



Annual Statistical Report 2023



Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

Sri Lanka
YOU'LL COME BACK FOR MORE

2023 Highlights

CONTENTS

01

Introduction

- 1.1 Definitions
- 1.2 Source of Information
- 1.3 Global Tourism
- 1.4 Tourism Demand - Volume and Value , Sri lanka

02

Tourist Traffic

- 2.1 Markets
- 2.2 Seasonality of Arrivals
- 2.3 Mode of Transport and port of Arrivals
- 2.4 Purpose of Visit
- 2.5 Duration of Stay
- 2.6 Age & Sex
- 2.7 Scheduled Airline Operations

03

Accommodation Sector

- 3.1 Occupancy Rates

04

Employment

- 4.1 Employment

05

Public Sector Revenue

- 5.1 Public Sector Revenue

06

Statistical Appendix

Statistical Charts 1-19



1.	International Tourist Arrivals (million)
1a.	International Tourist Arrivals, 2020 -2023 % change Vs.2019
1b.	Recovery of International tourist arrivals percentage of 2019 levels
1c.	Top Source markets by spendings,2023
1d.	World Tourist Arrivals by Region
2.	Tourist Arrivals – 2001 to 2023
3.	Tourist Arrivals Growth Change – 2001 to 2023
4.	Tourist Receipts (US\$) - 2001
5.	Distribution of Foreign Exchange Earnings (percentage) – 2023
6.	Distribution of Market Shares (Percentage) -2023
7.	Top Ten source markets – 2023
8.	Seasonality of Traffic – 2023 (Seasonal Indices)
8a.	Tourist Arrivals & percentage Change 2018/2022/2023
9.	Distribution by Ports of Arrival (percentage) - 2023
10.	Distribution of tourists by Purpose of Visit (percentage) 2023
11.	Distribution of Average Duration of stay (Nights) by region - 2023
12.	Distribution of Duration of Stay (percentage) -2023
13.	Distribution of Tourists by Gender (percentage) – 2023
14.	Distribution of Tourists by sex and Region (percentage) – 2023
15.	Distribution of Tourist Arrival by Air Lines – 2023
16.	Distribution of Air lines to Sri Lanka by Season - 2023
17.	Distribution of Rooms by star category
18.	Distribution of Employment in the Tourism Industry (percentage) 2023
19.	Distribution of Public sector from tourism (percentage) - 2023



Statistical Tables I-XIII

I	World Tourist Arrival by Region
II	Foreign Exchange Earnings by Industry- 2022 & 2023
III	Tourist Arrivals by Region – 2021,2022 & 2023
IV	Top ten source markets comparison – 2023 & 2018
V	Distribution by Air Line
VI	Average Frequency per week for Top Ten Airlines to Sri Lanka, 2023
VII	SLTDA Registered Accommodation Establishments 2022 & 2023
VIII	Distribution of Rooms by Provinces
IX	Distribution of rooms by districts
X	Distribution of rooms by Star Category – 2023
XI	Distribution of Classified Tourist Hotels by province - 2023
XII	Distribution of Other Tourism Services by Districts
XIII	Direct Employment in Tourist Industry by Category of Establishment 2020 – 2023

Statistical Tables 1-23

1.	Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence – 2022 &2023
2.	Seasonal Variation in Tourist Traffic - 2023
3.	Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence and Month (All Countries) - 2023
4.	Percentage Distribution of Tourist Arrivals by Port – 2009 to 2023
5.	Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence and Modes of Transport- 2023
6.	Tourist Arrival by Country of Residence & Purpose of Visit - 2023
7.	Percentage Distribution of Duration of Stay – 1988 to 2023
8.	Average Duration of stay & Guest Nights by Country of Residence - 2023
9.	Percentage Distribution of Tourist by Sex & Age – 2023
10.	Tourist Arrival by Sex & Age by Region – 2023
11.	Room Distribution by District & Province wise – 2023
12.	Volume & Value of Tourism – 2015 to 2023
13.	Sri Lankan Departures – Growth Trends – 1980 to 2023
14.	Tourism Growth Trends 1985 to 2023
15.	Tourist Arrivals by Month 1971 to 2023
16.	Passenger Arrivals & Departure – 1980 – 2023



17.	Details of Museums – 2023
18.	Foreign Visitors to Cultural Triangle & Revenue from Sale of Tickets – 1990 to 2023
18 (a).	Foreign & Domestic Visitors to Culture Triangle & Revenue from - 2023
18 (b).	Foreign & Domestic Visitors to Cultural Triangle & Revenue from Sales of Tickets-2023
19.	Foreign Visitors to Zoological Gardens & Revenue from Gate Fees – 1998 to 2023
19 (a).	Revenue by Location – 2022 & 2023
20.	Revenue from Foreign Visitors to Botanical Gardens – 1988 to 2023
20 (a).	Details by Location – 2023
21.	Revenue from Foreign Visitors to Wildlife Parks – 1989 to 2023
21 (a).	Details by Locations
22.	Revenue from Visitors to Conservation Forests - 2023
23.	Public Sector Revenue from Tourism (Rs. Mn) – 2016 to 2023



2023 Highlights



**Number of International
Tourists to Sri Lanka**

1,487,303



Foreign Exchange Earnings

2,067.96* USD Mn

2.07* billion USD

677,360.3* RS Mn



**Direct Contribution to
GDP**

2.5%



**Foreign Exchange Receipts
per Tourist per Day**

US\$ 164.4 *



**Average Duration of
Stay**

8.44 *nights



Total Foreign Guest Nights

'000

12,553*



Total Employment Generation 429,641

Direct Employment

204,591*



**Top 5 Tourist Source Markets to
Sri Lanka**

**India, Russia, United Kingdom,
Germany, China**



INTRODUCTION



Annual Statistical Reports published by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA) were designed to provide data on Sri Lanka's tourism industry on a consistent basis, which is useful for both evidence-based decision making for the development and promotion of the tourism industry. The data compiled and published in this report cover the following areas:

- a) Trends and characteristics of inbound tourism to Sri Lanka
- b) Scheduled airline operators and passenger movements
- c) Accommodation industry- Capacity and its utilization
- d) Income and employment
- e) Outbound Tourism- Sri Lankans travelling to overseas destinations
- f) Growth of travel and tourism
- g) Revenue from tourism

The Annual Statistical Report 2023 is presented in six parts. Part I is an introduction including definitions, sources of information, global tourism trends and tourism demand. Part II provides a detailed account of the structure of tourist traffic received during 2023 showing the principal markets, seasonality of traffic, mode of transport, travel motivation, duration of stay, age and sex, occupation, passenger movements and scheduled airline operations. Part III presents sectorial information including a statistical analysis of accommodation showing the capacity on offer, its distribution and occupancy rates part IV provides volume of tourism employment while public sector revenue are presented in part V. Part VI is the statistical appendix.

1.1 Definition

(a) Visitor:

A visitor is a traveler taking a trip to a main destination outside his/her usual environment, for less than a year, for any main purpose (business, leisure or other personal purpose) other than traveling to be a full time student or to be employed by a resident entity in the country or place visited (IRTS 2008, 2.9). A visitor (domestic, inbound or outbound) is classified as a tourist (or overnight visitor), if his/her trip includes an overnight stay, or as a same-day visitor (or excursionist) otherwise (IRTS 2008, 2.13)

(b) International visitor:

An international traveler qualifies as an international visitor with respect to the country of reference if: (a) he/she is on a tourism trip and (b) he/she is a non-resident travelling in the country of reference or a resident travelling outside of it (IRTS 2008, 2.42).

The term “International Excursionist” (same day visitor) refers to an “International Visitor”, who does not stay overnight in the country visited.

To clarify further, the following are excluded from the definition of “International Visitor”:

All persons arriving with a specific purpose of engaging themselves in gainful occupation, full-time studying or to establish residence in Sri Lanka irrespective of their length of stay.
Diplomatic personnel.

Crews of ships and aircraft even if they stay for one night or more.

Dependents of temporary immigrants and children below 3 years.

In this report the term “Visitor”, “Tourist” and “Excursionist” are used for “International Visitor”, “International Tourist” and “International Excursionist” respectively. In Sri Lanka’s tourism statistics, excursionists consist almost exclusively of passengers on sea cruises, who come on shore for purposes of sightseeing, shopping, etc. while the ship is in harbor.

(c) Tourist Arrivals:

Every single visit (or entry) of a tourist to the country either in the course of the same trip or in the course of different trips is counted as an “Tourists Arrival”, provided the visit (or entry) lasts at least one night in the country (N.B. those who do not cross the frontiers are not regarded as visitors).

(d) Tourist Night:

A night spent in Sri Lanka by a tourist in any type of immobile accommodation.

(e) Guest Night:

A night spent in a Tourist Hotel, Rest-House or Guest-House approved by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority, as being suitable for occupation by foreign visitors.

(f) Tourist Hotels:

All Tourist Hotels, which are registered under Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority, can be taken under this category. There are three main categories of Tourist Hotels; Classified, Unclassified & Boutique Hotels. Statistics for some of the other categories (i.e., Small Luxury Hotels/ Boutique Hotels) are added to the report from year 2014.

(g) Supplementary Accommodation:

Guest-Houses which are approved by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority as being suitable for occupation by foreign visitors. Home stay units consist of tourist bungalows, rented tourist home, rented tourist apartments, heritage hotels and heritage bungalows.

(h) Tourism Expenditure



Tourism expenditure refers to the amount paid for the acquisition of consumption of goods and services, as well as valuables, for own use or to give away, for and during tourism trips (UNWTO).

(I) Official Receipts:

Official Receipts constitute the foreign exchange purchases and acceptances by authorized dealers and commercial banks from foreign visitors either directly or indirectly.

1.2 Sources of Information

a) Tourist Statistics:

Passenger arrival reports generated by Electronic Travel Authorization System (ETA) compiled by the Department of Immigration and Emigration.

b) Excursionist Statistics:

Passenger arrival reports compiled by the Department of Immigration and Emigration

c) Accommodation Statistics:

Monthly reports obtained by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority from the registered accommodation establishments.

d) Passenger Statistics:

Passenger arrival and departure reports compiled by the Department of Immigration and Emigration.

e) Air Traffic Statistics:

Quarterly returns obtained by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority from the scheduled airlines, which operate flights to Sri Lanka.

f) Statistics on Official Tourist Receipts:

Information calculated from the Survey of Departing Foreign Tourists from Sri Lanka.

g) Employment Statistics:

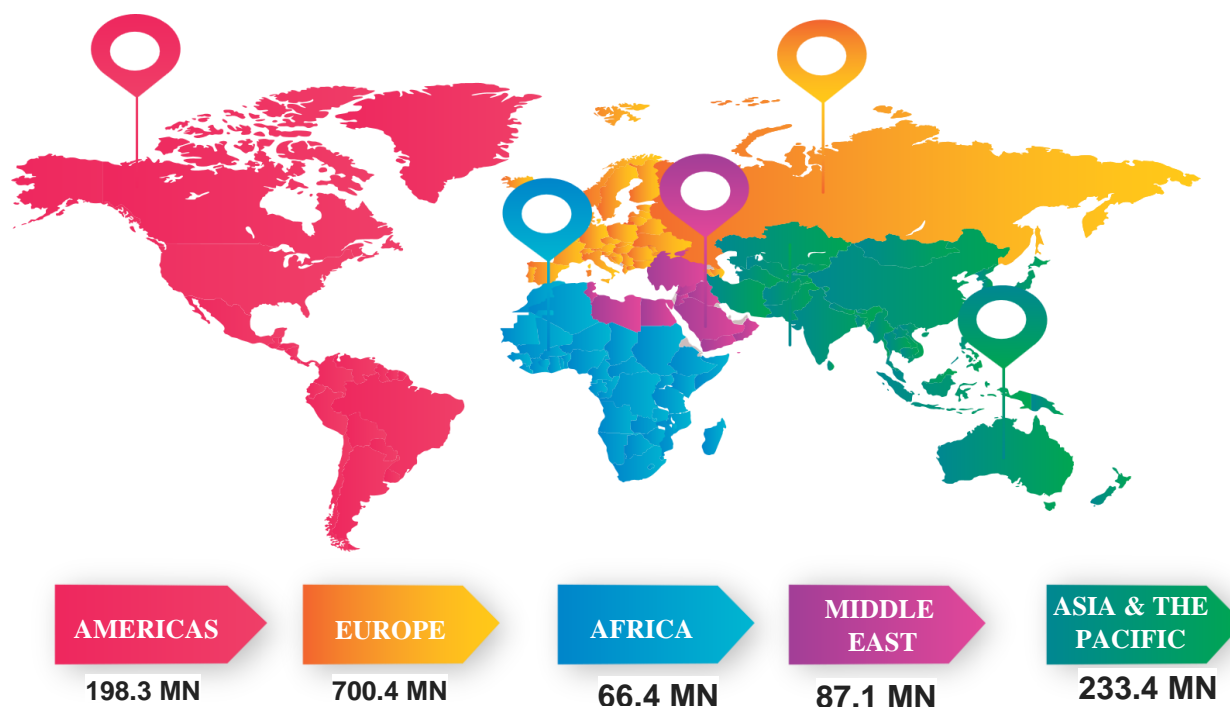
Annual Surveys conducted by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority among all registered Tourist Establishments; viz. Accommodation and Catering Establishments, Travel and Transport Agencies, Recreational Clubs, Tourist Shops, Airlines and National Tourist Organizations as well as information from the licensing system.



1.3 Global Tourism

Chart 1: International tourist arrivals (million)

Figure 1



Source: UNWTO

In 2023, an estimated 1.286 billion international tourists (overnight visitors) were recorded worldwide, marking a 34% increase compared to 2022. International tourism rebounded to 88% of pre-pandemic levels, driven by strong pent-up demand. The Middle East led the recovery among regions, with arrivals surpassing 2019 levels by 22%. Europe, the most visited region globally, achieved 94% of its pre-pandemic levels in 2023, bolstered by strong intra-regional travel and visitors from the United States. Africa recovered 96% of its pre-pandemic visitor numbers, supported by high demand from European markets. The Americas reached 90% of 2019 arrivals, fueled by robust intra-regional travel. Meanwhile, Asia and the Pacific recovered 65% of pre-pandemic levels, with South Asia outperforming other Asian sub regions due to strong demand from nearby European source markets.

Chart 1a: International Tourist Arrivals, 2020 -2023 % change Vs .2019

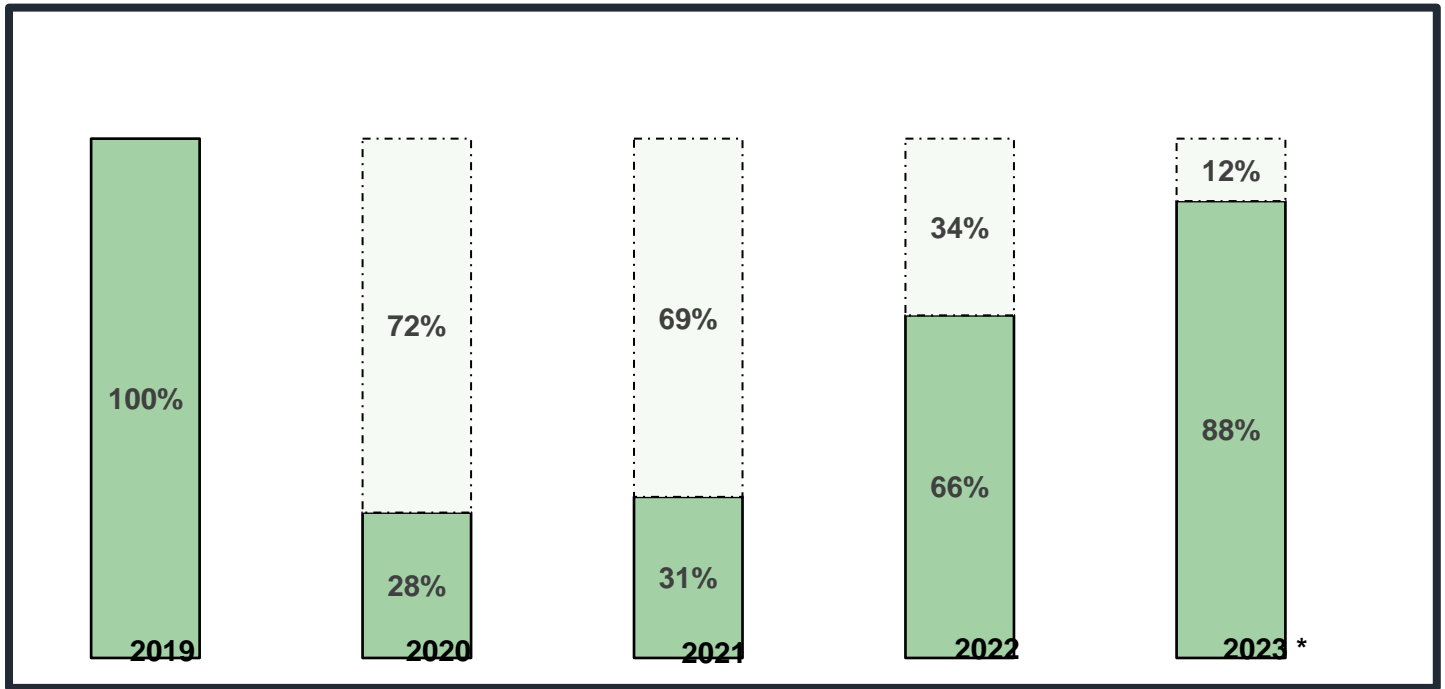


Chart 1b : Recovery of international tourist arrivals Percentage of 2019 levels

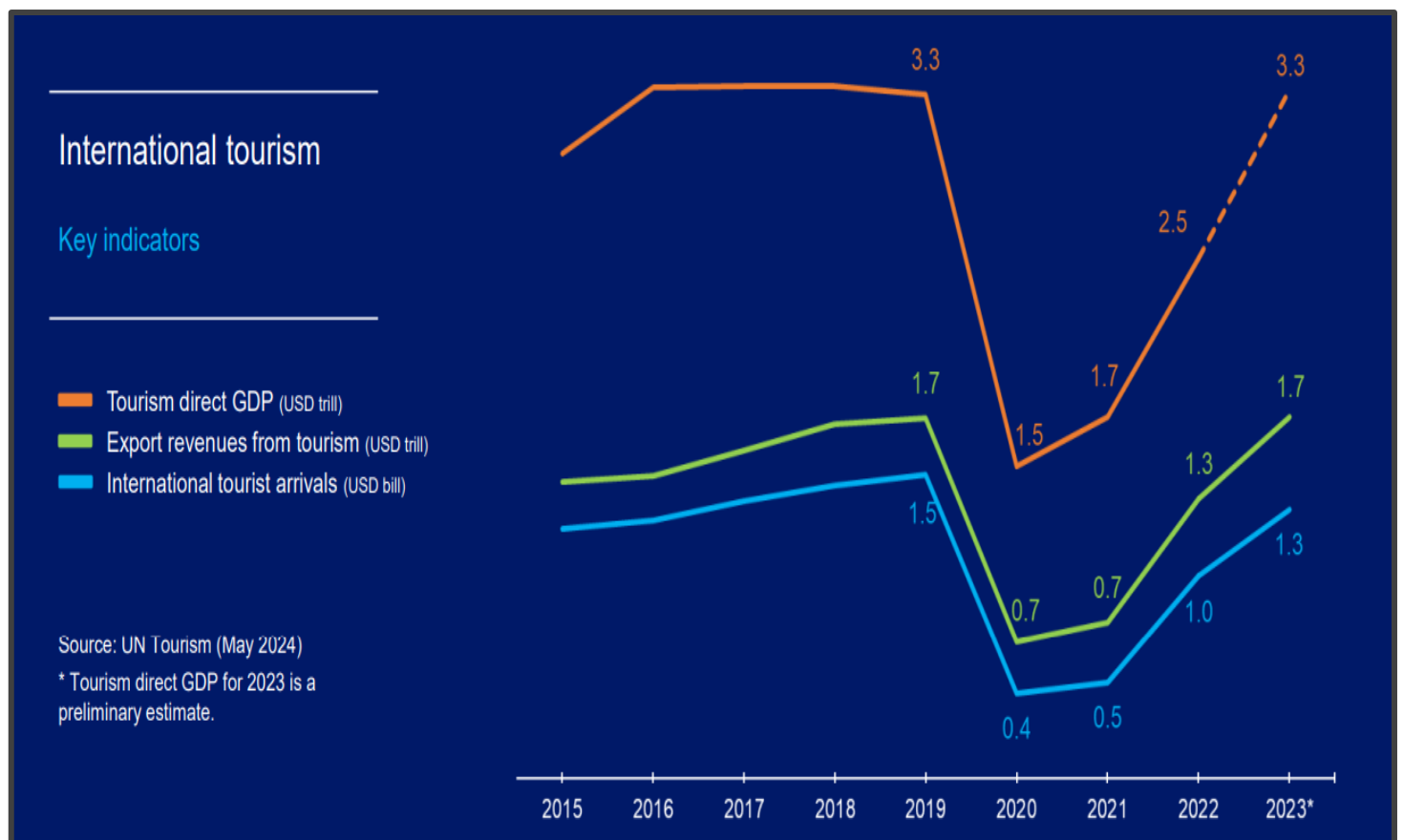


Chart 1c: Top Source markets by spending, 2023

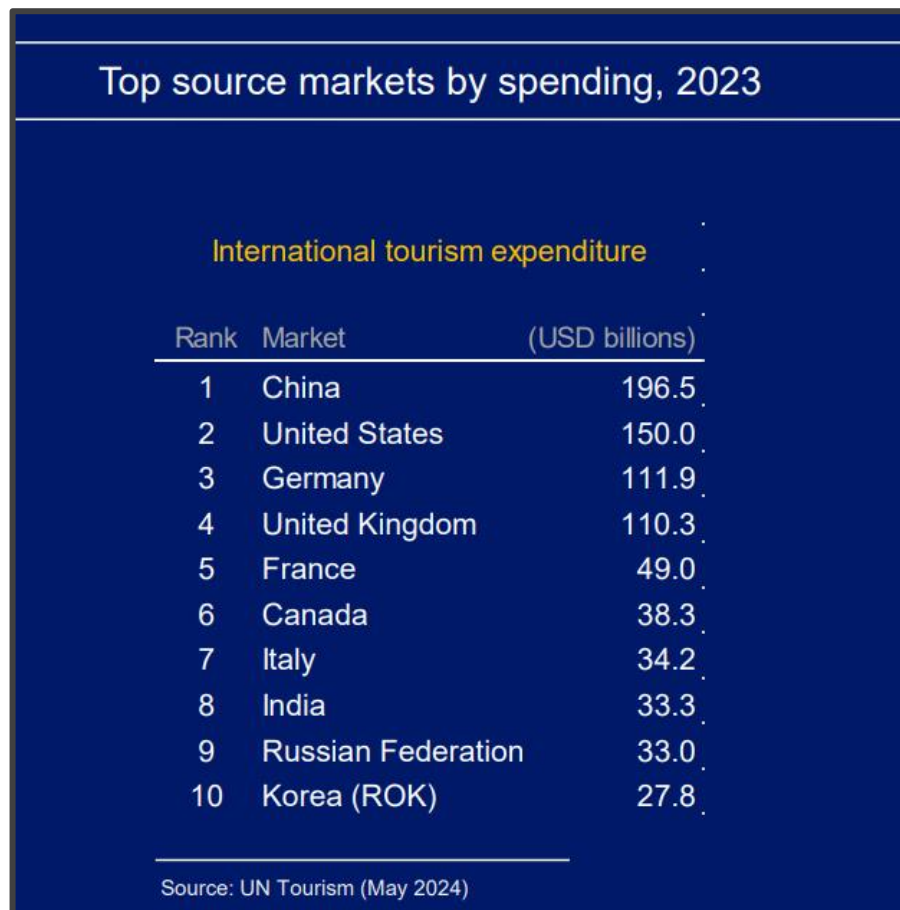


Chart 1d: World Tourist Arrivals by Region

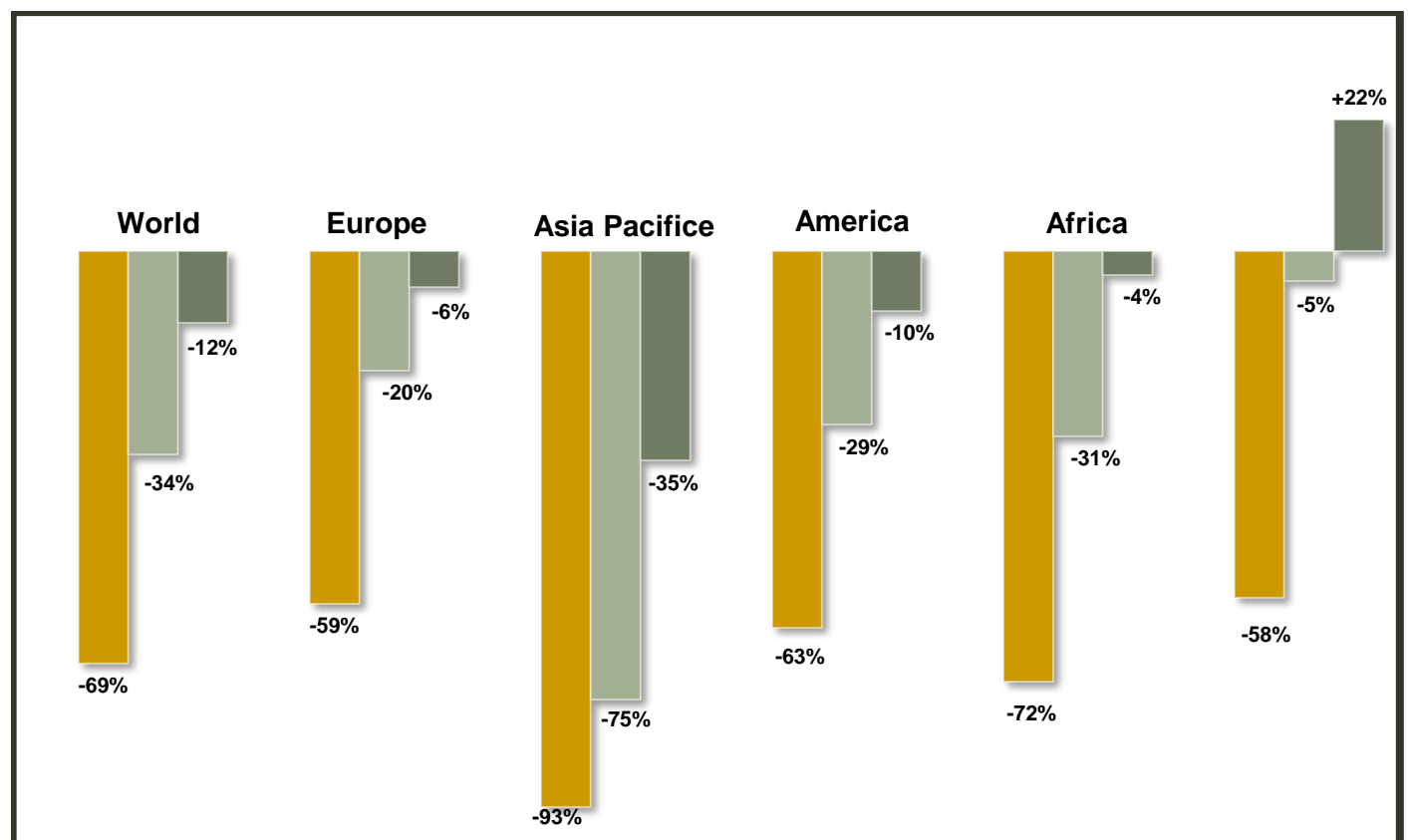


Table I: World Tourist Arrivals by Region

Region	International Tourist Arrivals (Million)						Share (%) 2021	Change			
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		20/19	21/20	22/21	23/22*
Europe	716.0	742.4	239.7	301.3	569.8	700.4	54.5	(67.7)	25.7	98.1	17.4
Asia and the Pacific	346.5	360.1	59.1	24.6	91.5	233.1	18.2	(83.6)	(58.4)	272.0	155.1
Americas	215.9	219.3	69.6	81.8	156.6	198.3	15.4	(68.2)	17.4	91.5	26.6
Africa	68.7	69.1	18.7	19.7	47.5	66.4	5.2	(72.9)	5.0	141.5	39.8
Middle East	60.3	71.3	19.4	30.2	67.8	87.1	6.8	(72.8)	55.9	124.5	28.5
World	1,407	1,462	407	458	960	1,286	100	(72.2)	12.5	109.9	33.9

Source: UNWTO World Tourism Barometer, - Volume 19, January 2021

*Provisional data

1.4 Tourism Demand- Volume and Value



FE Earnings
2,067.96 US\$ Mn



International Visitor Arrivals
1,487,303



Volume

In 2023, Sri Lanka saw a significant surge in tourism, welcoming 1,487,303 visitors, which marked a 106.5% increase from the previous year. This notable rise highlights the growing interest in Sri Lanka as a preferred travel destination. Contributing factors could include improved safety and political stability, effective marketing campaigns enhanced flight connectivity, investments in tourism infrastructure, and positive international recognition. This growth signifies the country's recovery and potential for continued expansion in the tourism sector.

