 | 189 | 194 | (2.6) | 516 |

| | | MARCH 2018 | | | Total Tourist Arrivals March 2017 | % Change - March (2017 /2018) | Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to March 2018 |
|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| | | Tourist Arrivals ¹ | | | | | |
| | | By Air | By Sea | Total | | | |
| ASIA & PACIFIC | | | | 88,299 | 86,405 | 2.2 | 284,129 |
| North East Asia | | 27,683 | 171 | 27,854 | 28,188 | (1.2) | 103,985 |
| China | | 20,977 | 124 | 21,101 | 22,172 | (4.8) | 81,305 |
| Japan | | 4,612 | 17 | 4,629 | 4,271 | 8.4 | 14,586 |
| South Korea | | 1,378 | 20 | 1,398 | 1,201 | 16.4 | 5,250 |
| Taiwan | | 690 | 10 | 700 | 531 | 31.8 | 2,780 |
| Others | | 26 | 0 | 26 | 13 | 100.0 | 64 |
| | | | | | | | |
| South East Asia | | 7,486 | 354 | 7,840 | 9,850 | -20.4 | 21,131 |
| Cambodia | | 103 | 0 | 103 | 194 | -46.9 | 273 |
| Indonesia | | 532 | 57 | 589 | 3,677 | -84.0 | 1,474 |
| Malaysia | | 1,985 | 9 | 1994 | 2,145 | -7.0 | 5,473 |
| Myanmar | | 159 | 13 | 172 | 249 | -30.9 | 667 |
| Philippines | | 1,523 | 252 | 1775 | 1093 | 62.4 | 5,186 |
| Singapore | | 1,796 | 13 | 1809 | 1,573 | 15.0 | 4,665 |
| Thailand | | 1023 | 5 | 1028 | 668 | 53.9 | 2,379 |
| Vietnam | | 325 | 5 | 330 | 237 | 39.2 | 947 |
| Others | | 40 | 0 | 40 | 14 | 185.7 | 67 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Oceania | | 9,303 | 663 | 9,966 | 6,299 | 58.2 | 26,790 |
| Australia | | 8,322 | 610 | 8,932 | 5,575 | 60.2 | 24,077 |
| New Zealand | | 951 | 53 | 1,004 | 714 | 40.6 | 2,648 |
| Others | | 30 | 0 | 30 | 10 | 200.0 | 65 |
| | | | | | | | |
| South Asia | | 41,942 | 697 | 42,639 | 42,068 | 1.4 | 132,223 |
| Afghanistan | | 112 | 0 | 112 | 53 | 111.3 | 345 |
| Bangladesh | | 981 | 15 | 996 | 1,732 | (42.5) | 2,719 |
| Bhutan | | 37 | 0 | 37 | 46 | (19.6) | 219 |
| India | | 29,986 | 597 | 30,583 | 27,075 | 13.0 | 101,433 |
| Iran | | 1696 | 20 | 1716 | 2272 | (24.5) | 2,662 |
| Maldives | | 7,237 | 2 | 7,239 | 8,076 | (10.4) | 18,089 |
| Nepal | | 323 | 44 | 367 | 381 | (3.7) | 1,334 |
| Pakistan | | 1,570 | 19 | 1,589 | 2,433 | (34.7) | 5,422 |