Chart 2: Tourist Arrivals – 2001 to 2023

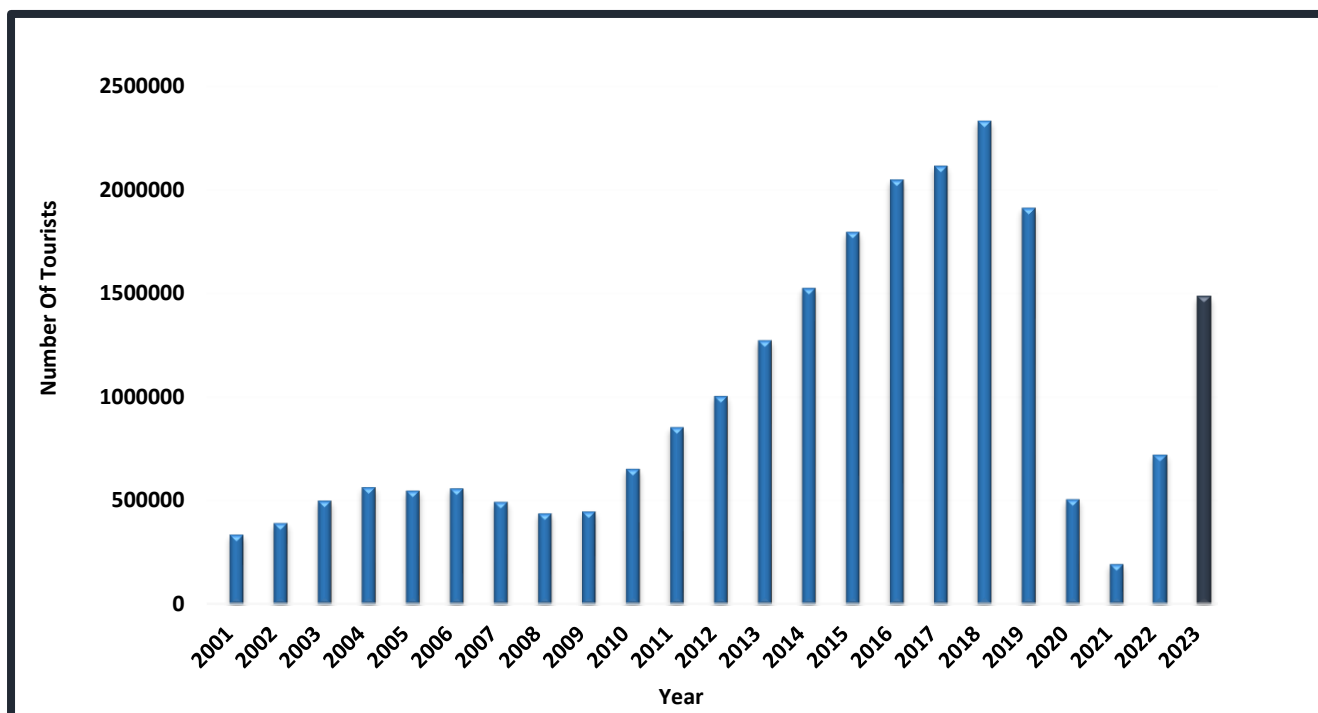


Chart 3: Tourist Arrivals Growth Change -2001 to 2023

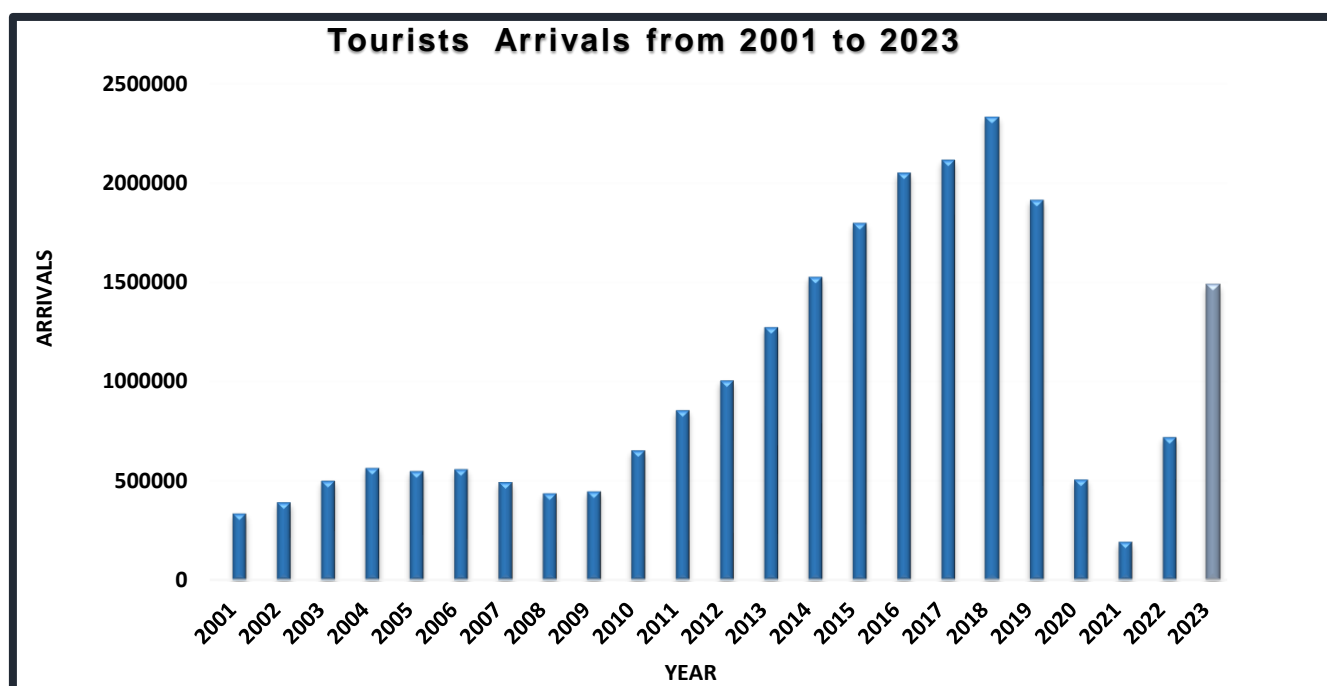


Chart 4: Tourist Receipts (US\$) - 2001 to 2023

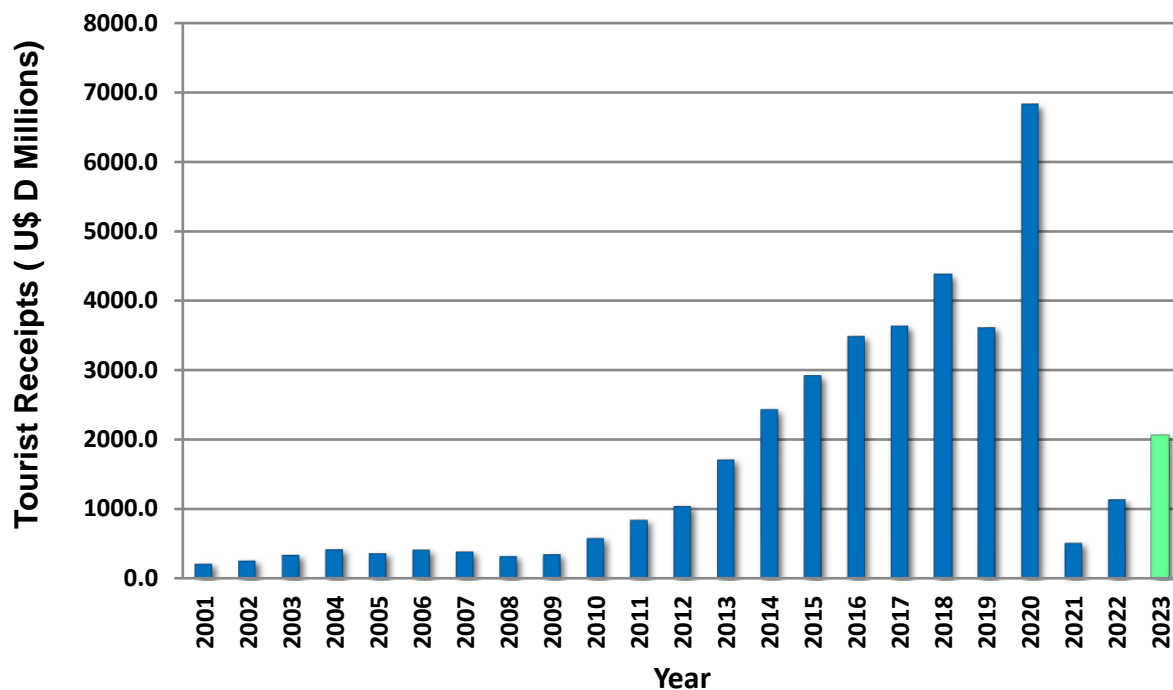


Table II: Foreign Exchange Earnings by Industry- 2022 & 2023

Table II: Foreign Exchange Earnings by Industry – 2022 & 2023

Sector	2022			Sector	2023 (a)		
	FE Earnings (Rs. Million)	As a Share of Total FE Earnings (%)	Rank		FE Earnings (Rs. Million)	As a Share of Total FE Earnings (%)	Rank
Textiles and garments	1,922,051	29.4	1	Worker's remittances	1,950,777	25.1	1
Worker's remittances	1,252,504	19.2	2	Textiles and garments	1,598,979	20.5	2
Tea	411,092	6.3	3	Tourism	678,510	8.7	3
Telecommunications and computer services	351,156	5.4	4	Transport	507,683	6.5	4
Tourism	338,052	5.2	5	Tea	428,292	5.5	5
Rubber products	314,535	4.8	6	Telecommunications and computer services	300,153	3.9	6
Transport	215,003	3.3	7	Rubber products	295,482	3.8	7
Machinery and mechanical appliances	189,381	2.9	8	Machinery and mechanical appliances	195,878	2.5	8
Petroleum products	177,194	2.7	9	Petroleum products	177,014	2.3	9
Food beverages & tobacco	166,431	2.5	10	Food beverages & tobacco	176,185	2.3	10
Others	1,194,592	18.3		Others	1,472,741	18.9	
Total	6,531,991	100.0		Total	7,781,693	100.0	

a) Provisional

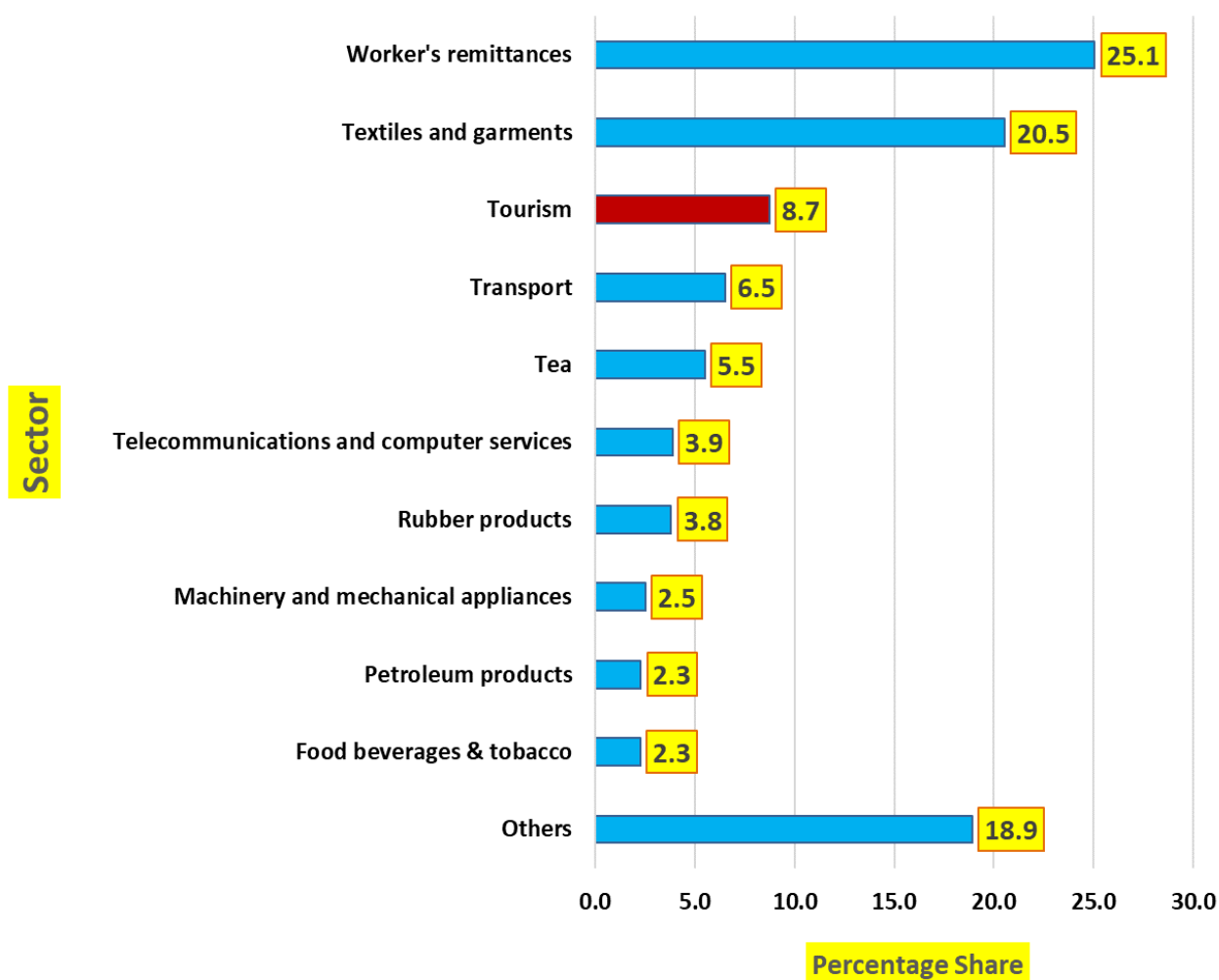
Value

Tourism which remained at the fifth position as one of the highest foreign exchange earners in 2022 has ascended to the third position. Accordingly, share of foreign exchange earnings from the tourism sector increased to 8.7 % of the total foreign exchange earnings, compared to 5.2% recorded in the previous year.

The official tourist receipts for 2023 were estimated at Rs. 677,360.3 million as compared to Rs. 362,426.1 million in 2022, with an increase of 86.9 %. In terms of US\$ the total tourist receipts were estimated to be US\$ 2067.9 million compared to US\$ 1136.3 million observed in the previous year, with an increase of 81.9%.



Chart 5: Distribution of Foreign Exchange Earnings (Percentage) – 2023





TOURIST TRAFFIC

02

2.1 Markets

The tables below indicate tourist arrivals from various regional markets over the past consecutive years. In 2023, Europe emerged as the largest regional market, accounting for 757,327 arrivals, representing a 75% share of total foreign arrivals.

Table III: Tourist Arrivals by Region – 2021,2022 & 2023

Region	2021	2022	2023	22/23
AMERICAS	11,759	51,427	95,263	85.2
AFRICA	862	4,671	9,950	113.0
ASIA & PACIFIC	83,926	213,547	596,933	179.5
EUROPE	93,495	432,226	757,327	75.2
MIDDLE EAST	4,452	18,107	27,830	53.7
TOTAL	194,495	719,978	1,487,303	106.6

Source: Department of Immigration and Emigration, analysis by SLTDA

Overall, it is notable that all regions experienced significant increases in tourist arrivals compared to 2022. Europe, as the largest source market, saw a growth of 75.2%, while the Asia-Pacific region, the second-largest market, recorded an impressive 179.5% growth over the previous year. The Middle East region saw a growth of 53.7%, and the Americas recorded an 85.2% increase. The overall growth in international arrivals for 2023 was 106.6%. Growth in tourist arrivals from these regions to Sri Lanka in 2023 can be attributed to several factors. Improved connectivity, with enhanced flight routes and increased direct flights, made travel more convenient for visitors. The post-pandemic recovery, coupled with the easing of travel restrictions, likely encouraged many travelers to resume their plans, contributing to the surge. Targeted marketing campaigns by Sri Lanka, focusing on the region's unique cultural and natural attractions, also played a significant role. Additionally, economic recovery in key source markets such as India boosted disposable incomes, encouraging more international travel. Cultural and historical ties between Sri Lanka and countries like India, Japan, and Australia likely drove increased interest, while favorable visa policies made the destination more accessible.

Chart 6: Distribution of Market Shares (Percentage) - 2023

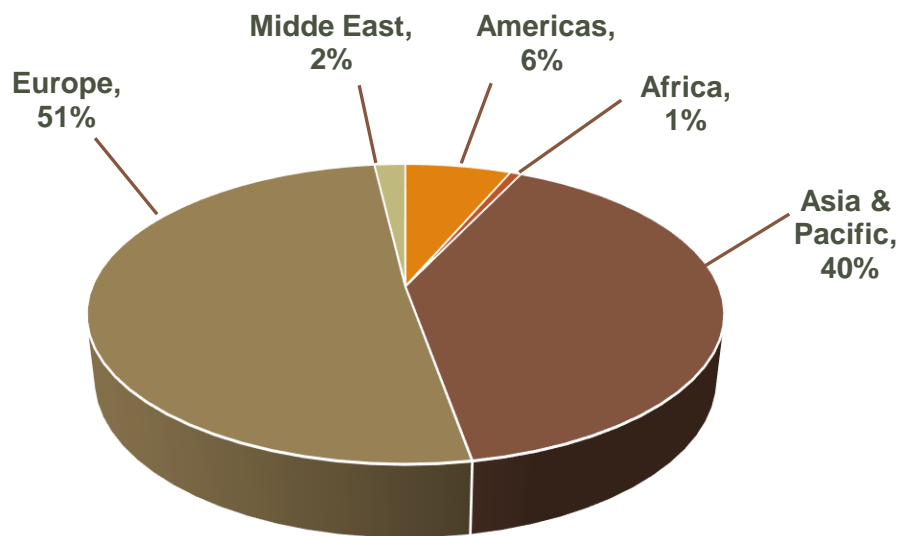
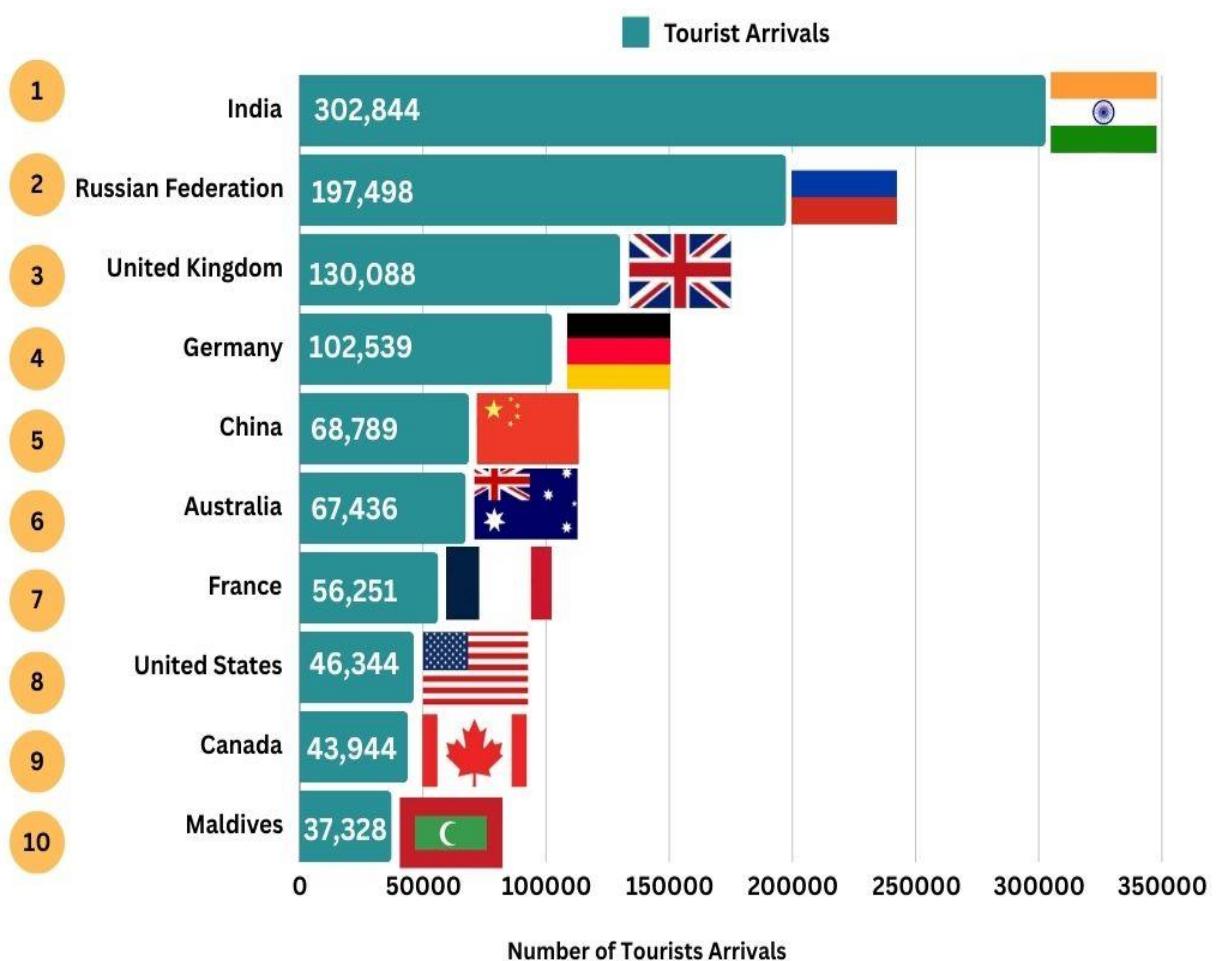


Chart 7: Top ten source markets – 2023



Largest share of international arrivals, representing 20.4% of the total. The Russian Federation emerged as the second-largest country of origin, contributing 13.3% of arrivals.

The United Kingdom ranked third with an 8.7% share, followed by Germany at 6.9% and China at 4.6%, making them the fourth and fifth largest markets, respectively. Collectively, the top ten markets represented 70.8% of the total tourist traffic to the country in 2023.

An analysis of the percentage change since 2018 reveals that all countries, except for the Russian Federation, France, and the Maldives, have seen declines, while these three markets recorded improvements.

Table IV: Top ten source markets comparison - 2023 & 2018

Rank	Country of Residence	Tourist Arrivals	Percentage Share	Percentage change 23/18
1	India	302,844	20.4	(28.7)
2	Russian Federation	197,498	13.3	206.2
3	United Kingdom	130,088	8.7	(48.8)
4	Germany	102,539	6.9	(34.6)
5	China	68,789	4.6	(35.4)
6	Australia	67,436	4.5	(39.2)
7	France	56,251	3.8	6.8
8	United States	46,344	3.1	(38.5)
9	Canada	43,944	3.0	(42.3)
10	Maldives	37,328	2.5	83.2
11	Others	434,242	29.1	
TOTAL		1,487,303		(36.3)

2.2 Seasonality of Arrivals

The chart below illustrates the monthly variation in tourist arrivals from various countries. The arrival index exceeded 100 in March, July, August, November, and December, while it remained below 100 during the other months. December recorded the highest number of arrivals, with a seasonal index of 170.

Chart 8: Seasonality of Traffic – 2023 (Seasonal Indices)

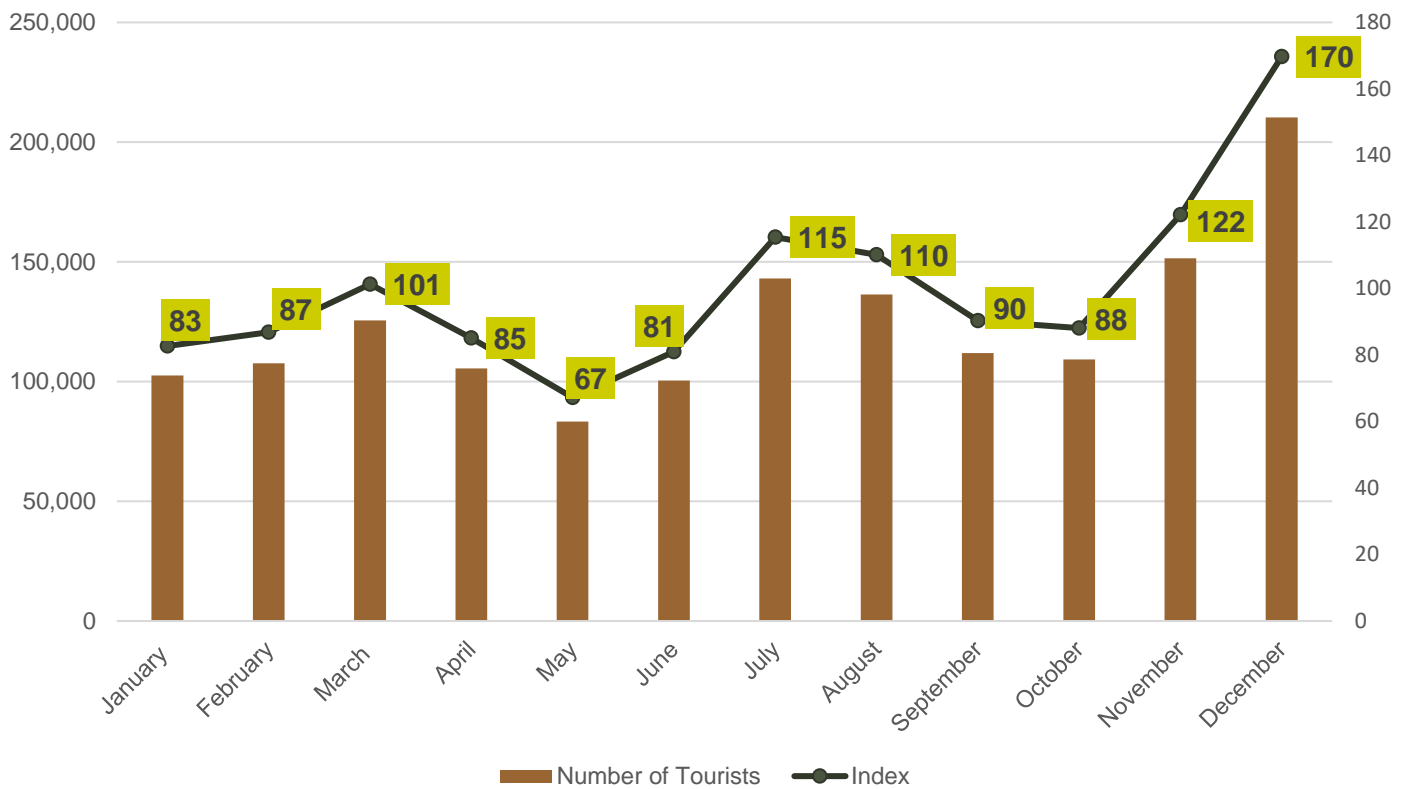
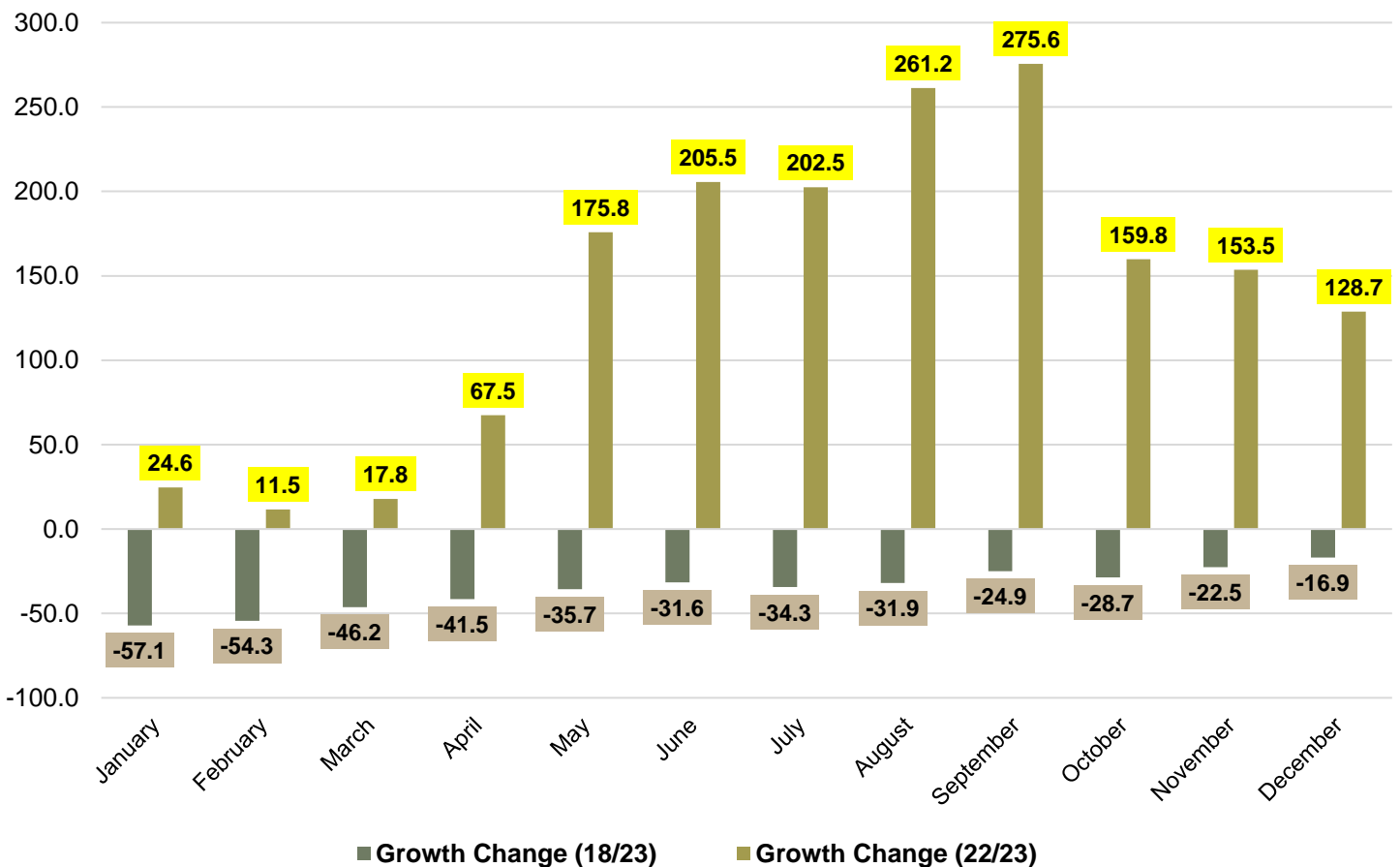


Chart 8a: Tourist Arrivals & Percentage Change 2018/2022/2023

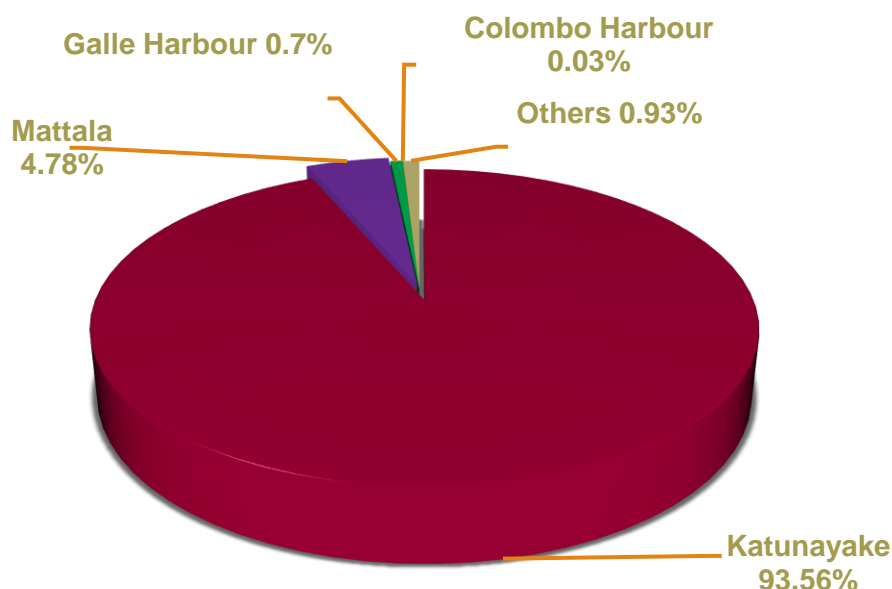


2.3 Mode of Transport and Port of Arrival

The chart below provides detailed statistics on passenger movements, categorized by mode of transport and port of arrival. In 2023, the vast majority of tourists, 98.3%, arrived in Sri Lanka by air, while the remaining 1.6% traveled by sea, primarily entering through Galle Harbour. The dominance of air travel can be attributed to the convenience, speed, and global connectivity offered by flights, making it the preferred choice for international travelers. The smaller percentage of sea arrivals likely reflects the limited availability and longer duration of sea travel, which is typically chosen by cruise passengers or those seeking a more leisurely journey.

Passenger movements by port indicate that Bandaranaike International Airport in Katunayake remained the primary gateway for tourists, handling 93.5% of total arrivals and departures. The remaining traffic was distributed among Mattala Rajapaksha International Airport (4.78%), Galle Harbour (0.7%), Colombo Harbour (0.03%), and other ports (0.93%).

Chart 9: Distribution by Ports of Arrival (percentage) – 2023



2.4 Purpose of Visit

The data for the purpose of visit has been analyzed by using Electronic Travel Authorization system for the year 2023 and reported by the Department of Immigration and Emigration.

The chart below indicates that in 2023, 57.3% of tourists visiting the island did so for leisure activities such as holidays, recreation, and touring. Additionally, 14.5% of tourists visited to spend time with friends and relatives, while 4.5% traveled for business purposes and 5.5% for MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conventions, Exhibitions) events. A small percentage of tourists came for sports (0.3%) and health (0.7%) reasons. Educational purposes accounted for 0.1% of visitors, and 0.2% reported coming for religious reasons. Only 0.005% of tourists visited Sri Lanka for official purposes.

The high percentage of tourists coming for leisure reflects Sri Lanka's appeal as a holiday destination with its rich cultural heritage, scenic beauty, and diverse recreational opportunities. The lower percentages for business, MICE, and other specialized purposes suggest that while these segments contribute to overall tourism, they are not the primary drivers of tourist traffic compared to leisure travel.

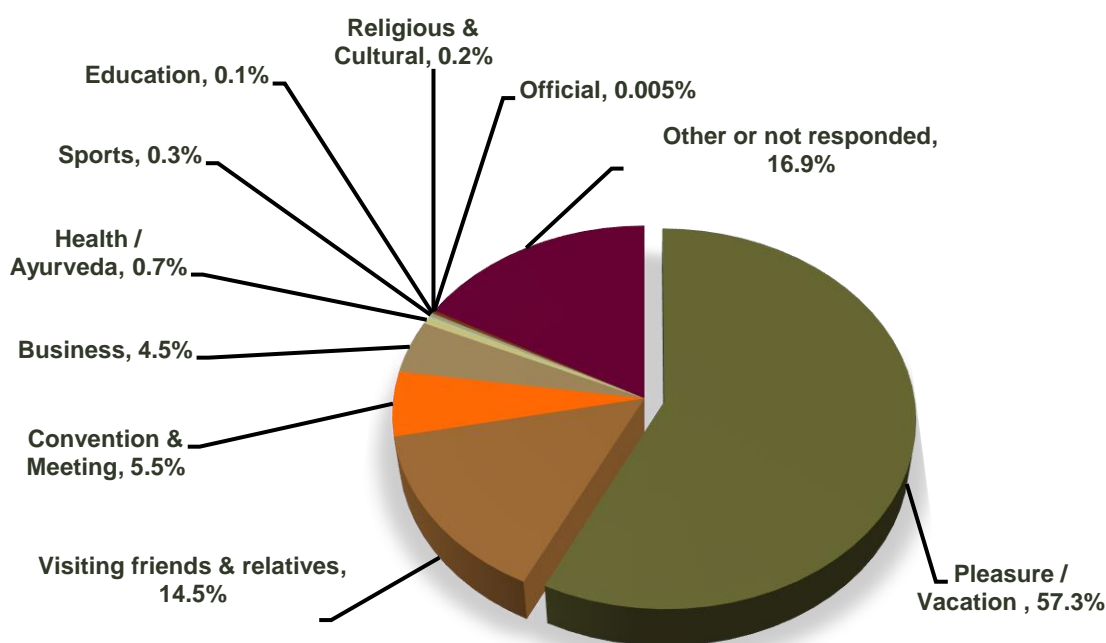
Among pleasure travelers, the largest proportions came from India, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and Germany. For those visiting friends and relatives, the primary source countries were the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, India, and the United States.

This distribution highlights the strong appeal of Sri Lanka as a leisure destination for tourists from these countries, likely due to their cultural and historical connections, ease of travel, or promotional efforts targeted at these markets. The prominence of the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, India, and the United States in the category of visiting friends and relatives reflects established diaspora communities and strong personal ties that drive travel to Sri Lanka.

The largest proportion of MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conventions, and Exhibitions) tourists were from India, the Russian Federation, Israel, France, and Germany. For business purposes, the key source countries were India, China, the United Kingdom, Japan, and the United States.

This pattern suggests that Sri Lanka's MICE offerings attract participants from diverse and economically active countries with strong corporate and professional ties. India's prominent role in both MICE and business travel reflects its growing international business presence and interest in the island's MICE facilities. Similarly, the involvement of countries like China, the United Kingdom, Japan, and the United States highlights the global appeal of Sri Lanka's business and MICE opportunities, driven by these nations' robust economic activities and professional engagements.

Chart 10: Distribution of tourists by Purpose of Visit (Percentage) 2023



2.5 Duration of Stay

The average duration of stay for tourists in Sri Lanka during the year under review was 8.4 nights. The largest proportion, 35.5%, stayed for 8 to 14 nights. Additionally, 33.01% of tourists stayed for 4 to 7 nights, while 20.4% stayed for 1 to 3 nights.

This distribution indicates that a significant number of tourists opted for extended stays, likely reflecting Sri Lanka's appeal as a destination offering a range of activities and attractions that encourage longer visits. The substantial percentage of tourists staying 4 to 7 nights suggests a preference for mid-length vacations that provide a balanced experience of the country's offerings. The 20.4% who stayed for 1 to 3 nights may have been on shorter trips or included business travelers with limited time for leisure.

An analysis of the average duration of stay by region of origin shows that Western Europe recorded the longest average stay at 12.2 nights. Tourists from Northern Europe followed with an average stay of 12 nights, while those from Central and Eastern Europe averaged 10.12 nights. In contrast, tourists from the South Asian region had the shortest average stay, at 6.3 nights.

This variation reflects differing travel habits and preferences. Western European tourists, often seeking extended vacations, may take advantage of Sri Lanka's diverse attractions over longer periods. Northern and Central/Eastern European travelers also show a tendency for longer stays, likely driven by similar motivations. The shorter average stay for South Asian

tourists might be attributed to closer proximity, making shorter trips more feasible, or differing travel patterns such as frequent short visits rather than extended holidays.

Among individual countries, the longest average duration of stay was recorded for Cape Verde, with 21 nights. This was followed by St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the Netherlands, the Central African Republic, and the United Kingdom, with average stays of 14.8, 14.1, 14, and 13.4 nights, respectively.

These extended stays from countries like Cape Verde and St. Vincent and the Grenadines may be attributed to the relatively long-distance travel involved and a preference for longer vacations. Tourists from the Netherlands, Central African Republic, and the United Kingdom also exhibit a tendency for longer stays, possibly reflecting the appeal of Sri Lanka's attractions, which encourage more leisurely visits. Such patterns highlight the varying travel behaviors and vacation preferences based on distance, travel convenience, and the desire to experience more of what Sri Lanka has to offer.

Chart 11: Distribution of Average Duration of Stay (Nights) by region- 2023

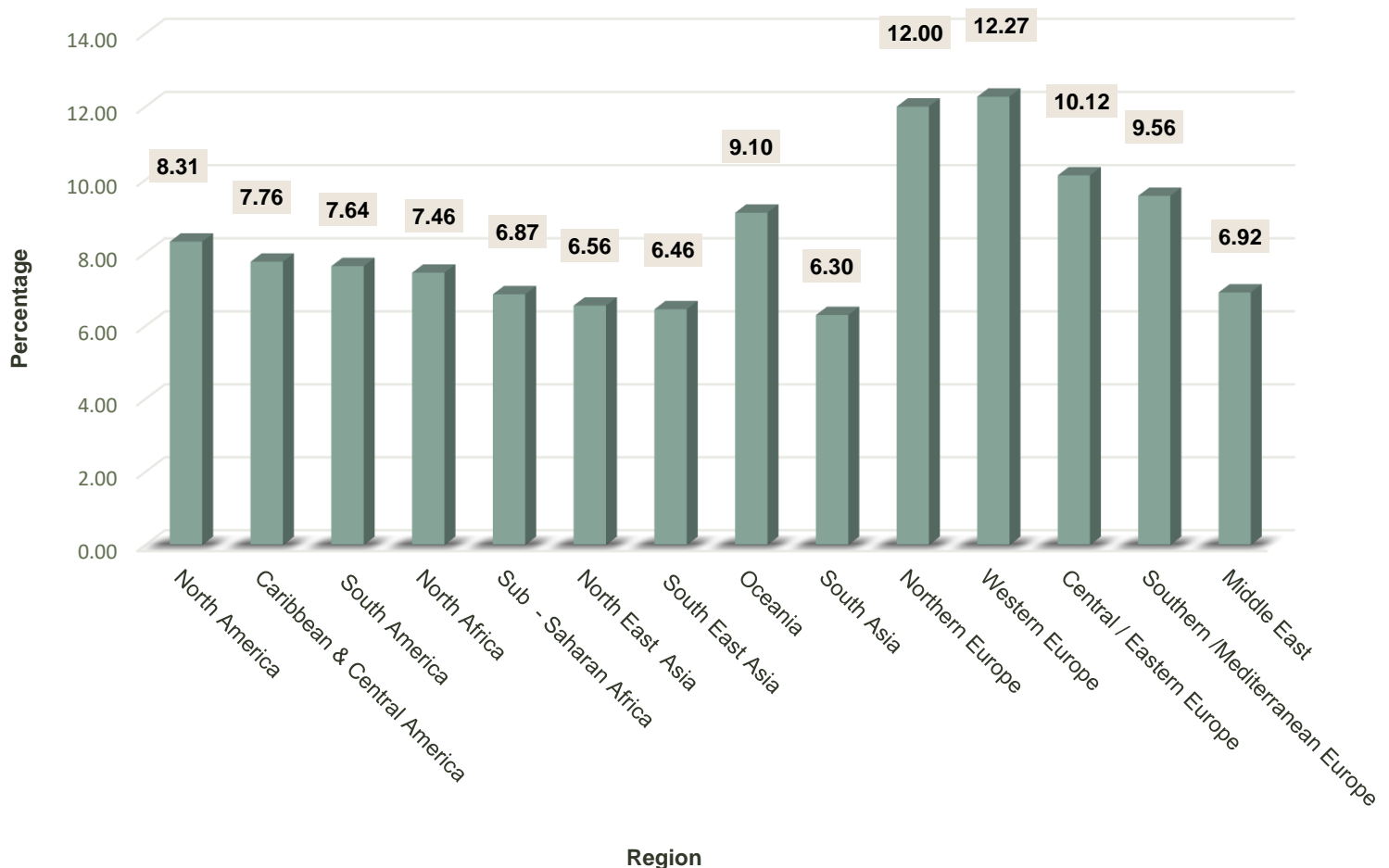
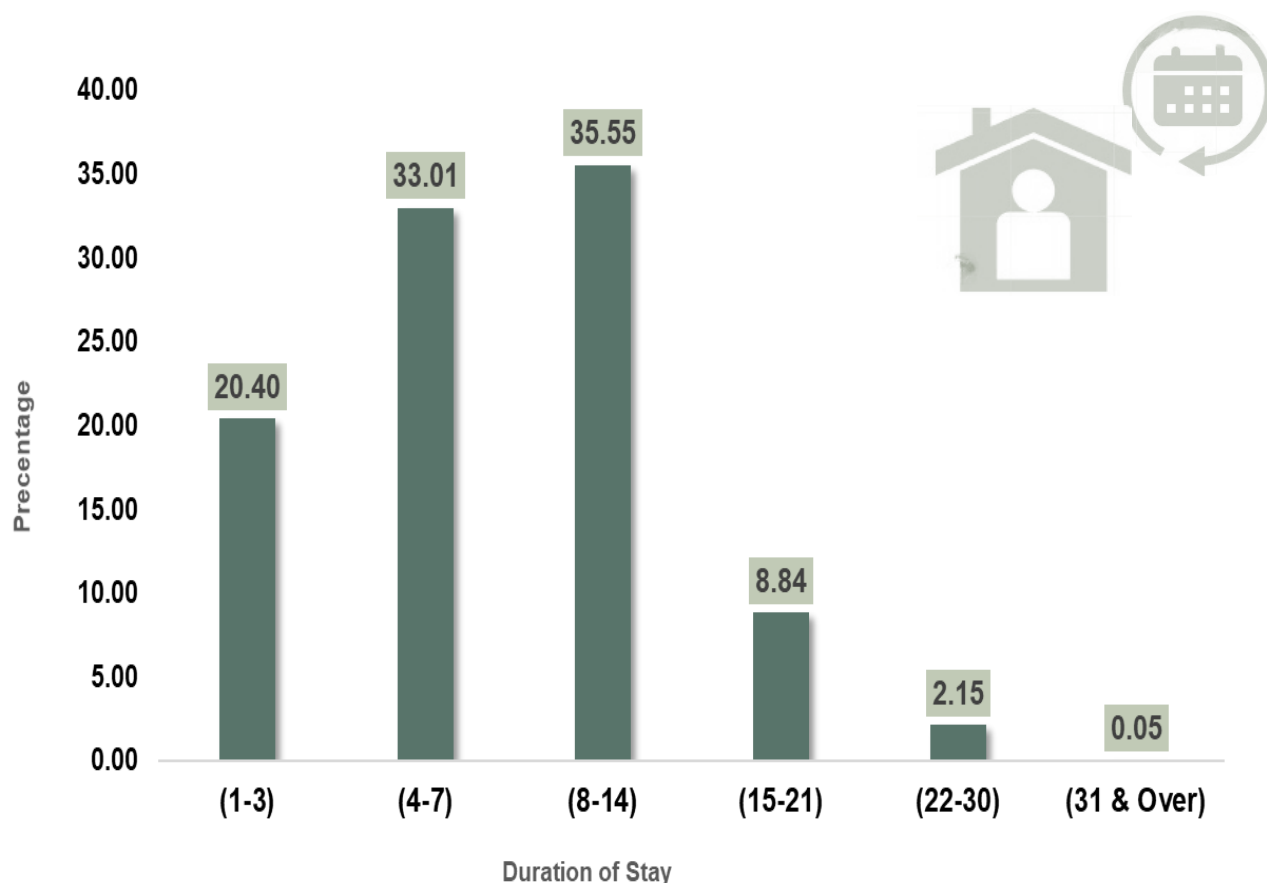


Chart 12: Distribution of Duration of Stay (Percentage) -2023



Source: Department of Immigration and Emigration

2.6 Age and Sex

The age composition of incoming visitors reveals that a significant proportion of tourists are in the older age groups, with 5.48% aged 65 and over and 4.52% in the 55-64 age bracket. In contrast, only 0.65% of the total tourists fall within the 45-54 age group, 0.33% are in the 35-44 age range, 0.1% are between 24-34 years, 0.17% are in the 15-24 age group, and a mere 0.005% are under 15 years of age.

This distribution suggests that the majority of visitors are older adults, indicating a potential focus on experiences or attractions that appeal to this demographic. The lower percentages in the younger age categories could imply that the destination may not be as appealing or accessible to younger travelers, or that marketing efforts are more effectively reaching older age groups.

Further analysis of arrivals by age shows that the majority of visitors aged 65 and over came from India, the United Kingdom, and Germany. Similarly, the highest number of arrivals in the 55-64 age group were also from these three countries. For the 45-54, 35-44, and 15-24 age brackets, the most significant number of arrivals were recorded from India, Russia, and the United Kingdom. In the 25-34 age category, the highest arrivals were from India, Russia, and Germany.

This pattern suggests that India is a key source market across all age groups, reflecting strong travel ties between India and Sri Lanka. The consistent presence of the United Kingdom and Germany among the older age groups may indicate that these countries have an older demographic interested in Sri Lanka, possibly due to historical or cultural connections. Meanwhile, Russia's prominence in the younger age brackets could point to a growing interest in Sri Lanka among younger Russian travelers, potentially driven by newer marketing efforts or emerging travel trends.

The gender distribution of tourists visiting Sri Lanka during the year reveals that 57.8% were female, while 14.48% were male. The highest number of female tourists came from the Russian Federation, India, and the United Kingdom. In contrast, the largest number of male tourists also originated from India, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom.

This distribution suggests that Sri Lanka's appeal as a travel destination is strong among both women and men from these countries, with the Russian Federation, India, and the United Kingdom being key source markets for both genders. The higher proportion of female tourists, especially from Russia, might reflect the attractiveness of Sri Lanka's offerings, such as wellness, cultural experiences, or perceived safety, which resonate particularly well with female travelers. The significant representation of male tourists from these countries indicates that the destination also holds broad appeal across different demographics, although the reasons behind the gender disparity might warrant further investigation to understand specific preferences or trends. This notable difference suggests that Sri Lanka may be particularly appealing to female travelers, possibly due to the types of experiences and attractions offered, or the perception of the country as a safe and desirable destination for women. The lower percentage of male visitors might point to different travel preferences or priorities among men, or it could indicate an opportunity for targeted marketing to increase male tourism.