| | | MARCH 2018 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | Tourist Arrivals ¹ | | | Total Tourist Arrivals March 2017 | % Change - March (2017 /2018) | Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to March 2018 |
| | | By Air | By Sea | Total | | | |
| EUROPE | | | | 124,144 | 85,890 | 44.5 | 363,313 |
| Northern Europe | | 36,767 | 3,269 | 40,036 | 25,705 | 55.8 | 112,007 |
| Denmark | | 2,129 | 98 | 2,227 | 1,527 | 45.8 | 8,468 |
| Finland | | 1,025 | 11 | 1,036 | 983 | 5.4 | 4,389 |
| Norway | | 1,738 | 46 | 1,784 | 859 | 107.7 | 5,357 |
| Sweden | | 3,032 | 77 | 3,109 | 2,038 | 52.6 | 13,228 |
| United Kingdom | | 27,367 | 2999 | 30,366 | 19,451 | 56.1 | 77,123 |
| Others | | 1476 | 38 | 1,514 | 847 | 78.7 | 3,442 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Western Europe | | 46,621 | 5,218 | 51,839 | 34,965 | 48.3 | 138,337 |
| Austria | | 2,289 | 284 | 2,573 | 2,113 | 21.8 | 8,562 |
| Belgium | | 1,585 | 81 | 1,666 | 1,203 | 38.5 | 4,390 |
| France | | 13,839 | 979 | 14,818 | 11,487 | 29.0 | 43,910 |
| Germany | | 21,447 | 2976 | 24,423 | 15,207 | 60.6 | 56,787 |
| Netherlands | | 4,223 | 309 | 4,532 | 3,043 | 48.9 | 14,333 |
| Switzerland | | 3,111 | 571 | 3,682 | 1,848 | 99.2 | 10,020 |
| Others | | 127 | 18 | 145 | 64 | 126.6 | 335 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Central / Eastern Europe | | 21,347 | 514 | 21,861 | 18,581 | 17.7 | 80,266 |
| Belarus | | 663 | 3 | 666 | 517 | 28.8 | 2,410 |
| Czech Republic | | 2,665 | 9 | 2,674 | 2,327 | 14.9 | 8,013 |
| Estonia | | 352 | 7 | 359 | 412 | (12.9) | 1,380 |
| Hungary | | 504 | 13 | 517 | 496 | 4.2 | 2,281 |
| Kazakhstan | | 370 | 0 | 370 | 464 | (20.3) | 1,451 |
| Lithuania | | 392 | 10 | 402 | 265 | 51.7 | 1,354 |
| Poland | | 1,598 | 78 | 1,676 | 1,503 | 11.5 | 8,125 |
| Romania | | 512 | 49 | 561 | 473 | 18.6 | 2,439 |
| Russian Federation | | 8,956 | 133 | 9,089 | 7,097 | 28.1 | 31,701 |
| Slovakia | | 890 | 6 | 896 | 804 | 11.4 | 2,476 |
| Ukraine | | 3,366 | 166 | 3,532 | 3,582 | (1.4) | 15,306 |
| Others | | 1,079 | 40 | 1,119 | 641 | 74.6 | 3,330 |

| | MARCH 2018 | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| | Tourist Arrivals ¹ | | | | Total Tourist Arrivals March 2017 | % Change - March (2017/2018) | Total Annual Tourist Arrivals up to March 2018 |
| | By Air | By Sea | Total | | | | |
| Southern / Mediterranean Europe | 9,239 | 1,169 | 10,408 | | 6,639 | 56.8 | 32,703 |
| Greece | 550 | 220 | 770 | | 403 | 91.1 | 1,987 |
| Italy | 3,498 | 659 | 4,157 | | 2,629 | 58.1 | 14,348 |
| Portugal | 522 | 15 | 537 | | 402 | 33.6 | 1,604 |
| Spain | 2,240 | 212 | 2,452 | | 1,321 | 85.6 | 5,520 |
| Turkey | 355 | 10 | 365 | | 370 | -1.4 | 1,655 |
| Others | 2,074 | 53 | 2,127 | | 1,514 | 40.5 | 7,589 |
| | | | | | | | |
| MIDDLE EAST | 3,504 | 16 | 3,520 | | 4,793 | -26.6 | 15,894 |
| Bahrain | 195 | 0 | 195 | | 149 | 30.9 | 930 |
| Egypt | 272 | 6 | 278 | | 251 | 10.8 | 992 |
| Iraq | 40 | 1 | 41 | | 48 | -14.6 | 279 |
| Jordan | 299 | 0 | 299 | | 366 | -18.3 | 919 |
| Kuwait | 240 | 0 | 240 | | 317 | -24.3 | 1,188 |
| Lebanon | 561 | 0 | 561 | | 345 | 62.6 | 1,461 |
| Oman | 268 | 0 | 268 | | 429 | -37.5 | 1,683 |
| Qatar | 63 | 0 | 63 | | 47 | 34.0 | 406 |
| Saudi Arabia | 997 | 0 | 997 | | 2,034 | -51.0 | 6,459 |
| United Arab Emirates | 419 | 1 | 420 | | 635 | -33.9 | 1,003 |
| Others | 150 | 8 | 158 | | 172 | -8.1 | 574 |
| | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 218,619 | 14,763 | 233,382 | | 188,076 | 24.1 | 707,924 |

¹ Rebased

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