Chart 13: Distribution of Tourists by Gender (Percentage) 2023

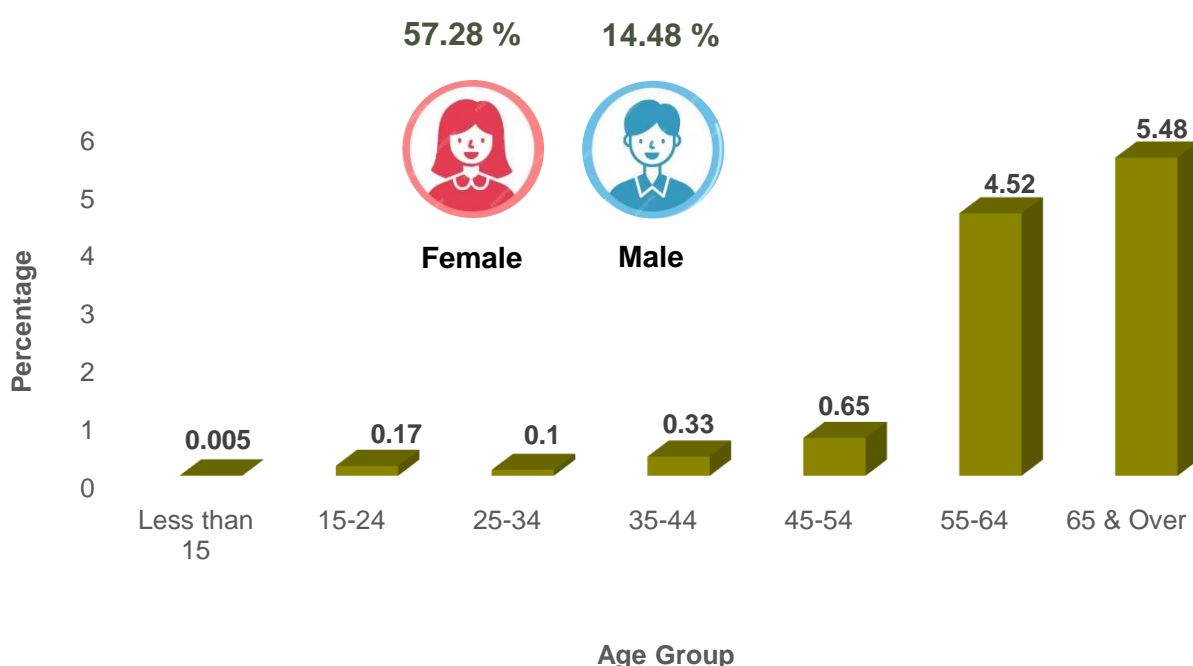
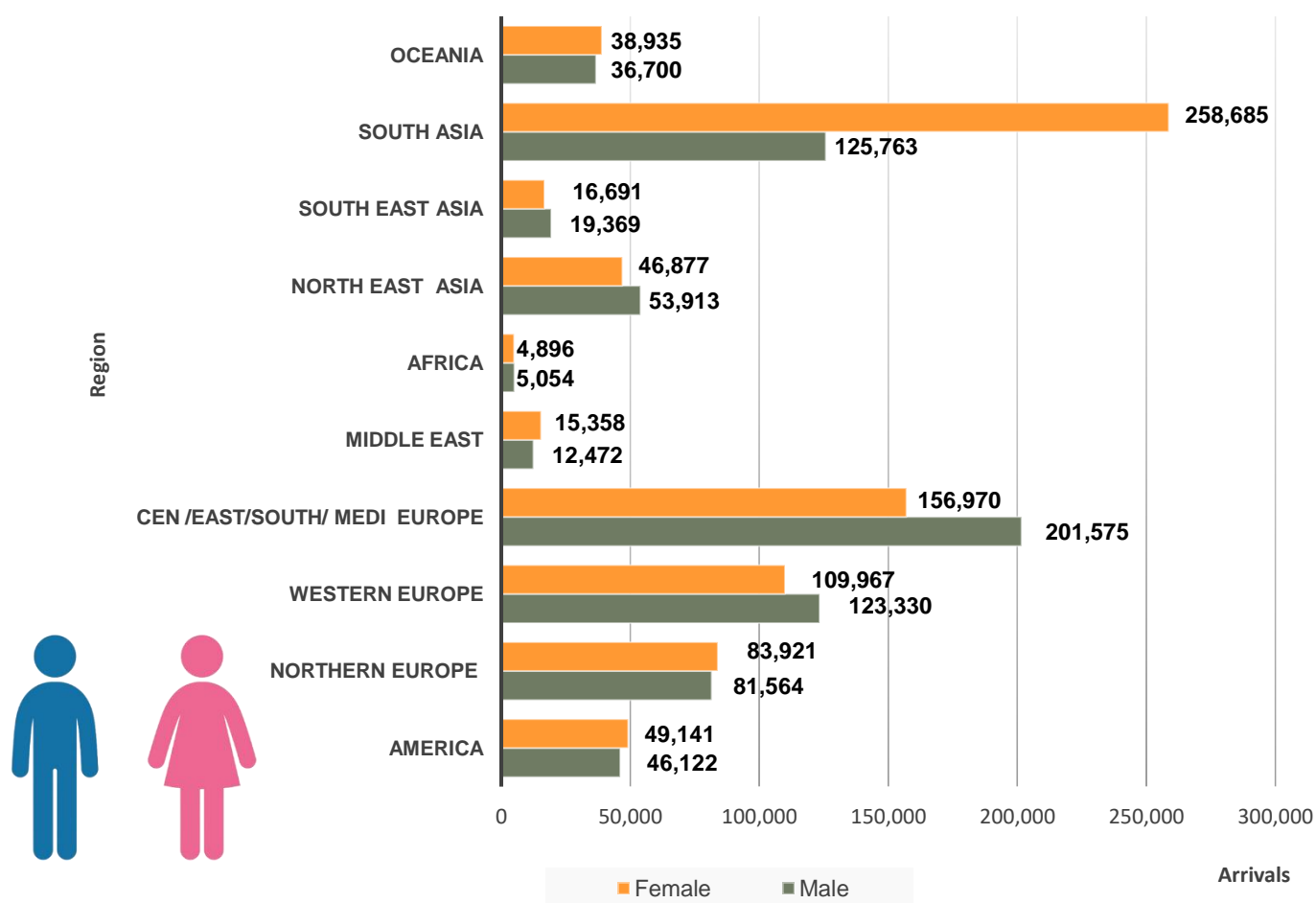


Chart 14: Distribution of Tourists by Sex and Region (Percentage) – 2023



2.7 Arrivals by Carrier

In 2023, a total of 32 airlines, including the national carrier Sri Lankan Airlines, operated flights to Sri Lanka. During the winter season, these airlines collectively operated 409 flights per week, while in the summer, this number increased to 473 flights per week. The top three airlines responsible for transporting 801,017 tourists to Sri Lanka were Sri Lankan Airlines, Qatar Airways, and Emirates.

This data highlights the critical role that these airlines play in facilitating tourism to Sri Lanka. The increase in flights during the summer suggests a higher demand for travel to the country during this period, possibly due to favorable weather or peak tourist season. The dominance of Sri Lankan Airlines, Qatar Airways, and Emirates in bringing in the majority of tourists underscores their strong connectivity and influence in the region, making them key players in Sri Lanka's tourism industry.

Table V: Distribution by Air Line

Air Line	Number of Passengers	% Share
Sri Lankan Airlines	464,958	31.3
Qatar Airways	174,601	11.7
Emirates	161,458	10.9
IndiGo	98,778	6.6
Red Wings Airlines	60,664	4.1
Fly Dubai	55,698	3.7
Aeroflot	42,789	2.9
Azur Air	39,006	2.6
Air Arabia	36,924	2.5
Air India	33,707	2.3
China Eastern Airlines	32,243	2.2
Etihad Airways	30,496	2.1
Singapore Airlines	29,444	2
Air Asia	26,868	1.8
Vistara Airline	21,609	1.5
Turkish Airline	21,325	1.4
Oman Air	16,217	1.1
Gulf Air	14,239	1
Malaysia Airlines	11,821	0.8
Others	114,458	7.7
Total	1,487,303	100

Chart 15: Distribution of Tourist Arrivals by Air Lines -2023

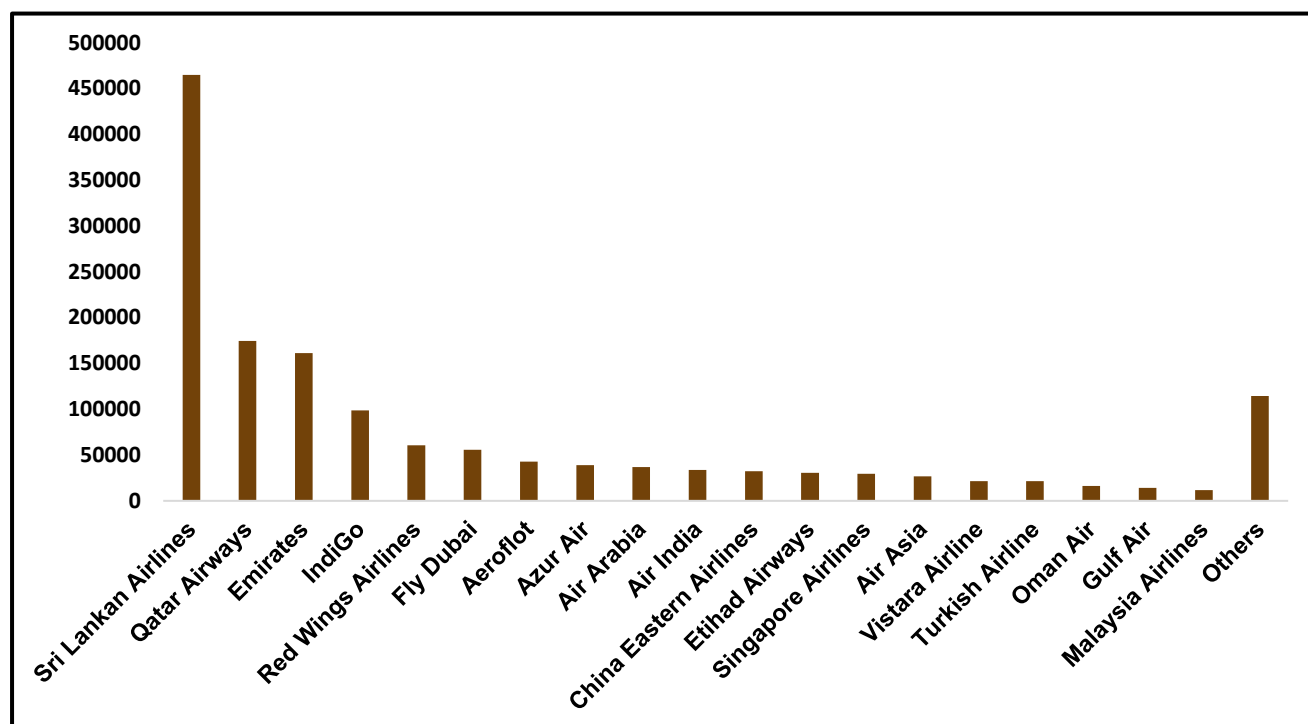
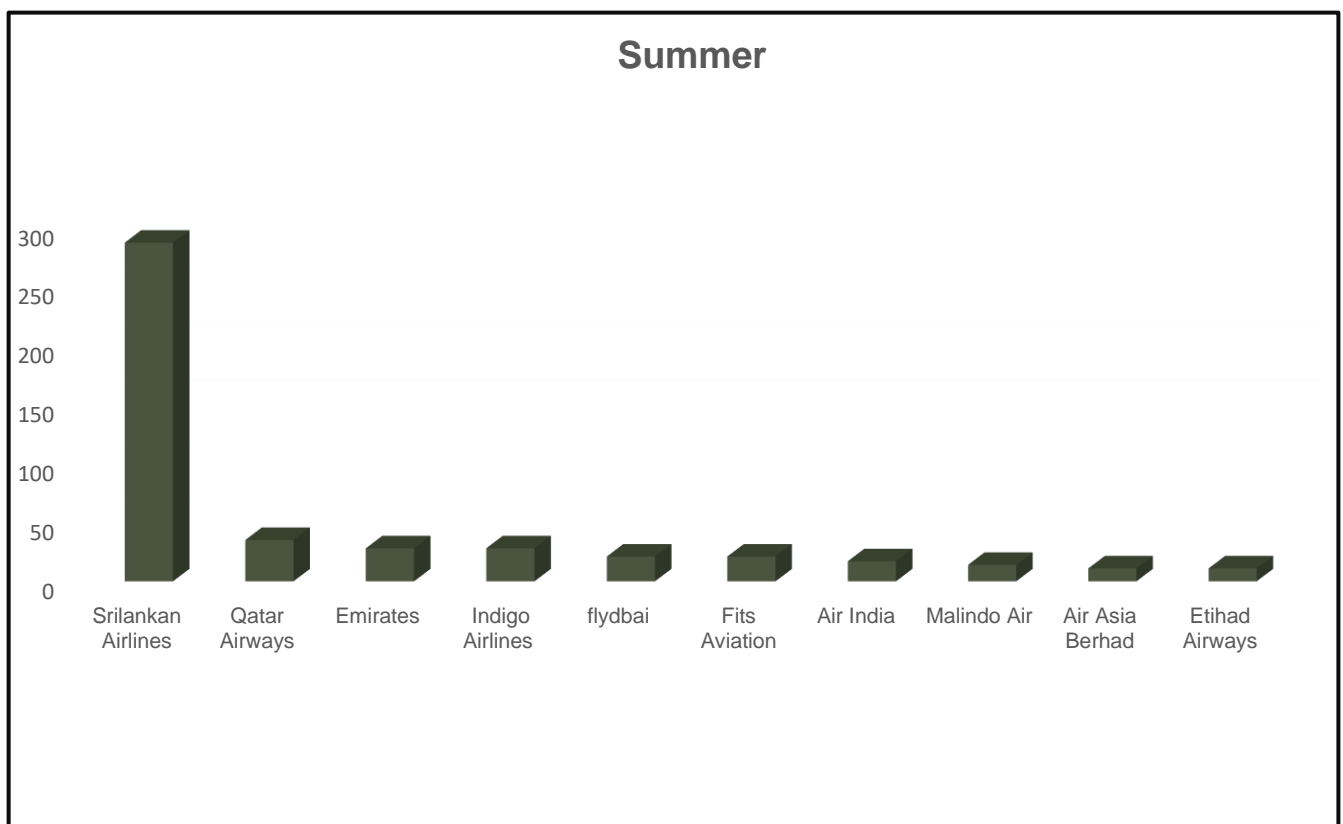
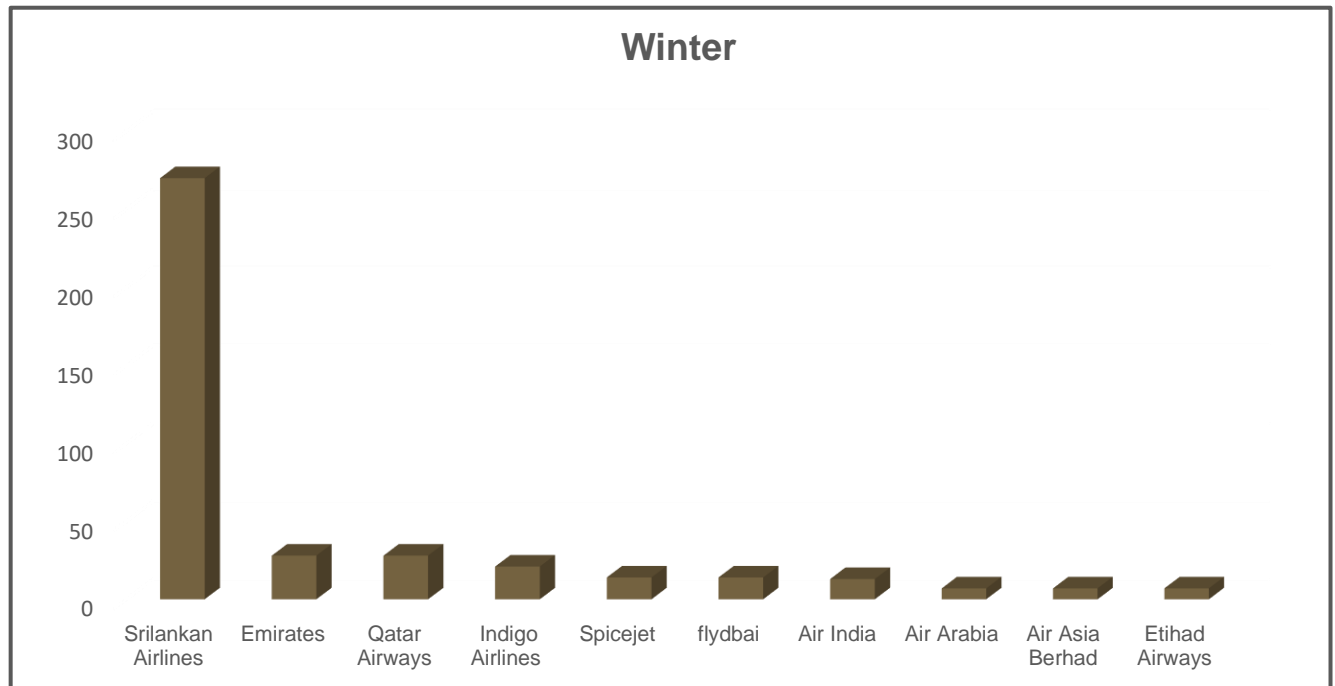


Table VI: Average Frequency per week for Top Ten Airlines to Sri Lanka, 2023

Rank	Airline	Winter	Airline	Summer
1	Sri Lankan Airlines	270	Sri Lankan Airlines	287
2	Emirates	28	Qatar Airways	35
3	Qatar Airways	28	Emirates	28
4	Indigo Airlines	21	Indigo Airlines	28
5	SpiceJet	14	flydubai	21
6	flydubai	14	Fits Aviation	21
7	Air India	13	Air India	17
8	Air Arabia	7	Malindo Air	14
9	Air Asia Berhad	7	Air Asia Berhad	11
10	Etihad Airways	7	Etihad Airways	11
Total		409	Total	473

Chart 16: Distribution of Air lines to Sri Lanka by Season -2023





ACCOMMODATION SECTOR



3.1 Tourism Accommodation

TOURISM ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER SERVICES

Table VII: SLTDA Registered Accommodation Establishments, 2022 & 2023

Category	2022		2023	
	Number of establishments	Number of rooms	Number of establishments	Number of rooms
Boutique Hotel	40	845	41	865
Boutique Villa	49	346	51	356
Bungalow	857	3,513	984	4,078
Classified Tourist Hotel	156	15,080	168	16,686
1 Star	28	5,931	41	1,852
2 Star	28	3,110	41	2,499
3 Star	26	2,449	26	2,462
4 Star	37	1,903	30	3,590
5 Star	37	1,687	30	6,283
Guest House	1,380	15,438	1,679	18,622
Eco lodge	*	*	1	20
Heritage Bungalow	4	19	4	19
Heritage Home	3	9	2	2
Heritage Hotel	*	*	2	312
Home Stay Unit	1,009	3,049	1,080	3,231
Hostels	11	133	12	143
Rented Apartment	85	323	86	328
Rented Home	10	28	14	41
Themed Accommodation & Value-added Activities	1	11	1	11
Tourist Hotel	224	9,326	221	8,515
Total	3,829	48,120	4,346	53,229

* The registrations of Eco lodge and Heritage Hotels were started from 2023 onwards.

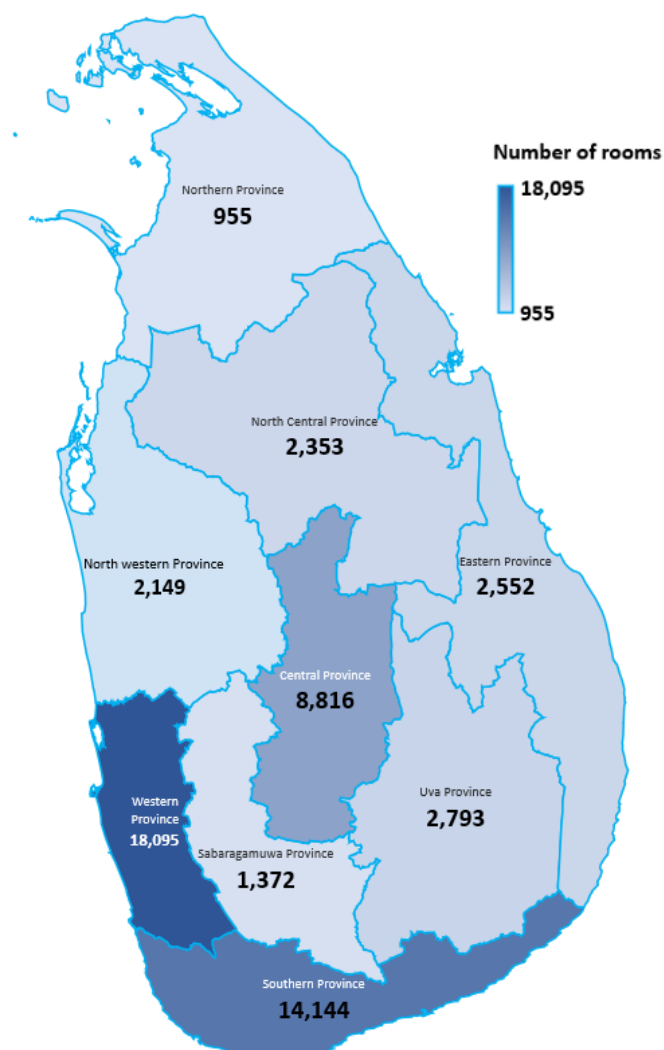
In 2023, the SLTDA registered a total of 4,346 accommodation establishments. Among them, 168 were classified as tourist hotels, with 30 being five-star. Small and medium enterprises, such as guest houses, homestays, and bungalows, dominated the sector, with 1,679, 1,080, and 984 registered establishments, respectively. Guest houses comprised 38.6% of the sector, followed by homestays at 24.8% and bungalows at 22.6%. Classified tourist hotels accounted for only 3.9%. The total room inventory in 2023 reached 53,229, with guest houses having the highest count of 18,622 rooms, underscoring the significance of small and medium enterprises. Comparing 2023 to 2022, the number of establishments increased by 13.5%, while the number of rooms increased by 10.6%.

Fluctuations in establishment numbers may stem from several factors: new openings, upgrades/downgrades during renewals, SLTDA registration of service providers, and closures due to COVID-19 and economic challenges. Noteworthy is the growth of small and medium enterprises. In 2023, homestay units rose by 7.03% compared to 2022, while bungalows saw a 14.8% increase. Establishments in categories like Heritage Bungalow and themed accommodation remained stable since 2022. The count of establishments in the Heritage Bungalow and themed accommodation categories has stayed constant since 2022. This sector merits further promotion, especially considering the global trend toward emerging tourism segments.



3.2 Room Distribution by Province

Figure 02: Distribution of rooms by province



In terms of provincial distribution, the majority of accommodations are concentrated in the Western, Southern, and Central Provinces, collectively representing a significant share of the country's room inventory. Specifically, the Western Province stands out with the highest allocation of rooms, comprising 34% of the total, followed by the Southern and Central Provinces at 26.6% and 16.6%, respectively. Conversely, the Northern Province has a notably lower proportion of rooms, accounting for only 1.8% of the total, indicating a disparity in accommodation distribution across regions. Additionally, the Uva Province contributes 5.2% of the total rooms available.

This distribution underscores a concentration of the accommodation sector in specific regions, potentially limiting the equitable development of tourism across the country. To foster more balanced growth and capitalize on the tourism potential of all provinces, there is a pressing need to diversify tourism development initiatives beyond the Western, Southern, and Central Provinces, ensuring that other regions, including the Northern and Uva Provinces, receive adequate attention and investment. This approach can contribute to a more inclusive and sustainable tourism

Table: VIII Distribution of Rooms by Provinces

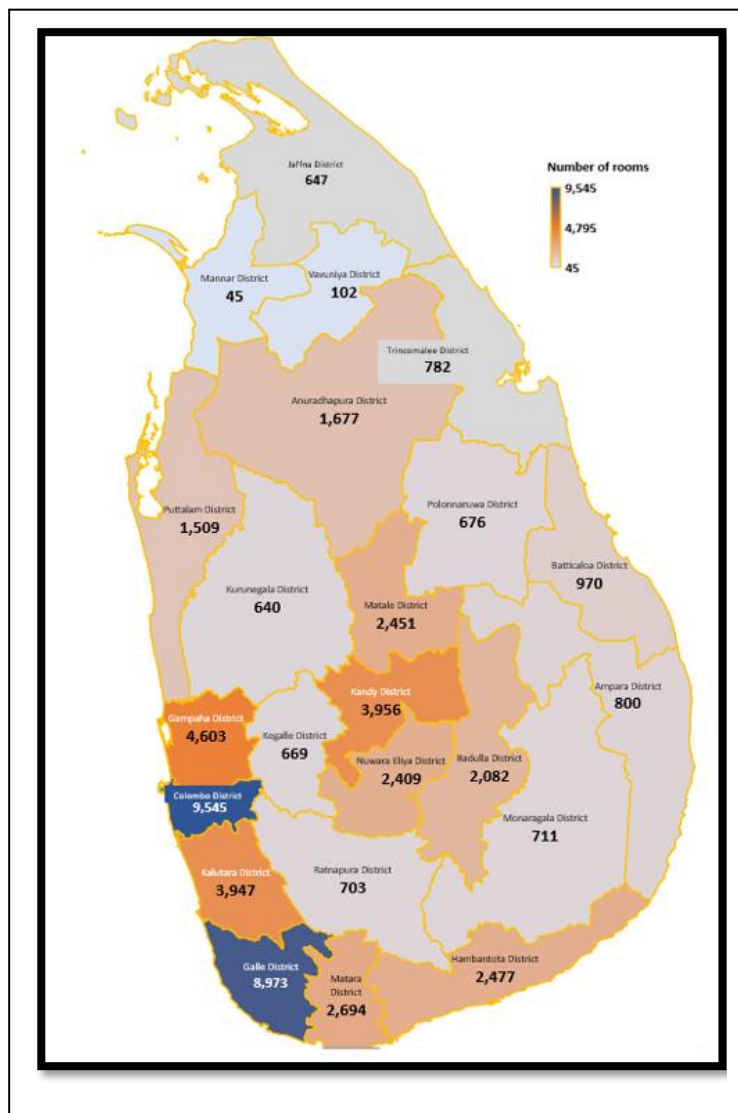
Province	Number of Rooms
Western Province	18,095
Southern Province	14,144
Central Province	8,816
Uva Province	2,793
Eastern Province	2,552
North Central Province	2,353
North Western Province	2,149
Sabaragamuwa Province	1,372
Northern Province	955
Total	53,229

3.3 Room Distribution by District

Table IX: Distribution of rooms by districts

District	Number of rooms	Percentage share
Colombo	9545	17.9
Galle	8973	16.9
Gampaha	4603	8.6
Kandy	3956	7.4
Kalutara	3947	7.4
Matara	2694	5.1
Hambantota	2477	4.7
Matale	2451	4.6
Nuwara Eliya	2409	4.5
Badulla	2082	3.9
Anuradhapura	1677	3.2
Puttlam	1509	2.8
Batticaloa	970	1.8
Ampara	800	1.5
Trincomalee	782	1.5
Monaragala	711	1.3
Rathnapura	703	1.3
Polonnaruwa	676	1.3
Kegalle	669	1.3
Jaffna	647	1.2
Kurunegala	640	1.2
Vavuniya	102	0.2
Kilinochchi	97	0.2
Mullaitivu	64	0.1
Mannar	45	0.1
Total	53,229	

Figure: 03 Distribution of rooms by districts

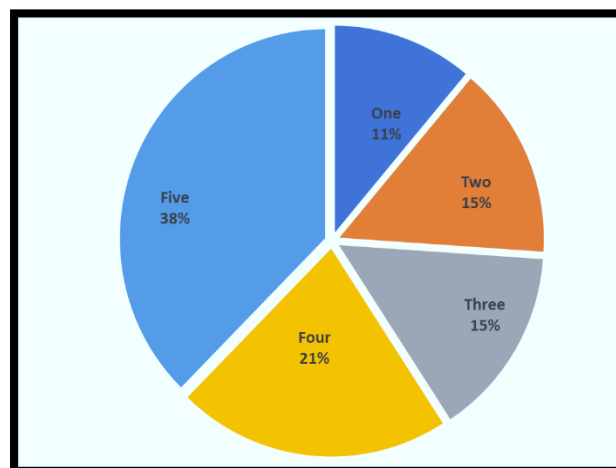


Colombo, Galle, Gampaha, Kalutara, and Kandy districts exhibit a notable concentration of accommodations. Their popularity as tourist destinations or commercial centers likely contributes to this. Colombo, being the capital, serves as a significant hub for business and tourism, whereas Galle is renowned for its historical sites. Gampaha, Kalutara, and Kandy also draw tourists due to their cultural and natural attractions. Conversely, Mullaitivu and Mannar districts have fewer accommodations, highlighting the need to foster tourism in these regions with untapped potential.

Table: x Distribution of Rooms by Star Category -2023

Star	Number of Rooms
One	1,852
Two	2,499
Three	2,462
Four	3,590
Five	6,283
Total	16,686

Chart: 17 Distribution of Rooms by star category



The breakdown of rooms in classified hotels shows that five-star establishments have the largest share, comprising 38% of total rooms. Four-star hotels follow with 21%, while three, two, and one-star accommodations account for 15%, 15%, and 11% respectively.

District	No. of Hotels
Colombo	42
Galle	21
Kandy	16
Kalutara	15
Gampaha	12
Matale	10
Nuwara Eliya	10
Hambanthota	7
Anuradhapura	7
Trincomalee	4
Puttalam	4
Rathnapura	4
Matara	3
Polonnaruwa	3
Jaffna	3
Batticaloa	2
Kurunegala	2
Monaragala	2
Vavuniya	1
Total	168

Table xi: Distribution of Classified Tourist Hotels by Province -2023

		Province									
Star Category		western	central	southern	North central	Eastern	North western	Northern	Sabaragamuwa	UVA	Total
	Five	13	6	9	1	1	0	0	0	0	30
	Four	9	9	5	2	2	1	0	1	1	30
	Three	10	7	3	2	1	1	2	0	0	26
	Two	15	8	9	2	2	3	1	1	0	41
	One	22	6	5	3	0	1	1	2	1	41
	Total	69	36	31	10	6	6	4	4	2	168

The distribution of tourist accommodations in Sri Lanka showcases a significant concentration in key districts such as Colombo, Galle, Kandy, and Kalutara. Notably, the Western province stands out with 69 classified hotels, with a majority falling into the one-star category, while 13 are categorized as luxurious five-star establishments. This distribution pattern suggests varying levels of accommodation options catering to diverse traveler preferences and budget considerations. Five and four-star hotels are present across all provinces except the Northern Province. This highlights the need to targeted investments and development initiatives to promote tourism and economic growth in the province.

Table: XII Distribution of Other Tourism Services by Districts

District	Camping Sites	Eco lodge	Restaurants	Tourist friendly eating places	Tourist Shops	Water Sports	Spice Garden	Travel agencies	Spa
Ampara			1	4		1		16	
Anuradhapura			13	13				3	
Badulla			9	10					
Batticaloa			3			1		10	2
Colombo			380	80	28	2		771	52
Galle			68	34	8	4	3	29	16
Gampaha			100	23	6	1		197	14
Hambantota	2		14	7				1	6
Jaffna			11	4				1	
Kalutara			18	9	5	5		45	11
Kandy	1		33	27	30			34	7
Kegalle			20	6		3	13	13	1
Kilinochchi			2	3					
Kurunegala			24	5		1		28	1
Mannar									
Matale			19	2	13		24		2
Matara		1	31	22	1	10		6	6
Monaragala	5		11	2					
Mullaitivu			4	3					
Nuwara Eliya			13	4	2			2	4
Polonnaruwa			7	7	1		1		1
Puttalam			16	9		15		19	1
Rathnapura	1		9	4	1			3	1
Trincomalee			5			1		4	2
Vavuniya			1						
Total	9	1	812	278	95	44	41	1,182	127



The concentration of various services, including restaurants, tourist-friendly eateries, shops, travel agencies, and spas, is notable in Colombo. SLTDA-registered water sports centers are predominantly found in Puttalam and Matara districts, while spice gardens are officially recognized in Matale, and Kegalle districts. Camping sites are exclusively situated in Hambantota, Monaragala, Kandy, and Rathnapura districts. Additionally, most travel agencies and spas are primarily located within the Colombo District. Similar to accommodation, the clustering of these tourism-related services is centered on key districts like Colombo and Galle.





EMPLOYMENT

04

4.1 Employment

The table below illustrates employment within the tourism industry. The survey covered 6569 establishments, and the findings reveal that in 2023 total number of employees in the tourism industry amounted to 204591. 80.9% of the total direct tourism-related employment was in hotels and restaurants. Travel agents and tour operators accounted for 7.4% of the employment, while the airline industry employed 4.2% of the workforce. Tourist guides made up 3.6%, and the state sector employed 1.1%. These figures highlight the significant role of hotels and restaurants in providing employment within the tourism sector, reflecting the industry's reliance on hospitality services. The smaller percentages for travel agents, tour operators, airlines, guides, and the state sector suggest that while these areas are vital, they employ a smaller portion of the workforce. This distribution underscores the importance of the hospitality segment in driving employment opportunities within tourism. To accurately assess total employment in the tourism industry, including both direct and indirect jobs, it's essential to estimate the volume of indirect employment generated by tourist spending in ancillary industries such as handicrafts, the gem and jewelry sectors, and others. In 2023, the estimated number of indirect jobs created in these industries was 225,050. Consequently, the total employment in the tourism sector, combining both direct and indirect sectors, is estimated to be 429,641 for the year 2023.

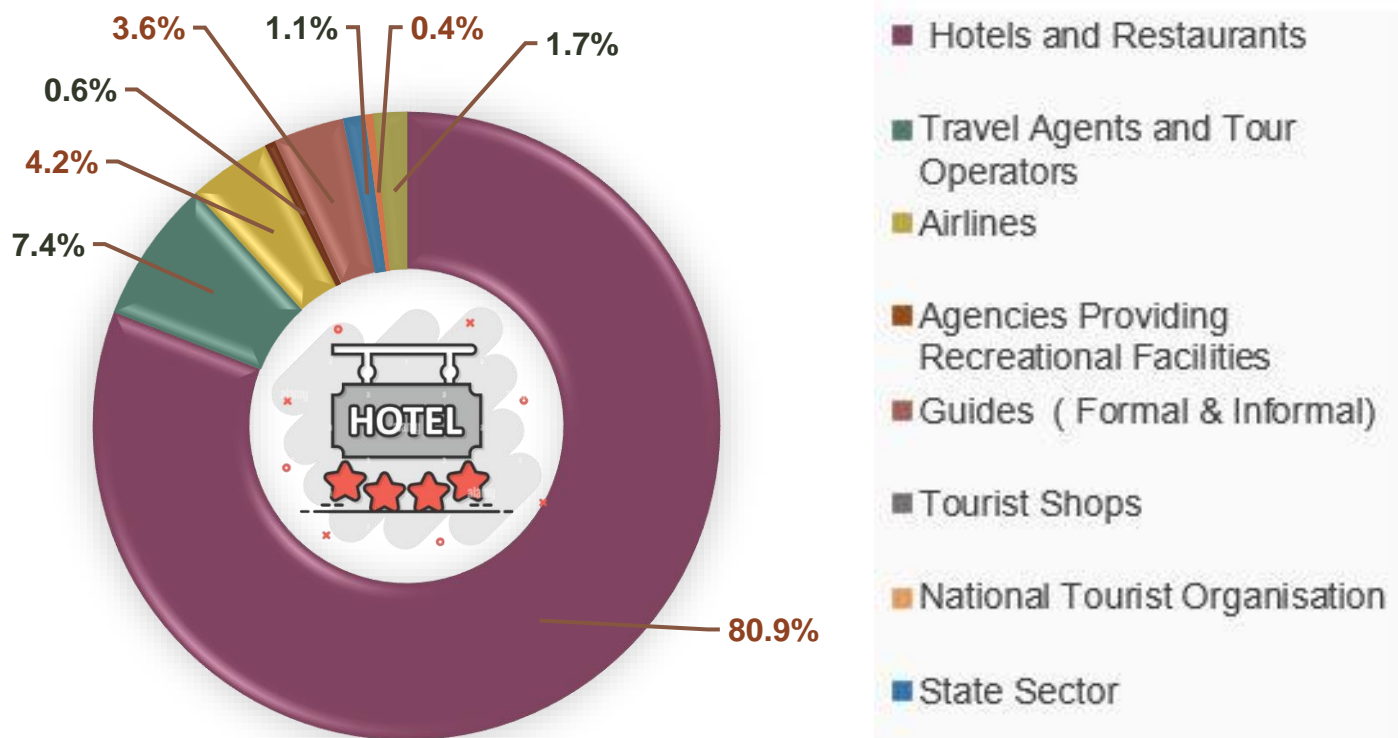
Table xiii Direct Employment in Tourist Industry by Category of Establishment, 2020 - 2023

Category of Establishment	No. of Establishment				Total Employed			
	2020	2021*	2022*	2023*	2020	2021*	2022*	2023*
Hotels and Restaurants	3,565	3,826	4,154	5,158	141,668	143,247	154,435	165,582
Travel Agents and Tour Operators	1,016	1,112	1,229	1,182	11,926	11,979	13,352	15,102
Airlines	42	36	30	32	8,752	8,500	8,700	8,650
Agencies Providing Recreational Facilities	80	80	80	80	1,160	1,172	1,184	1,195
Guides	-	-	-	-	5,989	6,040	6,200	7,385
Tourist Shops	90	92	105	95	2,372	2,408	2,450	2,325
National Tourist Organization	4	4	4	4	866	870	891	900
State Sector	18	18	18	18	3,257	3,260	3,309	3,452
Total	4,815	5,177	5,620	6,569	175,990	177,476	190,521	204,591

* Provisional

Source: Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

Chart 18: Distribution of Employment in the Tourism Industry (Percentage) 2023





PUBLIC SECTOR REVENUE



5. Public Sector

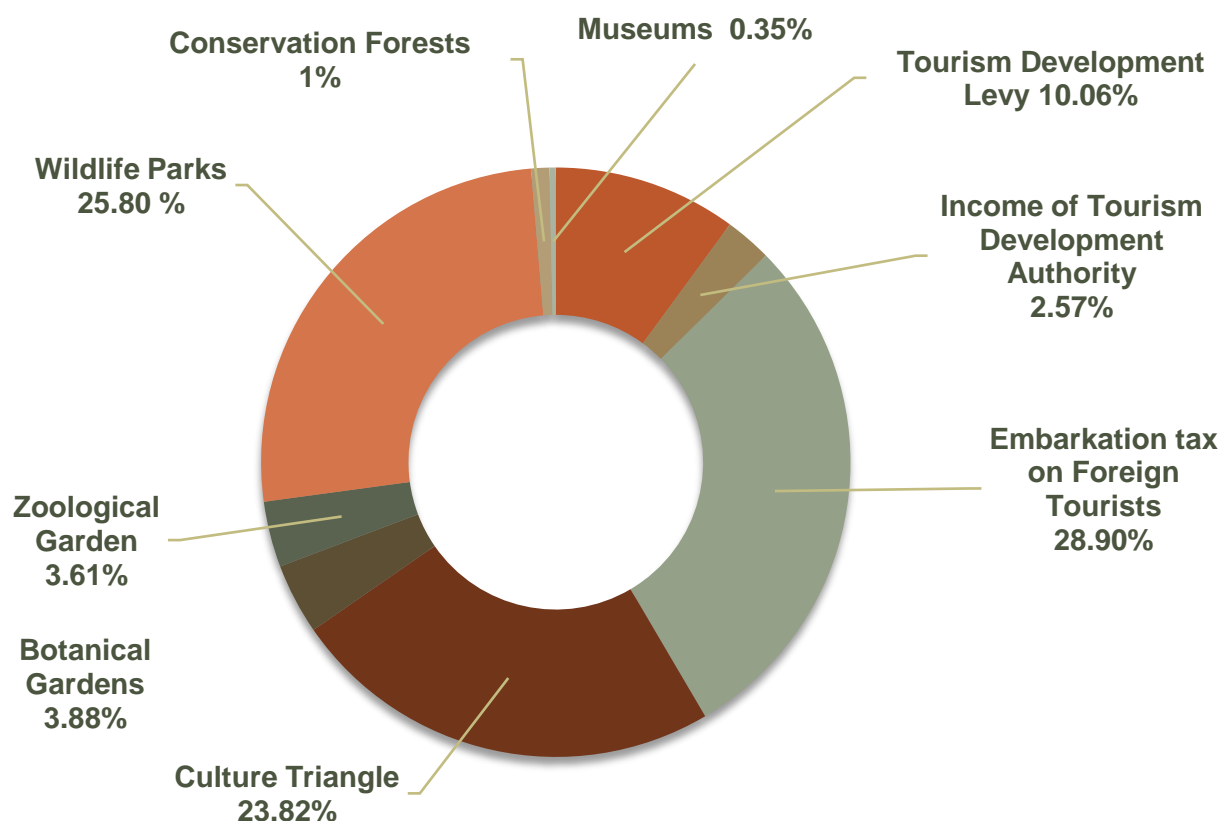
Public sector institutions generate revenue from tourism through various means, including direct and indirect taxes, fees, levies, and profits from business operations. However, comprehensive statistics on revenue collections are readily available from only a few sources, such as the Tourism Development Levy, Embarkation Tax, income generated by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority, and entrance fees to Cultural Triangle sites, Wildlife Parks, Conservation Forests, Museums, Zoological Gardens, and Botanical Gardens.

In 2023, the revenue collected from the listed sources amounted to Rs. 14,649.40 million, compared to Rs. 8,018.60 million collected in the previous year. This is a growth of 82%.

The public sector generates most of its revenue from tourism-related activities, with the Embarkation Tax (Rs. 4,234.30 million) and Wildlife Parks (Rs. 3,779.50 million) being the top earners. Combined, these two sources contribute over 55% of the total tourism revenue. Other important sources of revenue include the Cultural Triangle, Botanical Gardens, and Zoological Gardens. These sectors are not only significant for revenue generation but also play a vital role in the economy by creating jobs and supporting livelihoods, highlighting the critical link between tourism and economic stability in the country.

In addition to the direct revenue sources mentioned above, the government also earns substantial income from indirect taxes, including those on electricity, water, postal services, telecommunications, and lease rentals. The figures provided below are only partial indicators of the total revenue generated from tourism.

Chart 19: Distribution of Public Sector Revenue from Tourism (Percentage) -2023





STATISTICAL APPENDIX

06

Table 1 : Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence- 2022 & 2023

Country of Residence	2022	2023	% Change 2020/19
AMERICAS	51,429	95,263	46.01
North America	49,409	91,080	45.75
Canada	26,845	43,944	38.91
Mexico	334	792	57.83
United States	22,230	46,344	52.03
Antarctica	1	0	—
Antarctica	1	0	—
Caribbean & Central America	306	701	56.35
Costa Rica	40	62	35.48
Jamaica	13	57	77.19
Others	253	582	56.53
South America	1,713	3,482	50.80
Argentina	268	687	60.99
Brazil	669	1,337	49.96
Chile	182	394	53.81
Colombia	304	539	43.60
Others	290	525	44.76
AFRICA	4,679	9,950	52.97
North Africa	1,818	2,621	30.64
Morocco	446	789	43.47
Sudan	819	834	1.80
Others	553	998	44.59
Sub-Saharan Africa	2,861	7,329	60.96
Kenya	230	613	62.48
Mauritius	130	471	72.40
Nigeria	27	93	70.97
South Africa	1,502	3,444	56.39
Others	972	2,708	64.11
ASIA & PACIFIC	213,537	596,933	64.23
North East Asia	10,061	100,790	90.02
China	4,715	68,789	93.15
Japan	3,087	19,583	84.24
South Korea	1,843	7,298	74.75
Taiwan	363	4,999	92.74
Others	53	121	56.20
South East Asia	12,095	36,060	66.46
Cambodia	157	519	69.75
Indonesia	885	2,352	62.37
Malaysia	2,779	10,940	74.60
Myanmar	252	1,130	77.70



Philippines	1,961	4,164	52.91
Singapore	3,770	9,551	60.53
Thailand	1,725	4,922	64.95
Vietnam	519	2,307	77.50
Others	47	175	73.14
Oceania	33,876	75,635	55.21
Australia	30,924	67,436	54.14
New Zealand	2,866	7,913	63.78
Others	86	286	69.93
South Asia	157,505	384,448	59.03
Afghanistan	39	181	78.45
Bangladesh	3,817	17,846	78.61
Bhutan	139	433	67.90
India	123,004	302,844	59.38
Iran	4,301	10,322	58.33
Maldives	18,880	37,328	49.42
Nepal	1,065	4,750	77.58
Pakistan	6,260	10,744	41.73
EUROPE	432,226	757,327	42.93
Northern Eur.	108,264	165,485	34.58
Denmark	7,278	10,346	29.65
Finland	1,500	2,287	34.41
Norway	5,983	8,747	31.60
Sweden	5,097	8,643	41.03
United Kingdom	85,187	130,088	34.52
Others	3,219	5,374	40.10
Western Eur.	128,279	233,297	45.01
Austria	5,541	10,594	47.70
Belgium	6,164	10,667	42.21
France	35,482	56,251	36.92
Germany	55,542	102,539	45.83
Netherlands	11,987	29,056	58.75
Switzerland	13,260	23,556	43.71
Others	303	634	52.21
Central / Eastern Europe	159,062	276,921	42.56
Belarus	3,621	10,969	66.99
Czech Republic	7,350	12,056	39.03
Estonia	978	1,808	45.91
Hungary	2,324	3,786	38.62
Kazakhstan	8,068	5,130	-57.27



Table 1(Contd.)

Country of Residence	2022	2023	% Change 2022/23
Lithuania	2,115	2,722	22.30
Poland	15,195	17,946	15.33
Romania	3,313	4,092	19.04
Russian Federation	91,272	197,498	53.79
Slovakia	2,432	4,464	45.52
Ukraine	14,917	5,082	-193.53
Others	7,477	11,368	34.23
Southern / Mediterranean Europe	36,621	81,624	55.13
Greece	899	1,816	50.50
Italy	7,449	22,242	66.51
Portugal	1,906	3,943	51.66
Spain	12,895	23,905	46.06
Turkey	1,514	3,739	59.51
Israel	9,326	19,517	52.22
Others	2,632	6,462	59.27
MIDDLE EAST	18,107	27,830	34.94
Bahrain	510	1,232	58.60
Egypt	2,340	3,091	24.30
Iraq	1,113	902	-23.39
Jordan	2,472	3,604	31.41
Kuwait	952	1,955	51.30
Lebanon	1,606	3,347	52.02
Oman	876	2,038	57.02
Qatar	301	822	63.38
Saudi Arabia	5,952	6,797	12.43
United Arab Emirates	1,347	2,945	54.26
Others	638	1,097	41.84
Total	719,978	1,487,303	51.59



Table 02: Seasonal Variation in Tourist Traffic - 2023

Month	Number of tourist	Seasonal Indices (1)
January	102,545	82.7
February	107,639	86.8
March	125,495	101.3
April	105,498	85.1
May	83,309	67.2
June	100,388	81.0
July	143,039	115.4
August	136,405	110.1
September	111,938	90.3
October	109,199	88.1
November	151,496	122.1
December	210,352	169.7
Total	1,487,303	

Average arrivals	123,942
Seasonal ratio -2023 (2)	1.7

Coefficient of Seasonal Variation (3)	27.1
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(1) Seasonal indices are compiled by taking average arrivals per month as 100

(2) Seasonality Ratio = Highest Monthly Arrivals / Average Arrivals per month

(3) Coefficient of Seasonal Variation is obtained by calculating the standard deviation of the Seasonal indices

If you want to pervious data please follow the below link : <https://www.sltda.gov.lk/en/annual-statistical-report>



Table: 03 Tourist Arrivals by country of Residence and Month (All Countries) -2023

No	Country	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total up to Dec
1	Afghanistan	9	2	1	1	24	6	30	41	21	5	25	16	181
2	Albania	6	8	4	6	7	9	12	9	3	4	8	12	88
3	Algeria	21	16	15	33	22	25	29	36	39	19	27	29	311
4	Andorra	4	1	1	3	2	2	7	15	4	7	1	6	53
5	Angola	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	5	10
6	Antigua and Barbuda	4	2	2	3	1	0	1	6	3	0	2	3	27
7	Argentina	76	43	94	71	66	37	34	52	42	49	56	67	687
8	Armenia	258	145	124	158	74	85	123	144	101	301	324	653	2,490
9	Aruba	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
10	Australia	3,668	3,113	4,725	4,996	4,201	6,195	5,323	5,522	5,969	4,977	7,900	10,847	67,436
11	Austria	956	934	872	649	440	299	979	866	726	778	1,212	1,883	10,594
12	Azerbaijan	115	64	343	120	54	71	191	156	82	94	195	194	1,679
13	Bahamas	0	1	3	3	0	2	3	0	2	0	1	5	20
14	Bahrain	134	35	56	86	78	171	204	176	52	54	82	104	1,232
15	Bangladesh	717	531	612	960	1,145	1,072	1,520	1,533	1,441	2,456	2,674	3,185	17,846
16	Barbados	0	1	3	0	1	1	1	5	1	1	2	0	16
17	Belarus	1,204	1,244	1,399	627	428	441	453	497	778	824	1,508	1,566	10,969
18	Belgium	646	725	722	636	420	438	2,259	1,330	1,061	666	769	995	10,667
19	Belize	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	9
20	Benin	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	3	10
21	Bhutan	32	19	24	25	21	39	41	60	32	39	33	68	433
22	Bolivia	0	1	6	4	5	2	2	2	0	5	3	4	34
23	Bosnia and Herzegovina	10	7	15	16	18	3	10	15	8	9	14	50	175
24	Botswana	4	1	2	3	7	3	11	2	2	2	3	21	61



No	Country	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total up to Dec
25	Brazil	101	83	112	208	74	84	69	77	82	94	117	236	1,337
26	Brunei Darussalam	0	6	1	2	0	3	5	2	4	1	6	3	33
27	Bulgaria	134	325	283	150	18	16	45	46	60	94	234	555	1,960
28	Burkina Faso	0	1	0	1	4	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	9
29	Burundi	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	1	12
30	Cambodia	31	57	47	12	75	75	47	9	26	70	42	28	519
31	Cameroon	8	3	0	0	2	2	2	2	1	4	3	1	28
32	Canada	3,681	3,107	4,066	3,310	3,753	4,509	5,737	4,735	2,426	2,302	2,678	3,640	43,944
33	Cape Verde	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
34	Chad	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
35	Central African Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
36	Chile	26	45	27	45	33	42	27	28	19	30	31	41	394
37	China	835	1,535	3,096	5,118	4,173	5,105	10,062	9,262	8,445	6,211	6,673	8,274	68,789
38	Colombia	36	38	46	56	33	42	22	52	49	30	56	79	539
39	Comoros	3	3	3	3	5	12	16	6	7	1	5	2	66
40	Congo, The Democratic Republic	0	3	1	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	0	1	21
41	Costa Rica	6	4	8	0	3	7	3	2	5	8	6	10	62
42	Cote Divoire	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	0	10
43	Croatia	84	84	91	57	24	23	59	73	48	104	111	172	930
44	Cuba	5	1	12	2	6	2	2	2	1	4	7	6	50
45	Cyprus	51	41	67	81	28	49	112	282	15	59	71	95	951
46	Czech Republic	960	1,206	1,287	820	259	277	789	525	413	681	2,373	2,466	12,056
47	Denmark	1,081	1,110	895	727	348	680	1,721	552	472	556	764	1,440	10,346
48	Djibouti	0	3	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	11
49	Dominica	8	3	14	4	4	7	6	4	8	4	3	20	85
50	Dominican Republic	2	0	2	2	1	3	1	1	5	6	4	2	29
51	Ecuador	10	6	7	10	6	8	6	4	6	11	12	12	98
52	Egypt	127	241	185	309	164	260	292	239	189	269	344	472	3,091
53	El Salvador	3	2	1	8	4	2	5	4	2	1	3	4	39



No	Country	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total up to Dec
54	Eritrea	2	0	3	2	4	3	1	4	1	1	1	0	22
55	Estonia	182	193	197	60	35	19	15	26	47	99	229	706	1,808
56	Ethiopia	8	6	1	9	5	12	19	6	13	11	12	19	121
57	Fiji	6	5	17	4	8	9	18	18	6	16	19	40	166
58	Finland	257	204	173	123	93	116	106	61	132	197	352	473	2,287
59	France	4,840	6,118	5,786	5,535	2,414	2,895	7,432	6,223	2,661	2,956	3,882	5,509	56,251
60	Gabon	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
61	Gambia, The	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	4	1	7	18
62	Georgia	164	128	102	87	51	44	24	45	19	88	79	83	914
63	Germany	8,217	7,930	9,702	7,404	6,854	5,090	8,013	8,472	7,231	7,548	12,331	13,747	102,539
64	Ghana	1	5	3	1	5	3	1	0	5	3	14	2	43
65	Greece	151	163	143	148	48	38	101	307	51	135	187	344	1,816
66	Grenada	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	3	3	2	15
67	Guatemala	1	4	8	1	1	0	4	2	6	5	10	6	48
68	Guinea	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	8
69	Guyana	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	3	1	2	3	1	14
70	Haiti	3	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	2	12
71	Honduras	3	1	6	1	2	2	1	1	3	1	6	2	29
72	Hungary	400	405	403	189	72	98	200	166	97	211	505	1,040	3,786
73	Iceland	33	25	16	14	16	11	27	5	16	17	19	39	238
74	India	13,759	13,714	18,959	19,915	23,016	26,830	23,461	30,593	30,063	28,222	30,339	43,973	302,844
75	Indonesia	138	175	133	173	142	200	249	208	184	256	217	277	2,352
76	Iran	435	791	3,738	420	259	330	264	279	1,593	530	783	900	10,322
77	Iraq	63	92	64	84	58	85	100	103	73	49	37	94	902
78	Ireland	244	287	463	490	186	423	517	380	293	512	489	852	5,136
79	Israel	1,868	2,188	1,765	1,432	863	856	1,919	3,396	4,162	460	187	421	19,517
80	Italy	1,477	1,409	1,272	1,384	680	1,265	2,370	5,110	1,257	967	1,662	3,389	22,242
81	Jamaica	1	1	4	6	3	7	3	7	3	7	5	10	57
82	Japan	744	974	1,042	2,318	876	1,017	1,454	2,604	1,830	1,295	2,875	2,554	19,583
83	Jordan	261	227	245	376	249	396	545	389	242	218	152	304	3,604



No	Country	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total up to Dec
84	Kazakhstan	470	328	972	159	75	96	106	75	91	166	193	2,399	5,130
85	Kenya	23	40	51	52	24	35	44	106	40	42	30	126	613
86	Kiribati	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
87	Kosovar	1	0	3	6	9	0	5	2	3	2	3	4	38
88	Kuwait	162	219	101	191	99	183	259	293	147	85	66	150	1,955
89	Kyrgyzstan	79	74	83	38	36	30	61	44	37	35	79	238	834
90	Lao, People's Democratic Republic	17	4	16	2	8	7	6	9	13	6	10	10	108
91	Latvia	171	176	172	59	39	31	31	31	28	99	293	476	1,606
92	Lebanon	111	188	206	616	161	279	321	250	292	268	171	484	3,347
93	Lesotho	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
94	Liberia	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5
95	Libya(Libyan Arab Jamahir)	4	6	1	4	5	3	3	11	6	3	7	4	57
96	Liechtenstein	5	6	3	9	10	3	10	2	1	7	8	8	72
97	Lithuania	278	296	360	223	59	77	113	91	113	226	396	490	2,722
98	Luxembourg	35	40	39	93	33	14	61	78	35	20	29	62	539
99	Macedonia	9	15	17	28	4	15	13	9	9	29	16	37	201
100	Madagascar	7	7	15	7	9	10	9	8	17	21	13	20	143
101	Malawi	2	2	3	5	4	2	1	1	2	9	7	4	42
102	Malaysia	496	657	676	735	895	779	915	1,207	924	788	1,084	1,784	10,940
103	Maldives	2,203	1,818	1,774	1,596	2,438	4,080	6,286	2,596	2,287	3,862	2,420	5,968	37,328
104	Mali	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	3	2	1	15
105	Malta	45	28	32	33	17	32	39	77	105	42	37	163	650
106	Marshall Islands	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	7
107	Mauritania	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	7
108	Mauritius	19	21	28	20	25	29	21	23	29	22	40	194	471
109	Mexico	19	40	80	82	46	34	44	45	119	54	82	147	792
110	Moldova	66	47	56	25	14	17	13	8	14	14	49	89	412
111	Monaco	2	0	5	6	0	1	0	1	4	0	0	4	23
112	Mongolia	2	12	7	20	2	7	11	8	15	18	14	5	121



No	Country	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total up to Dec
113	Montenegro	20	9	6	10	2	1	1	9	2	6	6	4	76
114	Morocco	47	38	58	65	40	86	81	82	49	45	64	134	789
115	Mozambique	5	3	3	0	0	1	7	2	1	7	3	2	34
116	Myanmar	35	36	73	44	90	53	93	355	47	63	138	103	1,130
117	Namibia	1	0	0	0	4	1	1	1	2	1	3	3	17
118	Nauru	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	3	0	0	0	0	8
119	Nepal	292	247	295	226	361	374	375	476	593	632	411	468	4,750
120	Netherlands	1,514	1,485	1,573	1,593	1,072	1,258	6,796	3,429	3,177	2,117	2,370	2,672	29,056
121	New Zealand	394	346	543	627	540	853	734	575	648	561	749	1,343	7,913
122	Nicaragua	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	1	1	1	12
123	Niger	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	8
124	Nigeria	10	2	3	3	4	15	9	7	6	15	13	6	93
125	Norway	698	567	648	487	344	1,281	1,643	481	547	394	622	1,035	8,747
126	Oman	183	229	63	64	93	212	427	386	74	77	122	108	2,038
127	Pakistan	595	724	824	399	580	711	1,223	1,264	1,391	903	962	1,168	10,744
128	Palau	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	4
129	Palestinian Territories	28	43	25	41	41	65	76	133	40	29	26	43	590
130	Panama	1	4	3	0	1	2	1	0	2	2	3	1	20
131	Papua New Guinea	1	3	2	0		8	1	2	5	3	0	16	41
132	Paraguay	2	3	2	3	2	2	4	4	0	3	0	0	25
133	Peru	8	10	10	14	6	8	21	10	9	9	20	22	147
134	Philippines	188	262	329	369	300	410	448	468	328	318	296	448	4,164
135	Poland	1,269	1,118	1,507	1,129	616	702	999	1,029	1,599	1,418	3,343	3,217	17,946
136	Portugal	230	268	299	486	155	181	282	368	286	304	557	527	3,943
137	Qatar	34	46	67	62	25	145	179	134	23	47	27	33	822
138	Romania	316	398	340	315	163	148	172	304	166	299	516	955	4,092
139	Russian Federation	25,254	29,084	25,553	14,656	7,760	7,968	8,009	6,853	7,163	10,629	24,912	29,657	197,498
140	Rwanda	2	0	1	2	3	3	1	1	0	2	2	7	24
141	Saint Kitts and Nevis	3	10	9	11	7	12	3	12	3	6	8	10	94
142	Saint Lucia	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	0	2	1	12



No	Country	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total up to Dec
143	Saint Vincent The Grenadi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	0	0	8
144	Samoa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3
145	San Marino	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	8
146	Saudi Arabia	340	365	653	414	372	595	1,564	708	331	290	872	293	6,797
147	Senegal	2	5	2	3	0	1	0	3	4	8	2	2	32
148	Serbia	144	153	136	172	41	31	63	88	76	82	164	215	1,365
149	Seychelles	21	7	23	33	30	110	267	243	103	143	103	275	1,358
150	Sierra Leone	0	2	1	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	11
151	Singapore	414	486	636	500	691	1,164	656	904	759	600	1,140	1,601	9,551
152	Slovakia(Slovak Republic)	351	515	610	475	172	129	254	227	258	394	617	462	4,464
153	Slovenia	146	184	88	197	25	49	351	154	108	203	195	227	1,927
154	Solomon Islands	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	5
155	Somalia	3	3	4	3	4	4	6	2	1	12	2	9	53
156	South Africa-Zuid Afrika	125	141	265	315	145	291	232	338	185	232	274	901	3,444
157	South Korea	450	508	479	469	498	516	628	666	656	604	867	957	7,298
158	South Sudan	0	0	0	0	8	1	3	0	0	1	2	0	15
159	Spain	857	770	1,125	1,619	857	1,229	2,751	4,455	2,414	2,488	2,673	2,667	23,905
160	Sudan	61	37	52	44	31	73	154	88	33	36	145	65	819
161	Swaziland	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	5	10
162	Suriname	0	0	1	1	0	2	4	5	12	1	1	0	27
163	Sweden	871	836	631	509	287	622	560	317	327	617	948	2,118	8,643
164	Switzerland	1,769	1,812	1,660	2,091	1,208	1,334	4,329	1,483	1,638	1,608	1,970	2,654	23,556
165	Syrian Arab Republic	0	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
166	Taiwan Province of China	151	193	237	244	211	637	411	611	616	761	553	374	4,999
167	Tajikistan	27	19	14	9	11	11	11	8	8	23	7	27	175
168	Tanzania	9	10	9	11	9	8	9	10	18	17	8	23	141
169	Thailand	279	210	308	406	455	414	633	480	326	394	380	637	4,922
170	Timor-Leste	0	0	0	6	0	6	7	0	11	0	4	0	34



No	Country	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total up to Dec
171	Togo	1	1	0	3	1	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	12
172	Tonga	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	6
173	Trinidad and Tobago	2	7	6	5	5	4	2	3	2	4	5	10	55
174	Tunisia	43	39	48	106	27	50	71	46	40	65	45	107	687
175	Turkey	362	246	227	289	141	275	251	262	256	349	566	515	3,739
176	Turkmenistan	4	18	11	13	7	5	11	2	5	9	13	23	121
177	Tuvalu	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
178	Uganda	9	1	9	4	7	15	27	12	11	16	9	7	127
179	Ukraine	884	562	516	326	167	200	185	183	233	305	479	1,042	5,082
180	United Arab Emirates	101	138	115	169	155	404	576	379	228	190	148	342	2,945
181	United Kingdom	8,483	8,575	11,053	8,743	5,987	7,981	17,482	15,035	7,504	8,454	11,526	19,265	130,088
182	United States	2,636	2,443	5,701	3,940	3,240	3,806	4,120	3,107	2,357	2,651	4,299	8,044	46,344
183	Uruguay	5	4	5	14	5	5	7	7	7	6	6	3	74
184	Uzbekistan	152	383	58	25	26	33	48	39	52	68	51	242	1,177
185	Vanuatu	1	2	6	5	3	2	4	3	2	2	4	7	41
186	Venezuela	4	5	14	18	3	8	9	15	1	5	11	13	106
187	Vietnam	117	103	284	141	233	192	195	238	154	113	335	202	2,307
188	Yemen (Yemen Arab Republic)	22	26	28	22	25	23	55	83	31	52	34	44	445
189	Zambia (Northern Rhodesia)	6	7	4	6	3	2	5	4	3	4	1	6	51
190	Zimbabwe	7	4	10	16	10	9	16	14	10	10	14	37	157
Total		102,545	107,639	125,495	105,498	83,309	100,388	143,039	136,405	111,938	109,199	151,496	210,352	1,487,303



Table 04: Percentage Distribution of Tourist Arrivals by Port – 2009 to 2023

Port	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Katunayake - (BIA)	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.7	98.8	98.1	98.6	98.7	98.3	96.28	94.83	97.12	97.12	97.12	93.56
Mattala - (MRIA)	–	–	–	–	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0.65	0.04	0.01	0.12	0.12	0.12	4.78
TOTAL AIR	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.7	98.9	98.2	98.6	98.8	98.95	96.32	94.84	97.24	97.24	97.24	98.34
Galle Harbour	–	–	–	–	0.8	1.4	1.1	0.4	0.53	2.94	4.13	2.7	2.7	2.7	0.70
Colombo Harbour	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.48	0.62	0.77	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Other Ports	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.04	0.12	0.26	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.93
TOTAL SEA	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.1	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.05	3.68	5.16	2.76	2.76	2.76	1.66
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Department of Immigration & Emigration



Table 05: Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence and Mode of Transport -2023

Country of Residence	By Air	By sea	Total
Americas	87,811	7,452	95,263
North America	83,815	7,089	90,904
Canada	42,814	1,107	43,921
Mexico	673	293	966
United States	40,328	5,841	46,169
Caribbean & Central America	690	11	701
Costa Rica	61	01	62
Jamaica	57	0	57
Others	572	10	582
South America	3,306	176	3,482
Argentina	650	34	684
Brazil	1,230	107	1,337
Chile	377	17	394
Colombia	530	09	539
Others	519	06	525
Africa	9,698	252	9,950
North Africa	2,621	0	2,621
Morocco	789	0	789
Sudan	834	0	834
Others	998	0	998
Sub-Saharan Africa	7,077	252	7,329
Kenya	613	0	613
Mauritius	361	110	471
Nigeria	93	0	93
South Africa	3,313	131	3,444
Others	2,697	11	2,708
Asia & Pacific	579,390	17,543	596,933
North East Asia	97,993	2,797	100,790
China	68,662	127	68,789
Japan	17,123	2,460	19,583
South Korea	7,225	73	7,298
Taiwan	4,862	137	4,999
Others	121	0	121
South East Asia	35,766	294	36,060
Cambodia	518	01	519
Indonesia	2,337	15	2,352
Malaysia	10,856	84	10,940
Myanmar	1,130	0	1,130



Country of Residence	By Air	By sea	Total
Philippines	4,149	15	4,164
Singapore	9,399	152	9,551
Thailand	4,895	27	4,922
Vietnam	2,307	0	2,307
Others	175	0	175
Oceania	70,779	4,856	75,635
Australia	63,153	4,283	67,436
New Zealand	7,340	573	7,913
Others	286	0	286
South Asia	374,852	9,596	384,448
Afghanistan	181	0	181
Bangladesh	17,846	0	17,846
Bhutan	433	0	433
India	293,258	9,586	302,844
Iran	10,320	02	10,322
Maldives	37,328	0	37,328
Nepal	4,742	08	4,750
Pakistan	10,744	0	10,744
Europe	739,302	18,025	757,327
Northern Europe	160,375	5,110	165,485
Denmark	10,275	71	10,346
Finland	2,274	13	2,287
Norway	8,684	63	8,747
Sweden	8,552	91	8,643
United Kingdom	125,335	4,753	130,088
Others	5,255	119	5,374
Western Europe	222,073	11,224	233,297
Austria	10,247	347	10,594
Belgium	10,566	101	10,667
France	54,950	1,301	56,251
Germany	93,790	8,749	102,539
Netherlands	28,863	193	29,056
Switzerland	23,089	467	23,556
Others	568	66	634
Central/ Eastern Europe	276,250	671	276,921
Belarus	10,960	09	10,969
Czech Republic	12,032	24	12,056
Estonia	1,803	05	1,808
Hungary	3,734	52	3,786
Kazakhstan	5,108	22	5,130
Lithuania	2,702	20	2,722
Poland	17,856	90	17,946



Country of Residence	By Air	By sea	Total
Romania	4,069	23	4,092
Russia	197,153	345	197,498
Slovakia	4,463	01	4,464
Ukraine	5,059	23	5,082
Others	11,311	57	11,368
Southern/ Mediterranean Europe	80,604	1,020	81,624
Greece	1,804	12	1,816
Italy	21,885	357	22,242
Portugal	3,864	79	3,943
Spain	23,459	446	23,905
Turkey	3,675	64	3,739
Israel	19,510	07	19,517
Others	6,407	55	6,462
Middle East	27,814	16	27,830
Bahrain	1,232	0	1,232
Egypt	3,087	04	3,091
Iraq	902	0	902
Jordan	3,601	03	3,604
Kuwait	1,955	0	1,955
Lebanon	3,347	0	3,347
Oman	2,038	0	2,038
Qatar	822	0	822
Saudi Arabia	6,792	05	6,797
United Arab Emirates	2,941	04	2,945
Others	1,097	0	1,097
Total	1,444,015	43,288	1,487,303



Table 06: Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence & Purpose of Visit - 2023

Country	Total	Pleasure/ Vacation	Visiting Friend and Relatives	MICE	Business	Health	Sports	Education	Religious	Official	Other or not responded
America	95,263	37,606	43,511	2,522	1,984	225	187	62	174	11	8,981
North America	91,080	34,872	43,270	2,016	1,835	214	147	56	171	11	8,488
Canada	43,944	10,355	29,821	583	354	67	46	7	90	0	2,621
Mexico	792	573	23	111	20	5	0	1	1	0	58
United States	46,344	23,944	13,426	1,322	1,461	142	101	48	80	11	5,809
Caribbean & Central America	701	396	95	77	25	0	27	2	0	0	79
Costa Rica	62	34	1	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	14
Jamaica	57	20	16	2	2	0	9	0	0	0	8
Others	582	342	78	64	21	0	18	2	0	0	57
South America	3,482	2,338	146	429	124	11	13	4	3	0	414
Argentina	687	483	18	62	11	2	1	0	0	0	110
Brazil	1,337	929	65	142	65	5	7	1	2	0	121
Chile	394	274	9	56	4	1	0	1	0	0	49
Colombia	539	320	24	85	30	2	2	2	1	0	73
Others	525	332	30	84	14	1	3	0	0	0	61
Europe	757,327	452,998	103,659	46,519	7,845	8,701	1,036	362	185	31	135,991
Northern Europe	165,485	87,206	56,966	3,730	3,256	366	432	69	85	3	13,372
Denmark	10,346	6,935	2,384	357	145	59	5	2	0	0	459
Finland	2,287	1,615	316	119	50	8	1	1	0	0	177
Norway	8,747	3,278	4,455	265	201	19	4	4	2	0	519
Sweden	8,643	5,183	1,868	421	318	54	9	2	1	0	787
United Kingdom	130,088	66,298	47,397	2,390	2,421	201	389	58	78	3	10,853
Others	5,374	3,897	546	178	121	25	24	2	4	0	577



Country	Total	Pleasure/ Vacation	Visiting Friend and Relatives	MICE	Business	Health	Sports	Education	Religious	Official	Other or not responded
Western Europe	233,297	160,338	36,225	11,187	2,335	6,445	228	78	63	7	16,391
Austria	10,594	8,405	443	406	88	609	6	3	2	0	632
Belgium	10,667	8,622	677	636	153	21	9	0	2	0	547
France	56,251	36,997	10,762	4,207	623	161	102	25	18	3	3,353
Germany	102,539	70,959	13,061	3,850	754	4,682	71	27	22	4	9,109
Netherlands	29,056	22,468	3,549	1,002	495	107	23	15	5	0	1,392
Switzerland	23,556	12,377	7,705	1,058	217	844	16	8	14	0	1,317
Others	634	510	28	28	5	21	1	0	0	0	41
Central / Eastern Europe	276,921	147,204	5,640	21,641	753	1,630	151	63	29	19	99,791
Belarus	10,969	6,038	187	939	14	6	1	0	0	0	3,784
Czech Republic	12,056	9,829	217	1,082	34	203	13	2	3	0	673
Estonia	1,808	1,496	31	119	20	12	2	0	0	0	128
Hungary	3,786	3,167	91	205	25	25	3	2	1	0	267
Kazakhstan	5,130	2,521	73	727	42	15	5	0	0	0	1,747
Lithuania	2,722	2,115	44	270	29	33	3	0	0	1	227
Poland	17,946	14,022	278	1,965	131	77	13	13	0	0	1,447
Romania	4,092	2,984	170	326	158	14	2	3	1	0	434
Russian Federation	197,498	91,335	4,011	13,586	155	166	44	30	21	18	88,132
Slovakia	4,464	2,997	63	203	22	991	2	0	0	0	186
Ukraine	5,082	2,851	235	774	39	31	7	5	3	0	1,137
Others	11,368	7,849	240	1,445	84	57	56	8	0	0	1,629



Country	Total	Pleasure/ Vacation	Visiting Friend and Relatives	MICE	Business	Health	Sports	Education	Religious	Official	Other or not responded
Southern /Mediterranean Europe	81,624	58,250	4,828	9,961	1,501	260	225	152	8	2	6,437
Greece	1,816	1,191	71	137	166	6	4	3	0	0	238
Italy	22,242	14,758	3,366	1,495	629	78	24	43	4	1	1,844
Portugal	3,943	3,083	134	312	62	15	5	2	0	0	330
Spain	23,905	19,457	461	2,575	215	84	18	7	1	0	1,087
Turkey	3,739	2,043	140	298	244	14	7	1	0	1	991
Israel	19,517	12,683	396	4,519	97	16	163	93	1	0	1,549
Others	6,462	5,035	260	625	88	47	4	3	2	0	398
Middle East	27,830	16,511	1,139	2,750	324	55	125	11	0	2	6,913
Bahrain	1,232	859	39	93	9	2	3	0	0	0	227
Egypt	3,091	2,243	93	535	109	5	9	2	0	0	95
Iraq	902	697	19	139	13	1	5	1	0	0	27
Jordan	3,604	2,868	76	377	57	5	5	1	0	0	215
Kuwait	1,955	925	120	170	7	8	4	0	0	0	721
Lebanon	3,347	2,676	114	317	36	8	4	2	0	1	189
Oman	2,038	907	138	146	19	5	6	0	0	1	816
Qatar	822	321	67	50	2	2	8	0	0	0	372
Saudi Arabia	6,797	2,669	285	588	40	7	43	1	0	0	3,164
United Arab Emirates	2,945	1,558	156	176	15	6	2	1	0	0	1,031
Others	1,097	788	32	159	17	6	36	3	0	0	56
Africa	9,950	5,608	732	701	569	33	136	14	8	1	1,948
North Africa	2,621	1,625	145	482	87	8	14	6	0	0	254
Morocco	789	490	62	133	31	5	6	1	0	0	61
Sudan	834	508	47	179	18	0	3	1	0	0	78
Others	998	627	36	170	38	3	5	4	0	0	115



Country	Total	Pleasure/ Vacation	Visiting Friend and Relatives	MICE	Business	Health	Sports	Education	Religious	Official	Other or not responded
Sub - Saharan Africa	7,329	3,983	587	219	482	25	122	8	8	1	1,694
Kenya	613	357	114	57	61	0	1	0	1	1	21
Mauritius	471	328	61	20	17	0	3	1	0	0	41
Nigeria	93	12	20	5	51	0	2	1	0	0	2
South Africa	3,444	2,640	170	137	162	6	116	2	6	0	205
Others	2,708	646	222	0	191	19	0	4	1	0	1,425
Asia & Pacific	596,933	339,253	66,354	29,136	56,606	728	3,426	1,091	2,247	41	98,051
North East Asia	100,790	76,470	3,766	5,309	6,089	387	133	62	200	6	8,368
China	68,789	57,230	1,470	3,711	3,794	9	73	27	119	2	2,354
Japan	19,583	13,739	1,431	771	1,648	371	23	12	13	1	1,574
South Korea	7,298	4,277	631	737	627	6	30	23	59	1	907
Taiwan	4,999	1,156	231	72	0	1	4	0	9	2	3,524
Others	121	68	3	18	20	0	3	0	0	0	9
South East Asia	36,060	14,897	3,742	1,810	2,951	28	182	81	1,135	3	11,231
Cambodia	519	156	44	127	25	0	10	3	105	0	49
Indonesia	2,352	908	299	219	423	4	22	25	59	0	393
Malaysia	10,940	6,450	1,574	506	1,014	13	120	23	251	3	986
Myanmar	1,130	623	97	141	87	0	0	2	176	0	4
Philippines	4,164	1,929	1,004	314	458	9	6	14	1	0	429
Singapore	9,551	323	48	33	331	0	0	4	1	0	8,811
Thailand	4,922	3,218	357	277	344	2	9	6	248	0	461
Vietnam	2,307	1,196	306	169	254	0	5	2	292	0	83
Others	175	94	13	24	15	0	10	2	2	0	15
South Asia	384,448	216,539	24,125	20,932	46,276	193	2,747	933	848	32	71,823
Afghanistan	181	4	6	48	7	0	111	1	0	0	4
Bangladesh	17,846	12,661	625	1,654	522	9	262	23	18	3	2,069
Bhutan	433	156	26	52	37	0	0	1	25	4	132



Country	Total	Pleasure/ Vacation	Visiting Friend and Relatives	MICE	Business	Health	Sports	Education	Religious	Official	Other or not responded
India	302,844	191,827	21,225	16,939	44,000	40	1,621	863	694	25	25,610
Iran	10,322	1,826	596	194	173	4	20	3	0	0	7,506
Maldives	37,328	677	510	47	41	105	1	3	0	0	35,944
Nepal	4,750	3,011	295	577	309	6	169	20	100	0	263
Pakistan	10,744	6,377	842	1,421	1,187	29	563	19	11	0	295
Oceania	75,635	31,347	34,721	1,085	1,290	120	364	15	64	0	6,629
Australia	67,436	27,720	31,312	927	1,113	109	277	11	60	0	5,907
New Zealand	7,913	3,522	3,335	118	151	10	75	3	4	0	695
Others	286	105	74	40	26	1	12	1	0	0	27
Total	1,487,303	851,976	215,395	81,628	67,328	9,742	4,910	1,540	2,614	86	251,884



Table: 07 Percentage distribution of Duration of stay – 1988 to 2023

Year	Nights						Total	Average Duration of Stay
	1 - 3	4 - 7	8 - 14	15 – 21	22 - 30	31 & Over		
1988	3.3	10.0	24.9	23.1	15.9	22.8	100.0	12.6
1989	5.0	13.9	26.2	22.1	16.4	16.4	100.0	10.7
1990	5.0	12.8	29.5	26.3	13.3	13.1	100.0	10.8
1991	4.5	12.2	26.9	23.8	15.2	17.4	100.0	11.4
1992	25.2	26.2	27.5	14.1	4.9	2.1	100.0	10.3
1993	19.6	30.0	30.6	12.2	4.1	3.5	100.0	10.6
1994	18.1	34.5	30.9	11.6	3.4	1.5	100.0	10.4
1995	20.4	38.5	27.5	8.2	3.4	2.0	100.0	10.0
1996	29.6	24.7	27.7	11.5	4.6	1.9	100.0	9.8
1997	26.1	24.4	30.8	13.0	4.5	1.2	100.0	10.1
1998	23.7	25.1	33.7	12.6	3.8	1.1	100.0	10.4
1999	20.4	27.1	37.8	11.1	2.7	0.9	100.0	10.3
2000	21.9	26.4	35.9	12.2	2.6	1.0	100.0	10.1
2001	23.3	26.8	34.5	12.0	2.5	0.9	100.0	9.9
2002	22.6	27.0	34.7	12.1	2.6	1.0	100.0	10.1
2003	23.1	27.3	34.8	11.5	2.3	1.0	100.0	10.2
2004	23.8	27.6	34.1	11.8	1.9	0.8	100.0	10.1
2005	38.5	24.3	25.3	8.1	2.6	1.2	100.0	8.7
2006	28.3	26.4	32.2	10.2	1.8	1.1	100.0	10.4
2007	24.2	29.3	33.9	8.8	2.0	1.8	100.0	10.0
2008	26.4	28.7	33.2	8.7	1.8	1.2	100.0	9.5
2009	25.7	29.2	34.1	8.1	1.5	1.4	100.0	9.1
2010	24.5	30.4	33.6	8.3	1.8	1.4	100.0	10.0
2011	26.1	32.1	31.1	7.9	1.2	1.6	100.0	10.0
2012	25.9	33.4	30.8	7.5	1.0	1.4	100.0	10.0
2013	9.8	30.3	38.9	12.2	3.7	5.1	100.0	8.6
2014	12.4	27.8	33.3	12.1	6.9	7.5	100.0	9.9
2015	11.36	31.91	27.08	14.31	11.56	3.8	100.0	10.1
2016	10.4	29.6	40.7	11.7	3.8	3.8	100.0	10.2
2017	11.5	37.1	30.1	12.3	5.6	3.4	100.0	10.9
2018	15.8	34.3	31.4	10.8	5.2	2.5	100.0	10.8
2019	14.7	31	33.5	12.1	5.9	2.8	100.0	10.4
2020	17.97	35.42	37.43	7.60	1.57	0.01	100.0	8.54
2021	8.5	19.8	24.9	28.4	11.0	7.4	100.0	15.1
2022								
2023	20.40	33.01	35.55	8.84	2.15	0.05	100.0	8.44



Table 08: Average Duration of stay & Guest Nights by Country of Residence -2023

Country	Total	Duration of stay	Tourist Nights
America	95,263	7.86	748,767
North America	91,080	8.31	756,875
Canada	43,944	11.25	494,370
Mexico	792	6.35	5,029
United States	46,344	7.32	339,238
Caribbean & Central America	701	7.76	5,440
Costa Rica	62	8.33	516
Jamaica	57	7.43	424
Others	582	7.53	4,382
SOUTH AMERICA	3,482	7.64	26,602
Argentina	687	8.04	5,523
Brazil	1,337	6.97	9,319
Chile	394	8.36	3,294
Colombia	539	7.20	3,881
Others	525	7.65	4,016
Europe	757,327	10.82	8,194,278
Northern Europe	165,485	12.00	1,985,820
Denmark	10,346	13.05	135,015
Finland	2,287	10.80	24,700
Norway	8,747	12.76	111,612
Sweden	8,643	11.75	101,555
United Kingdom	130,088	13.38	1,740,577
Others	5,374	10.25	55,084
Western Europe	233,297	12.27	2,862,554
Austria	10,594	12.66	134,120
Belgium	10,667	12.89	137,498
France	56,251	11.39	640,699
Germany	102,539	11.93	1,223,290
Netherlands	29,056	14.10	409,690
Switzerland	23,556	12.93	304,579
Others	634	9.98	6,327
Central / Eastern Europe	276,921	10.12	2,802,441
Belarus	10,969	10.64	116,710
Czech Republic	12,056	11.28	135,992
Estonia	1,808	11.21	20,268
Hungary	3,786	9.98	37,784
Kazakhstan	5,130	8.57	43,964
Lithuania	2,722	10.31	28,064
Poland	17,946	10.40	186,638
Romania	4,092	8.58	35,109
Russian Federation	197,498	10.00	1,974,980
Slovakia	4,464	11.43	51,024



Country	Total	Duration of stay	Tourist Nights
Ukraine	5,082	10.48	53,259
Others	11,368	8.59	97,651
SOUTHERN /MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE	81,624	9.56	780,325
Greece	1,816	8.61	15,636
Italy	22,242	10.44	232,206
Portugal	3,943	9.30	36,670
Spain	23,905	9.95	237,855
Turkey	3,739	6.74	25,201
Israel	19,517	12.28	239,669
Others	6,462	9.57	61,841
MIDDLE EAST	27,830	6.92	192,584
Bahrain	1,232	7.95	9,794
Egypt	3,091	7.36	22,750
Iraq	902	7.02	6,332
Jordan	3,604	7.08	25,516
Kuwait	1,955	5.93	11,593
Lebanon	3,347	6.74	22,559
Oman	2,038	7.76	15,815
Qatar	822	6.28	5,162
Saudi Arabia	6,797	7.95	54,036
United Arab Emirates	2,945	5.62	16,551
Others	1,097	6.48	7,109
AFRICA	9,950	7.17	71,342
NORTH AFRICA	2,621	7.46	19,553
Morocco	789	7.69	6,067
Sudan	834	7.75	6,464
Others	998	6.93	6,916
SUB - SAHARAN AFRICA	7,329	6.87	50,350
Kenya	613	6.66	4,083
Mauritius	471	5.61	2,642
Nigeria	93	6.72	625
South Africa	3,444	7.55	26,002
Others	2,708	7.81	21,149
ASIA & PACIFIC	596,933	6.75	4,029,298
NORTH EAST ASIA	100,790	6.56	661,182
China	68,789	6.42	441,625
Japan	19,583	5.58	109,273
South Korea	7,298	5.70	41,599
Taiwan	4,999	7.82	39,092
Others	121	7.28	881
SOUTH EAST ASIA	36,060	6.46	232,948
Cambodia	519	7.20	3,737
Indonesia	2,352	5.94	13,971
Malaysia	10,940	6.23	68,156
Myanmar	1,130	6.58	7,435
Philippines	4,164	6.99	29,106



Country	Total	Duration of stay	Tourist Nights
Singapore	9,551	6.51	62,177
Thailand	4,922	5.82	28,646
Vietnam	2,307	6.22	14,350
Others	175	6.61	1,157
SOUTH ASIA	384,448	6.30	2,422,022
Afghanistan	181	11.07	2,004
Bangladesh	17,846	3.85	68,707
Bhutan	433	7.10	3,074
India	302,844	4.60	1,393,082
Iran	10,322	8.00	82,576
Maldives	37,328	5.09	190,000
Nepal	4,750	5.33	25,318
Pakistan	10,744	5.37	57,695
OCEANIA	75,635	9.11	689,035
Australia	67,436	10.32	695,940
New Zealand	7,913	10.46	82,770
Others	286	6.55	1,873
Total	1,487,303	8.44	12,552,837



Table 09: Percentage Distribution of Tourists by Sex & Age – 2023

		2023
Sex	Male	14.48
	Female	57.28
Age Group	less than 15	0.005
	15-24	0.17
	25-34	0.1
	35-44	0.33
	45-54	0.65
	55-64	4.52
	65 & over	5.48

Table 10: Tourist Arrivals by Sex and Age by Region – 2023

Country	Total	Female	Male	65 & Over	55-64	45-54	35-44	25-34	15-24	Less than 15
America	95,263	46,122	49,141	20,343	16,095	15,523	14,103	11,438	6,985	10,776
North America	91,080	43,939	47,141	19,966	15,749	14,883	12,876	10,213	6,783	10,610
Canada	43,944	21,331	22,613	8,843	8,482	7,397	5,453	4,334	3,578	5,857
Mexico	792	438	354	102	85	110	211	214	35	35
United States	46,344	22,170	24,174	11,021	7,182	7,376	7,212	5,665	3,170	4,718



Caribbean & Central America	701	321	380	50	72	140	192	162	55	30
Costa Rica	62	32	30	2	4	10	22	20	2	2
Jamaica	57	30	27	1	9	12	17	5	10	3
Others	582	259	323	47	59	118	153	137	43	25
South America	3,482	1,862	1,620	327	274	500	1,035	1,063	147	136
Argentina	687	351	336	85	68	108	179	188	29	30
Brazil	1,337	694	643	158	118	222	419	318	47	55
Chile	394	210	184	29	13	46	137	146	9	14
Colombia	539	319	220	25	28	47	164	219	31	25
Others	525	288	237	30	47	77	136	192	31	12
Europe	757,327	406,469	350,858	68,455	101,654	120,478	152,884	179,850	67,582	66,424
Northern Europe	165,485	81,564	83,921	21,695	26,776	28,065	24,033	27,782	18,367	18,767
Denmark	10,346	5,598	4,748	1,159	1,675	1,356	1,017	1,907	2,270	962
Finland	2,287	1,287	1,000	253	315	359	400	619	181	160
Norway	8,747	4,413	4,334	917	1,912	1,333	983	1,649	1,208	745
Sweden	8,643	4,443	4,200	1,115	1,200	1,371	1,258	1,651	1,217	831
United Kingdom	130,088	62,896	67,192	17,787	21,079	22,959	19,458	19,973	13,112	15,720
Others	5,374	2,927	2,447	464	595	687	917	1,983	379	349
Western Europe	233,297	123,330	109,967	30,250	39,557	31,622	32,693	59,381	23,495	16,299
Austria	10,594	5,980	4,614	1,410	1,794	1,306	1,496	3,282	879	427
Belgium	10,667	5,605	5,062	841	1,361	1,657	1,501	3,056	1,418	833
France	56,251	29,061	27,190	6,813	8,413	8,649	8,515	12,539	5,947	5,375
Germany	102,539	54,961	47,578	15,887	19,457	12,501	14,409	26,249	8,611	5,425
Netherlands	29,056	14,977	14,079	2,784	4,179	4,027	3,639	8,392	3,923	2,112
Switzerland	23,556	12,394	11,162	2,409	4,286	3,409	3,052	5,640	2,673	2,087
Others	634	352	282	106	67	73	81	223	44	40
Central / Eastern Europe	276,921	159,726	117,195	10,532	26,707	48,907	80,325	65,864	17,451	27,135
Belarus	10,969	6,160	4,809	179	684	1,570	3,316	3,731	650	839
Czech Republic	12,056	6,667	5,389	1,055	1,708	2,851	1,922	2,578	1,132	810
Estonia	1,808	972	836	120	272	372	407	304	153	180
Hungary	3,786	2,075	1,711	358	535	885	785	720	242	261



Kazakhstan	5,130	3,179	1,951	225	424	704	1,343	1,266	450	718
Lithuania	2,722	1,593	1,129	202	467	620	563	603	126	141
Poland	17,946	9,929	8,017	955	1,874	3,597	4,246	4,779	1,303	1,192
Romania	4,092	2,291	1,801	203	451	802	1,336	792	202	306
Russian Federation	197,498	114,159	83,339	6,351	18,371	34,112	61,114	44,788	11,662	21,100
Slovakia	4,464	2,780	1,684	225	592	1,088	1,096	1,032	218	213
Ukraine	5,082	3,340	1,742	160	362	627	1,380	1,671	391	491
Others	11,368	6,581	4,787	499	967	1,679	2,817	3,600	922	884
Southern /Mediterranean Europe	81,624	41,849	39,775	5,978	8,614	11,884	15,833	26,823	8,269	4,223
Greece	1,816	871	945	155	186	311	465	545	102	52
Italy	22,242	10,809	11,433	1,912	2,513	3,357	4,612	6,985	1,569	1,294
Portugal	3,943	2,028	1,915	302	443	694	904	1,234	211	155
Spain	23,905	13,482	10,423	2,201	2,918	3,385	5,382	7,856	1,379	784
Turkey	3,739	1,744	1,995	283	502	686	1,029	916	151	172
Israel	19,517	9,363	10,154	652	1,250	2,308	2,010	7,506	4,410	1,381
Others	6,462	3,552	2,910	473	802	1,143	1,431	1,781	447	385
Middle East	27,830	12,472	15,358	1,131	2,147	3,415	6,658	8,835	2,496	3,148
Bahrain	1,232	638	594	102	154	136	253	333	118	136
Egypt	3,091	1,378	1,713	50	112	332	952	1,208	220	217
Iraq	902	343	559	46	79	86	168	405	60	58
Jordan	3,604	1,743	1,861	119	183	368	833	1,510	243	348
Kuwait	1,955	852	1,103	226	269	240	434	434	207	145
Lebanon	3,347	1,653	1,694	79	134	330	930	1,485	170	219
Oman	2,038	820	1,218	52	170	291	442	497	215	371
Qatar	822	382	440	30	110	135	150	155	126	116
Saudi Arabia	6,797	2,984	3,813	259	566	925	1,558	1,719	734	1,036
United Arab Emirates	2,945	1,251	1,694	149	318	439	667	677	292	403
Others	1,097	428	669	19	52	133	271	412	111	99



Africa	9,950	5,054	4,896	779	1,040	1,464	2,452	2,656	707	852
North Africa	2,621	1,343	1,278	67	107	243	765	1,017	158	264
Morocco	789	438	351	20	27	47	196	392	49	58
Sudan	834	375	459	9	27	106	276	244	57	115
Others	998	530	468	38	53	90	293	381	52	91
Sub - Saharan Africa	7,329	3,711	3,618	712	933	1,221	1,687	1,639	549	588
Kenya	613	325	288	41	67	106	175	156	29	39
Mauritius	471	250	221	118	67	67	97	63	25	34
Nigeria	93	27	66	4	16	25	25	21	2	0
South Africa	3,444	1,728	1,716	315	437	580	765	774	287	286
Others	2,708	1,381	1,327	234	346	443	625	625	206	229
Asia & Pacific	596,933	235,745	361,188	62,932	80,940	109,700	148,091	118,239	34,678	42,353
North East Asia	100,790	53,913	46,877	15,744	15,837	15,472	24,610	19,955	4,187	4,985
China	68,789	38,147	30,642	8,748	9,908	9,365	19,116	15,192	2,749	3,711
Japan	19,583	9,566	10,017	4,189	2,736	3,716	3,598	3,364	1,050	930
South Korea	7,298	3,150	4,148	1,359	1,729	1,549	1,249	854	278	280
Taiwan	4,999	2,978	2,021	1,445	1,453	812	609	518	102	60
Others	121	72	49	3	11	30	38	27	8	4
South East Asia	36,060	19,369	16,691	4,711	6,189	7,415	8,148	6,124	1,600	1,873
Cambodia	519	277	242	85	60	82	142	113	27	10
Indonesia	2,352	1,274	1,078	126	256	554	631	586	113	86
Malaysia	10,940	5,320	5,620	1,762	2,273	2,269	1,980	1,520	575	561
Myanmar	1,130	653	477	150	263	217	267	185	22	26
Philippines	4,164	3,002	1,162	116	289	773	1,503	1,105	101	277
Singapore	9,551	4,314	5,237	1,411	1,827	2,001	1,831	1,232	502	747
Thailand	4,922	2,997	1,925	838	936	1,076	1,131	748	107	86
Vietnam	2,307	1,444	863	218	267	406	614	595	132	75
Others	175	88	87	5	18	37	49	40	21	5
South Asia	384,448	125,763	258,685	27,414	47,251	74,330	102,959	83,181	23,381	25,932
Afghanistan	181	7	174	0	4	16	53	72	36	0
Bangladesh	17,846	4,216	13,630	521	1,334	3,029	5,328	4,466	2,009	1,159



Bhutan	433	165	268	31	49	101	136	88	25	3
India	302,844	96,036	206,808	23,520	39,356	59,844	79,858	65,342	16,702	18,222
Iran	10,322	5,433	4,889	485	903	1,710	3,813	1,988	554	869
Maldives	37,328	15,146	22,182	2,035	4,085	7,064	9,350	7,092	3,025	4,677
Nepal	4,750	1,809	2,941	280	510	837	1,352	1,280	311	180
Pakistan	10,744	2,951	7,793	542	1,010	1,729	3,069	2,853	719	822
Oceania	75,635	36,700	38,935	15,063	11,663	12,483	12,374	8,979	5,510	9,563
Australia	67,436	32,809	34,627	13,708	10,363	11,198	11,033	7,700	4,925	8,509
New Zealand	7,913	3,772	4,141	1,331	1,266	1,227	1,251	1,230	574	1,034
Others	286	119	167	24	34	58	90	49	11	20
Total	1,487,303	851,976	215,395	81,628	67,328	9,742	4,910	1,540	2,614	86



Table 11: Room Distribution by District & Province wise – 2023

District	No of Rooms	District	No of Rooms
Colombo	9,545	Ampara	800
Galle	8,973	Trincomalee	782
Gampaha	4,603	Monaragala	711
Kandy	3,956	Rathnapura	703
Kalutara	3,947	Polonnaruwa	676
Matara	2,694	Kegalle	669
Hambantota	2,477	Kurunegala	647
Matale	2,451	Kegalle	640
Nuwara Eliya	2,409	Vavuniya	102
Badulla	2,082	Kilinochchi	97
Anuradhapura	1,677	Mullaitivu	64
Puttalam	1,509	Mannar	45
Batticaloa	970	Total	53,229

Province	Number of Rooms
Western Province	18,095
Southern Province	14,144
Central Province	8,816
Eastern Province	2,793
Uva Province	2,552
North Central Province	2,353
North Western Province	2,149
Sabaragamuwa Province	1372
Northern Province	955
Total	53,229



Table 12: Volume & Value of Tourism – 2015 to 2023

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Tourist Arrivals	1,798,380	2,050,832	2,116,407	2,333,796	1,913,702	507,704	194,495	719,978	1,487,303
Excursionist Arrivals	195,143	116,544	131,409	186,862	113,449	32,215	600	38,811	100,431
Rs. mn.	405,492.0 0	512,593.6 0	598,356.0 0	712,027.0 0	644,846.9 0	126,608.10	100,813.20	362,426	677,360
US\$ mn.	2,980.60	3,518.50	3,924.90	4,380.60	3,606.90	682.1	506.9	1,136.30	2,067.90
SDR Units (mn.)	2,129.7*	2,531.3*	2,829.20	3,097.10	2,611.00	489.6	356	843.4	1,550.50
Receipt per Tourist per day * (USD)	164.1	168.2	170.1	173.8	181.2	158.1	172.6	164.4	164.4
							Post Pandemic stage		



Table 13: Sri Lankan Departures – Growth Trends – 1980 to 2023

Year	Total	Air		Sea			
		Katunayake	Mattala	Colombo Harbour	Galle Harbour	Talaimannar	Other
1980	137,797	100,803		598	-	36,396	-
1981	185,035	147,402		730	-	36,903	-
1982	216,466	185,215		789	-	30,462	-
1983	244,955	220,289		578	-	24,088	-
1984	274,418	229,568		616	-	44,234	-
1985	239,272	238,577		695	-	-	-
1986	229,386	228,925		461	-	-	-
1987	257,760	257,207		553	-	-	-
1988	298,583	297,677		906	-	-	-
1989	285,510	284,765		745	-	-	-
1990	296,884	296,080		804	-	-	-
1991	310,373	309,588		785	-	-	-
1992	420,749	419,726		1,023	-	-	-
1993	416,246	415,434		812	-	-	-
1994	448,437	447,224		1,213	-	-	-
1995	504,420	502,059		2,361	-	-	-
1996	494,258	493,407		851	-	-	-
1997	530,712	529,908		804	-	-	-
1998	518,050	517,222		828	-	-	-
1999	496,963	496,045		918	-	-	-
2000	524,212	523,485		727	-	-	-
2001	505,341	504,503		838	-	-	-
2002	532,737	531,909		828	-	-	-
2003	591,126	590,039		1,087	-	-	-
2004	680,248	679,131		1,117	-	-	-
2005	727,301	725,956		1,345	-	-	-
2006	756,735	756,735		-	-	-	-
2007	862,011	862,011		-	-	-	-
2008	966,337	966,337		-	-	-	-
2009	962,786	962,786		-	-	-	-
2010	1,122,212	1,122,212		-	-	-	-
2011	1,239,290	1,239,290		-	-	-	-
2012	1,268,792	1,268,792		-	-	-	-
2013	1,261,506	1,257,099	1,838	931	1,638	-	-
2014	1,311,063	1,307,133	1,638	744	1,548	-	-
2015	1,356,411	1,353,115	861	1,153	1,282	-	-
2016	1,447,786	1,442,645	1,225	2,694	1,037	-	185
2017	1,439,429	1,434,083	1,453	1,883	1,285	-	725
2018	1,475,929	1,471,481	358	1,381	1,950	-	759



Year	Total	Air			Sea		
		Katunayake	Mattala	Colombo Harbour	Galle Harbour	Talaimannar	Other
2019	1,441,462	1,436,675	2	1,148	2,470	-	1167
2020	313,914	309,532	420	1,047	2,819	-	96
2021	309,220	304,979	36	1,248	2,713	-	244
2022	1,127,512	1,124,022	-	1,466	1,922	-	102
2023	1,465,326	1,462,246	137	1,498	1,012	-	433



Table 14: Tourism Growth Trends 1985 to 2023

Official Tourist Receipts									Capacity (Graded)			Sri Lankan Nationals		Employment		
Year	Tourist Arrivals	Excursionist Arrivals	Tourist Nights '000	Rs. Mn	US\$ Mn	Euro Mn	SDR Mn	Receipt per Tourist per day (US \$)	Average Duration (Nights)	Rooms **	Beds	Annual Room Occupancy Rate (Graded)	Arrivals	Departures	Direct	Indirect (Estd)
1985	257,456	9,882	2,365	2,233.3	82.2		80.8	34.8	9.2	9,826	19,352	32.7	220,094	239,272	22,723	31,810
1986	230,106	6,266	2,513	2,300.1	82.1		69.9	32.7	10.9	9,794	19,301	32.9	220,614	229,386	22,285	31,199
1987	182,620	2,417	2,414	2,415.2	82.0		63.4	34.0	13.2	9,921	19,322	31.5	217,127	257,760	20,338	28,473
1988	182,662	6,108	2,305	2,438.3	76.6		57.0	33.3	12.6	9,977	19,432	32.1	245,065	298,583	19,960	27,944
1989	184,732	4,064	1,970	2,739.7	76.0		59.3	38.6	10.7	9,459	18,464	31.0	258,950	285,510	21,958	30,741
1990	297,888	3,954	3,225	5,303.3	132.0		97.5	41.1	10.8	9,556	18,669	47.2	306,367	296,884	24,964	34,950
1991	317,703	2,665	3,633	6,485.8	156.8		114.6	42.8	11.4	9,679	18,947	48.4	237,424	310,373	26,878	37,629
1992	393,669	5,651	4,055	8,825.6	201.4		142.9	49.7	10.3	10,214	19,907	55.3	339,109	420,749	28,790	40,306
1993	392,250	6,093	4,148	10,036.8	208.0		149.0	50.1	10.6	10,365	20,242	57.0	375,740	416,246	30,710	42,994
1994	407,511	8,413	4,251	11,401.6	230.7		161.1	54.2	10.4	10,742	20,929	56.6	422,367	448,437	33,956	47,538
1995	403,101	10,556	4,024	11,551.6	225.4		148.6	56.1	10.0	11,255	21,680	52.6	459,441	504,420	35,068	49,095
1996	302,265	12,863	2,947	9,559.1	173.0		119.1	57.9	9.8	11,600	22,040	40.3	488,055	494,258	31,963	44,748
1997	366,165	18,265	3,680	12,980.3	216.7		160.4	58.6	10.1	12,370	22,944	49.1	482,850	530,712	34,006	47,608
1998	381,063	27,629	3,944	14,868.0	230.5		169.9	59.5	10.4	12,770	23,373	52.8	481,793	518,050	34,780	48,692
1999	436,440	28,335	4,479	19,297.3	274.9		201.0	61.4	10.3	12,918	24,216	57.6	521,073	496,963	36,560	51,184
2000	400,414	44,518	4,056	19,162.2	252.8	274.1	191.9	62.3	10.1	13,311	24,953	52.3	514,448	524,212	37,943	53,120
2001	336,794	60,084	3,342	18,863.3	211.1	236.1	165.7	63.1	9.9	13,626	25,595	42.1	487,356	505,341	33,710	47,194
2002	393,171	63,560	3,989	24,202.0	253.0	267.7	179.3	63.4	10.1	13,818	25,956	43.1	493,947	533,565	38,821	54,349
2003	500,642	82,066	5,093	32,810.0	340.0	300.5	242.6	66.8	10.2	14,137	26,511	53.2	560,602	591,126	46,761	65,465
2004	566,202	110,000	5,742	42,666.3	416.8	334.3	298.6	72.2	10.1	14,322	26,854	59.3	646,990	680,248	53,766	75,272
2005	549,308	119,618	4,754	36,377.30	362.3	289.8	244.6	74.6	8.7	13,162	24,740	45.4	683,169	727,301	52,085	72,919
2006	559,603	128,719	5,793	42,585.5	410.3	326.1	278.3	83.4	10.4	14,218	27,117	47.8	734,421	756,735	55,649	77,909
2007	494,008	98,432	4,940	42,519.3	384.4	280.5	250.9	79.1	10.0	14,604	27,500	46.2	817,524	862,011	60,516	84,722
2008	438,475	87,695	4,166	37,094.0	319.5	217.2	202.1	76.7	9.5	14,793	28,698	43.9	900,815	966,337	51,306	71,828



2009	447,890	89,526	4,075	40,133.0	349.3	250.5	226.5	81.8	9.1	14,461	28,344	48.4	914,584	962,786	52,071	72,899
2010	654,476	112,497	6,548	65,018.0	575.9	433.2	376.9	88.0	10.0	14,714	28,978	70.1	1,081,417	1,122,212	55,023	77,032
2011	855,975	119,875	8,560	91,926.0	838.9	603.4	530.2	98.0	10.0	14,653	28,844	77.1	1,210,951	1,239,290	57,786	80,899
2012	1,005,605	126,523	10,056	132,427.0	1038.3	807.5	677.7	103.0	10.0	15,510	30,880	71.2	1,210,914	1,268,792	67,862	95,007
2013	1,274,593	140,009	10,909	2,211,471	1,715.5	1,291.4	1,128.8	156.5	8.6	16,223	32,284	71.7	1,200,788	1,261,711	112,550	157,600
2014	1,527,153	138,097*	15,119*	317,501.7	2,431.1	1,830.0	1,600.3	160.8	9.9	18,078	35,976	74.3	1,263,494	1,311,063	129,790	170,100
2015	1,798,380	195,134*	18,163*	405,492.0	2,980.6	2,686.1	2,129.7	164.1	10.1	18,954	37,720*	74.5	1,361,877	1,356,411	135,930	183,506
2016	2,050,832	116,544*	20,918*	512,593.6	3,518.5	3,178.9	2,531.3	168.2	10.2	21,888	45,965	74.76	1,485,004	1,447,786	146,115	189,544
2017	2,116,407	131,409*	23,068*	598,356.0	3,924.9	3,484.3	2,829.2	170.1	10.9	23,477	48,550	73.27*	1,481,239	1,439,429	156,369*	202,846*
2018	2,333,796	186,862*	25,205*	712,027.3	4,380.6*	3,714.3*	3,097.1*	173.8	10.8	24,757	52,237	72.77*	1,484,891	1,471,481	169,003*	219,484*
2019	1,913,702	113,449	19,902*	644,846.9	3606.9*	3,222.0	2,611.1	181.2	10.4	24,831	52,393	57.09	1,424,095	1,441,462	173,592	229,015*
2020	507,704	32,215*	4,315*	126,608.1*	682.5*	597.0*	489.6*	158.1*	8.5	25,407	53,269	14.96*	320,996	305,143	175,990*	171,761*
2021	194,495	600*	2,936	100,813.2*	506.9*	428.5	356.0	172.6*	15.1	25,958	54,512	18.6*	344,719	309,220	177,476*	180,451*
2022	719,978	38,811*	6,724	362,426	1,136.3*	1,074	843	164.4*	9	25,597	53,754	30.4*	894,873	1,127,512	190,521*	195,715*
2023	1,487,303	100,431	12,553	677,360.3	2,067.90	1,912.9	1,550	164.4*	8.4	26,422	54,576	39.0*	1,249,965	1,462,246	204,591*	225,050*

*Provisional

Source - Exchange Rate : Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Graded - Boutique / Classified & Tourist Hotels (Unclassified)

Not yet finalized

Arrival Statistics : Department of Immigration & Emigration

** Room count can be changed when establishments are upgraded, downgraded and not in operation



Table 15: Tourist Arrivals by Month 1971 to 2023

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1971	5,931	6,570	5,166	1,539	952	961	1,897	2,467	1,881	2,585	4,003	5,702	39,654
1972	5,762	5,848	5,564	3,091	3,282	2,302	3,703	4,634	3,402	4,476	6,155	7,828	56,047
1973	9,386	8,343	7,875	5,468	4,168	3,246	5,919	6,680	4,184	5,977	7,137	9,505	77,888
1974	10,915	9,648	9,847	6,400	3,241	3,303	5,404	6,147	4,986	6,199	8,338	10,583	85,011
1975	11,740	10,388	11,158	5,890	5,587	4,787	5,925	8,565	5,287	7,622	11,271	14,984	103,204
1976	15,627	15,214	13,431	8,886	6,097	4,550	4,278	3,481	6,707	10,636	13,600	16,464	118,971
1977	17,569	18,064	18,216	9,891	7,602	5,536	9,881	11,129	7,594	11,541	17,106	19,536	153,665
1978	23,114	22,427	20,497	11,545	8,803	7,134	13,252	15,542	10,245	14,340	20,759	24,934	192,592
1979	28,366	25,226	25,472	18,847	13,042	10,674	16,801	20,203	14,798	19,376	25,743	31,616	250,164
1980	36,108	33,896	34,416	21,806	19,468	15,082	22,986	27,440	19,962	23,646	23,988	37,982	316,780
1981	45,168	39,384	38,376	28,568	21,642	16,836	28,266	32,788	24,086	27,030	29,512	39,086	370,742
1982	40,932	40,148	42,178	29,606	28,972	25,772	30,942	34,332	29,754	30,296	33,748	40,550	407,230
1983	49,104	44,018	44,710	32,556	32,850	24,350	25,132	8,430	10,050	16,410	20,570	29,350	337,530
1984	33,546	32,406	32,628	23,684	18,224	17,866	26,694	27,626	21,764	25,800	27,906	29,590	317,734
1985	28,814	27,012	29,886	19,778	14,014	11,092	18,362	20,138	15,242	18,176	23,218	31,724	257,456
1986	32,890	30,512	28,932	19,262	13,100	9,536	12,330	15,190	12,398	12,732	18,114	25,110	230,106
1987	25,446	23,714	22,838	16,238	8,204	7,650	10,200	11,408	10,072	12,146	14,188	20,516	182,620
1988	20,400	19,150	19,430	13,834	11,124	11,540	17,660	18,670	14,980	16,742	10,560	8,572	182,662
1989	12,962	12,344	16,032	12,312	12,750	11,630	15,194	17,220	14,264	15,050	18,948	26,026	184,732
1990	26,592	26,368	26,946	22,788	18,286	18,050	26,410	26,786	22,438	23,060	24,596	35,568	297,888
1991	28,932	28,080	27,153	20,541	17,745	17,394	30,645	28,824	24,762	25,173	28,272	40,182	317,703
1992	35,730	38,859	33,399	28,410	21,024	23,157	33,771	40,143	29,838	32,079	35,967	41,292	393,669
1993	42,726	40,116	37,953	29,589	22,368	20,412	32,904	32,796	27,495	30,621	35,103	40,167	392,250
1994	45,402	41,067	41,277	28,080	21,777	21,399	35,370	32,817	31,062	33,216	33,306	42,738	407,511
1995	45,987	42,591	40,074	33,756	24,672	22,416	35,994	35,814	30,828	30,603	28,365	32,001	403,101
1996	30,957	29,550	26,442	20,376	17,655	19,668	25,380	24,765	23,211	23,511	24,921	35,829	302,265



Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1997	32,652	35,010	34,098	26,907	22,407	23,160	30,867	32,034	29,793	28,314	31,995	38,928	366,165
1998	37,224	35,283	32,256	25,578	20,394	22,410	29,529	31,446	31,653	31,767	38,421	45,102	381,063
1999	44,379	41,526	41,022	34,443	25,212	26,184	33,288	39,081	33,915	35,112	41,952	40,326	436,440
2000	43,311	43,287	40,110	33,642	23,404	21,825	33,267	34,422	31,035	26,658	32,469	36,984	400,414
2001	44,187	46,575	44,290	36,906	26,924	28,323	28,566	15,717	11,758	12,904	17,344	23,300	336,794
2002	28,296	31,683	33,084	27,057	26,661	26,355	35,742	35,475	32,982	36,258	37,395	42,183	393,171
2003	40,647	39,081	40,818	33,714	30,048	31,836	43,743	42,111	36,054	49,922	54,946	57,722	500,642
2004	49,950	43,584	38,418	30,672	30,162	32,119	50,525	48,675	51,525	59,442	64,971	66,159	566,202
2005	38,187	36,645	50,418	42,261	40,878	45,699	56,745	51,216	43,536	44,095	48,457	51,171	549,308
2006	52,103	52,687	54,746	49,776	43,825	44,066	55,354	52,931	38,485	38,815	37,591	39,224	559,603
2007	56,553	43,051	35,031	33,039	26,307	30,810	44,142	44,742	37,104	37,011	45,102	61,116	494,008
2008	56,916	40,551	38,049	29,747	31,140	27,960	32,982	30,672	29,529	35,103	36,901	48,925	438,475
2009	38,468	34,169	34,065	26,054	24,739	30,234	42,223	41,207	37,983	37,575	44,311	56,862	447,890
2010	50,757	57,300	52,352	38,300	35,213	44,730	63,339	55,898	47,339	52,370	72,251	84,627	654,476
2011	74,197	65,797	75,130	63,835	48,943	53,636	83,786	72,463	60,219	69,563	90,889	97,517	855,975
2012	85,874	83,549	91,102	69,591	57,506	65,245	90,338	79,456	71,111	80,379	109,202	122,252	1,005,605
2013	110,543	113,968	113,208	80,737	74,838	90,279	107,016	123,269	90,339	107,058	109,420	153,918	1,274,593
2014	146,575	141,878	133,048	112,631	90,046	103,175	133,971	140,319	105,535	121,576	119,727	178,672	1,527,153
2015	156,246	165,541	157,051	122,217	113,529	115,467	175,804	166,610	143,374	132,280	144,147	206,114	1,798,380
2016	194,280	197,697	192,841	136,367	125,044	118,038	209,351	186,288	148,499	150,419	167,217	224,791	2,050,832
2017	219,360	197,517	188,076	160,249	121,891	123,351	205,482	190,928	145,077	152,429	167,511	244,536	2,116,407
2018	238,924	235,618	233,382	180,429	129,466	146,828	217,829	200,359	149,087	153,123	195,582	253,169	2,333,796
2019	244,239	252,033	244,328	166,975	37,802	63,072	115,701	143,587	108,575	118,743	176,984	241,663	1,913,702
2020	228,434	207,507	71,370	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	507,311
2021	1,682	3,366	4,581	4,168	1,497	1,614	2,429	5,040	13,547	22,771	44,294	89,506	194,495
2022	82,327	96,507	106,500	62,980	30,207	32,856	47,293	37,760	29,802	42,026	59,759	91,961	719,978
2023	102,545	107,639	125,495	105,498	83,309	100,388	143,039	136,405	111,938	109,199	151,496	210,352	1,487,303



Table 16: Passenger Arrivals and Departure – 1980 -2023

Year	Total	Air		Sea			
		Katunayake	Mattala	Colombo Harbour	Galle Harbour	Talaimannar	Other
1980	137,797	100,803		598	-	36,396	-
1981	185,035	147,402		730	-	36,903	-
1982	216,466	185,215		789	-	30,462	-
1983	244,955	220,289		578	-	24,088	-
1984	274,418	229,568		616	-	44,234	-
1985	239,272	238,577		695	-	-	-
1986	229,386	228,925		461	-	-	-
1987	257,760	257,207		553	-	-	-
1988	298,583	297,677		906	-	-	-
1989	285,510	284,765		745	-	-	-
1990	296,884	296,080		804	-	-	-
1991	310,373	309,588		785	-	-	-
1992	420,749	419,726		1,023	-	-	-
1993	416,246	415,434		812	-	-	-
1994	448,437	447,224		1,213	-	-	-
1995	504,420	502,059		2,361	-	-	-
1996	494,258	493,407		851	-	-	-
1997	530,712	529,908		804	-	-	-
1998	518,050	517,222		828	-	-	-
1999	496,963	496,045		918	-	-	-
2000	524,212	523,485		727	-	-	-
2001	505,341	504,503		838	-	-	-
2002	532,737	531,909		828	-	-	-
2003	591,126	590,039		1,087	-	-	-
2004	680,248	679,131		1,117	-	-	-



Year	Total	Air		Sea			
		Katunayake	Mattala	Colombo Harbour	Galle Harbour	Talaimannar	Other
2005	727,301	725,956		1,345	-	-	-
2006	756,735	756,735		-	-	-	-
2007	862,011	862,011		-	-	-	-
2008	966,337	966,337		-	-	-	-
2009	962,786	962,786		-	-	-	-
2010	1,122,212	1,122,212		-	-	-	-
2011	1,239,290	1,239,290		-	-	-	-
2012	1,268,792	1,268,792		-	-	-	-
2013	1,261,506	1,257,099	1,838	931	1,638	-	-
2014	1,311,063	1,307,133	1,638	744	1,548	-	-
2015	1,356,411	1,353,115	861	1,153	1,282	-	-
2016	1,447,786	1,442,645	1,225	2,694	1,037	-	185
2017	1,439,429	1,434,083	1,453	1,883	1,285	-	725
2018	1,475,929	1,471,481	358	1,381	1,950	-	759
2019	1,441,462	1,436,675	2	1,148	2,470	-	1167
2020	313,914	309,532	420	1,047	2,819	-	96
2021	309,220	304,979	36	1,248	2,713	-	244
2022	1,127,512	1,124,022	-	1,466	1,922	-	102
2023	1,465,326	1,462,246	137	1,498	1,012	-	433



Table 17: Details of Museums -2023

Museums	Foreign Tickets		Local Tickets	
	Number of Foreign Tourists	Revenue (In Rs.)	Number of Local Tourists	Revenue (In Rs.)
Colombo National Museum	32,645	40,041,143	181,923	11,309,190
Natural History Museum	4271	5,399,100	90,462	5,154,180
Dutch Museum *	0	0	0	0
Independence Memorial Museum	1086	535,400	14,093	483,390
Hambantota National Museum	228	124,200	1444	62,630
Rathnapura National Museum	120	68,300	25,747	1,735,635
Galle National Museum	3464	1,874,200	31,772	1,034,025
Galle Maritime Museum	3452	1,858,800	41,538	1,441,485
Anuradhapura Folk Museum	0	0	0	0
Kandy National Museum	1966	1,169,000	19,657	1,262,820
Polonnaruwa Museum	107	124,800	46,654	2,885,850
Total	47,339	51,194,943	453,290	25,369,205

Source: Department of National Museums



Table 18:

Foreign Visitors to Cultural Triangle and Revenue from Sale of Tickets – 1990 to 2023

Year	Number of Tourists	Revenue (In Rs. Mn)
1990	124,382	44.7
1991	132,641	69.6
1992	153,817	102.3
1993	148,913	149.6
1994	168,402	176.1
1995	166,661	168.7
1996	102,788	121.2
1997	144,517	186.0
1998	165,463	225.0
1999	207,398	300.5
2000	155,167	276.0
2001	129,201	222.0
2002	131,804	242.8
2003	212,521	403.3
2004	246,380	543.1
2005	110,443	284.7
2006	138,232	400.9
2007	104,583	279.8
2008	112,190	307.5
2009	109,404	402.8
2010	197,947	743.5
2011	239,920	998.2
2012	592,980	1330.7
2013	504,699	1727.1
2014	627,136	2178.5
2015	355,370	1236.7
2016	905,333	3363.3
2017	978,606	3774.4
2018	979,171	4199.5
2019	730,854	3,288.1
2020	185,350	830.6
2021	33,390	173,008.1
2022		
2023	477,978	3,490,060,010

Table 18 (a) :

Foreign and Domestic Visitors to Culture Triangle & Revenue From - 2023

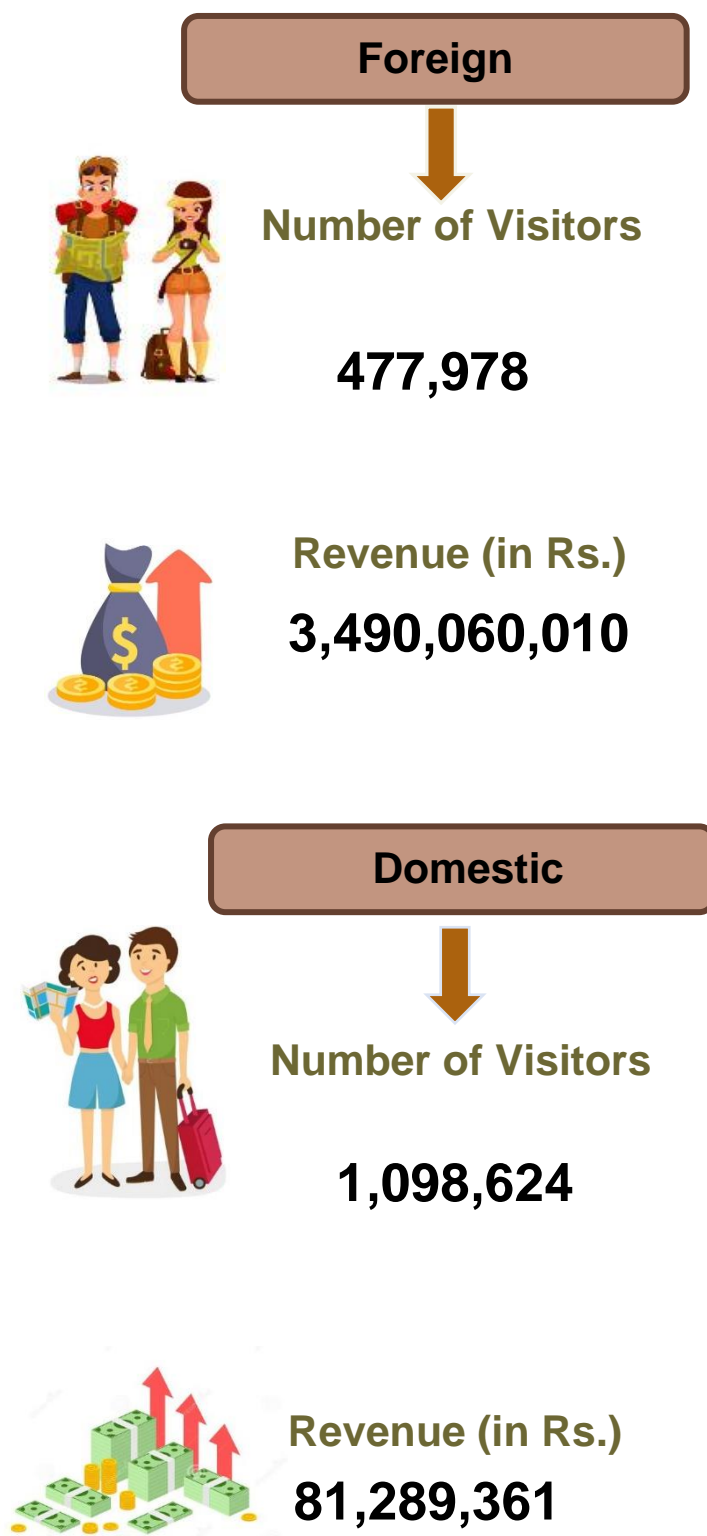


Table 18 (b) : Foreign and Domestic Visitors to Cultural Triangle & Revenue from Sale of Tickets - 2023

Locations	Number of Foreign Visitor	Number of Local Visitor	Total Number of Visitor	Local Visitor income	Foreign Visitor Income	Total Visitor Income
Abhayagiriya	984	18,681	19,665	1,738,300	8,240,425	9,978,725
Jethawanaya	40,390	14,902	55,292	1,317,713	278,882,489	280,200,202
Sigiriya Museum and Sigiriya Rock	272,475	627,712	900,187	57,793,950	2,373,358,021	2,431,151,971
Polonnaruwa Gal viharaya,Museum & Kingdom	109,915	27,794	137,709	2,602,375	772,915,599	775,517,974
Kandy Museum	211	9,269	9,480	407,000	66,129	473,129
Galle Museum	10,555	54,050	64,605	4,499,950	17,078,440	21,578,390
Ramba Viharaya	76	0	76	0	48,576	48,576
Jaffna Fort	10,292	244,827	255,119	6,972,210	12,013,301	18,985,511
Katharagama Museum	52	4,606	4,658	417,700	99,328	517,028
Ampara lahugala	360	0	360	0	112,528	112,528
Rathugala	201	0	201	24,583	100,457	125,040
Buduruwagala	22,996	0	22,996	0	14,776,892	14,776,892
Dambulla Museum	270	687	957	64,200	163,035	227,235
Ritigala forest Monastery	7,121	30,559	37,680	1,398,698	9,591,066	10,989,764
Ibbankatuwa Ancient Bural Ground	689	18,949	19,638	1,732,250	414,084	2,146,334
Trincomelee	350	5,047	5,397	491,900	947,856	1,439,756
Namal Uyana	1,041	41,541	42,582	1,828,532	1,251,786	3,080,318
Total	477,978	1,098,624	1,576,602	81,289,361	3,490,060,010	3,571,349,371

Source: Central Cultural Fund



Table 19: Foreign Visitors to Zoological Gardens & Revenue from Gate Fees – 1988 to 2023

Year	Number of Tourists	Revenue in Rs .'000
1988	20,648	0,806
1989	23,898	0,941
1990	93,949	4,374
1991	110,458	6,361
1992	156,868	9,283
1993	173,628	10,274
1994	186,175	11,479
1995	189,043	11,448
1996	130,237	9,222
1997	175,984	15,128
1998	191,123	18,846
1999	233,968	23,068
2000	204,681	29,215
2001	150,353	22,249
2002	147,329	30,204
2003	217,930	42,297
2004	252,445	119,547
2005	135,006	61,419
2006	178,902	82,655
2007	155,310	133,118
2008	153,934	134,286
2009	149,833	201,659
2010	246,556	410,097
2011	284,898	470,239
2012	287,485	480,663
2013	305,860	550,923
2014	348,842	745,769
2015	393,064	813,978
2016	415,776	841,070
2017	369,685	728,980
2018	373,106	698,841
2019	226,365	476,944
2020	54,489	113,719
2021	13,777	25,276
2022	216,847	1,540,595
2023	477,978	3,490,060



Table 19 (a): Revenue by Location -2022 & 2023

Location	Year	Domestic Tourists		Foreign Tourists		Total	
		Number	Revenue	Number	Revenue	Number	Revenue
Dehiwala	2022	1,278,222	177,929,600	7,112	14,329,800	1,285,334	192,259,400
	2023	1,272,912	242,911,660	15,837	55,062,934	1,288,749	297,974,594
Pinnawala	2022	345,986	44,804,110	45,872	110,245,750	391,858	155,049,860
	2023	452,559	82,131,470	114,867	434,253,786	567,426	516,385,256
Pinnawala Zoo	2022	248,991	33,631,410	1,871	1,249,800	250,862	34,881,210
	2023	263,407	48,253,570	14,458	19,723,848	277,865	67,977,418
Safari Park	2022	254,836	81,659,230	2,741	7,321,600	257,577	88,980,830
	2023	221,938	84,595,200	5,138	19,710,277	227,076	104,305,477
Total	2022	2,128,035	338,024,350	57,596	133,146,950	2,185,631	471,171,300
	2023	2,210,816	457,891,900	150,300	528,750,845	2,361,116	986,642,745

Source: Department of national Zoological Gardens



Table 20: Revenue from Foreign Visitors to Botanical Gardens -1988 to 2023

Year	Peradeniya	Hakgala	Gampaha	Mirijjawila*	Avissawella**	Ganewattha	Total Revenue In Rs.'000
1988	1,019.1	58.0	1.2	–	–	–	1,078.3
1989	1,873.1	77.5	4.9	–	–	–	1,955.5
1990	4,068.3	209.0	5.7	–	–	–	4,283.0
1991	5,799.2	372.8	12.7	–	–	–	6,184.7
1992	8,981.2	584.0	19.3	–	–	–	9,584.5
1993	9,608.8	634.0	23.4	–	–	–	10,267.1
1994	18,477.5	1,037.4	36.0	–	–	–	19,550.9
1995	23,992.2	1,227.9	49.1	–	–	–	25,199.2
1996	16,082.6	689.1	28.1	–	–	–	16,799.8
1997	20,931.5	866.5	36.3	–	–	–	21,834.3
1998	25,481.6	1,211.1	5.3	–	–	–	26,698.0
1999	31,160.3	1,428.7	45.9	–	–	–	32,634.9
2000	28,066.6	1,357.0	37.2	–	–	–	29,460.8
2001	20,250.0	940.0	36.4	–	–	–	21,226.4
2002	25,348.2	962.9	34.4	–	–	–	26,345.5
2003	55,711.3	2,154.2	53.9	–	–	–	57,919.4
2004	68,010.3	2,613.3	80.4	–	–	–	70,704.0
2005	104,272.0	6,136.0	23.1	–	–	–	32,605.2
2006	42,500.7	1,642.7	66.8	–	–	–	44,210.0
2007	64,257.0	2,202.3	100.2	–	–	–	66,599.5
2008	66,515.7	2,513.4	90.3	–	–	–	69,119.4
2009	68,838.3	3,353.4	75.0	–	–	–	72,266.7
2010	117,223.8	5,825.4	112.8	–	–	–	123,162.0
2011	243,093.3	10,271.8	226.9	–	–	–	253,592.0
2012	265,585.1	13,194.2	265.6	–	–	–	279,044.9
2013	299,086.9	15,527.0	250.8	6.6	–	–	314,871.4
2014	350,386.5	18,975.5	312.9	163.3	–	–	369,838.4
2015	409,288.0	25,402.8	366.8	50	43.7	–	435,151.3
2016	556,506.4	36,971.9	463.8	173.3	182.4	–	594,297.8
2017	600,741.0	38,300.0	488.0	219.7	293.7	–	640,042.5
2018	627,060.5	45,115.7	554.5	392.0	305.5	–	673,428.2
2019	501,765.15	34,096.15	481.15	411.55	333.25	5.00	537,092.25
2020	170,510.40	10,790.20	168.00	115.40	237.00	4.00	181,825.00
2021	32,209,600	3,395,800	56,000.0	82,000.0	42,000.0	0	35,785,400
2022	188,390,800.00	10,849,400.00	147,400.00	572,200.00	222,800.00	0	200,182,600.00
2023	528,319,700.00	36,657,500.00	1,244,500.00	1,818,000.00	600,523.00	11000	568,651,223.00



Table 20 (a): Details by Location 2023

Location	Foreign Tickets		Local Tickets		Total
	Number of Foreign Tourists	Revenue RS .(000)	Number of Domestic Tourists	Revenue RS.(000)	Revenue Rs. (000)
Peradeniya	211,677	528,319,700.00	977,869	112,456,710.00	640,776,410.00
Hakgala	14,844	36,657,500.00	548,742	63,270,140.00	99,927,640.00
Gampaha	165	1,244,500.00	129,506	17,073,700.00	18,318,200.00
Mirijjawila	753	1,818,000.00	65,416	6,612,940.00	8,430,940.00
Avissawella	285	600,523.00	202,965	23,569,450.00	24,169,973.00
Ganewattha	5	11000	631	78,220.00	89,220.00
Total	227,729	568,651,223.00	1,925,129	223,061,160.00	791,712,383.00

Source: Department of National Botanical Garden



Table 21: Revenue from Foreign Visitors to Wildlife Parks – 1989 to 2023

Year	Yala national Park	Wilpattu National Park	kumana Bird Sanctuary	Udawalawa National Park	Others	Total Revenue in Rs.'000
1989	365.4	–	–	2.7	65	433.1
1990	1,151.60	–	–	3.6	–	1,155.20
1991	1,511.60	–	–	9.5	214.7	1,735.80
1992	2,700.90	–	–	207.3	456.2	3,364.40
1993	10,803.80	–	–	829.2	1,824.90	13,457.90
1994	21,613.40	–	–	5,529.10	2,224.00	29,366.50
1995	21,595.80	–	–	3,905.10	13,037.80	38,538.70
1996	15,196.90	–	–	2,928.70	9,776.10	27,901.70
1997	12,138.80	–	–	10,642.10	11,708.50	34,489.40
1998	8,918.70	–	–	13,626.40	18,681.00	41,226.10
1999	20,420.10	–	–	18,098.60	17,454.10	55,972.80
2000	25,417.80	–	–	15,876.90	18,857.80	60,152.50
2001	25,183.40	–	–	10,940.60	18,266.00	54,390.00
2002	25,802.40	–	–	14,813.70	17,920.40	58,536.50
2003	46,480.00	230	–	22,780.00	32,744.00	102,234.00
2004	48,413.90	522.3	274.6	29,647.20	34,944.00	113,802.00
2005	23,945.80	734.9	75.9	16,205.30	21,729.90	62,691.80
2006	45,411.80	366.4	82.1	23,514.40	30,176.20	99,550.90
2007	30,247.00	–	–	20,316.50	35,168.90	85,733.30
2008	27,707.40	–	–	18,223.50	38,488.70	84,419.60
2009	50,221.20	–	–	9,864.30	43,907.50	103,993.00
2010	123,850.10	1,503.60	445.8	22,718.50	78,731.30	227,249.20
2011	154,310.80	3,881.30	906.7	33,531.20	108,378.70	301,008.70
2012	222,269.90	10,032.30	2,499.90	43,252.70	146,790.10	424,844.90
2013	272,581.00	91,358.90	79,078.10	1,166.40	132,274.40	578,458.80
2014	360,952.20	26,182.50	4,607.90	110,828.80	325,015.90	831,587.90
2015	419,311.80	37,275.20	6,307.90	172,954.70	375,735.70	1,011,585.30
2016	570,466.30	33,670.90	8,763.10	259,298.30	573,767.90	1,445,966.50
2017	623,836.90	47,975.30	10,720.40	310,071.90	738,133.80	1,730,718.30
2018	684,661.60	76,883.10	15,043.40	496,658.90	865,203.30	2,138,450.40
2019	524,809.68	63,543.89	11,471.89	458,567.68	769,357.98	1,827,751.12
2020	179,408.73	19,869.73	1,081.67	144,079.04	150,641.43	495,080.61
2021	70,592,996.05	4,618,594.34	796,010.00	24,022,716.04	35,569,067.64	135,599,384.07
2022	548,385,852	52,264,619	9,336,067	256,287,075	670,780,126	1,219,165,978
2023	1,708,426,610	199,439,528	27,557,142	725,187,069	1,118,910,632	3,779,520,981



Table 21 (a): Details by Locations

Parks	Local Tickets		Foreign Tickets		Total Visitors	Total Income
	Local Visitors	Local Income (Rs)	Foreign Visitors	Foreign Income (Rs)		
Yala	251,865	38,050,064	214,572	1,708,426,610	466,437	1,746,476,673
Horton Plains	214,756	30,947,100	30,950	247,267,547	245,706	278,214,647
Udawalawa	98,561	14,575,800	89,827	725,187,069	188,388	739,762,869
Wasgomuwa	9,014	519,980	1,347	5,278,824	10,361	5,798,804
Minneriya	40,894	4,454,910	21,170	117,657,669	62,064	122,112,579
Bundala	5,587	330,360	4,131	16,075,246	9,718	16,405,606
Horagolla	11,011	431,320	19	29,558	11,030	460,878
Kaudulla	45,564	6,739,800	49,059	385,314,243	94,623	392,054,043
Galoya	9,538	325,530	4,281	6,738,938	13,819	7,064,468
Kumana	21,263	5,390,380	7,267	27,557,142	28,530	32,947,522
Angammedilla	1,031	59,460	02	7,956	1,033	67,416
Galways Land	14,850	795,790	341	1,299,200	15,191	2,094,990
Wilpattu	49,113	7,325,300	24,970	199,439,528	74,083	206,764,828
Maduruoya	1,624	93,130	315	1,177,402	1,939	1,270,532
Lahugala	437	25,170	40	154,234	477	179,404
Pigeon Island	53,992	7,876,310	9,384	65,500,573	63,376	73,376,883
Hikkaduwa	31,062	1,198,250	1,385	2,007,665	32,447	3,205,915
Eth	112,080	9,799,070	61,596	99,174,995	173,676	108,974,065
Kalawewa	766	18,000	121	109,805	887	127,805
Bareef -Kalpitiya	8,135	188,030	1,922	4,994,218	10,057	5,182,248
Mirissa	16,059	1,582,500	60,900	166,058,035	76,959	167,640,535
Girithale	8,610	295,720	104	64,523	8,714	360,243
TOTAL	1,005,812	131,021,974	583,703	3,779,520,981	1,589,515	3,910,542,955

Source: Department of Wildlife Conservation



Table 22: Revenue from Visitors to Conservation Forests - 2023

Name of the Forest	Number of Visitors		Total	Income Without VAT		Total
	Domestic Tourists	Foreign Tourists		Domestic Tourists	Foreign Tourists	
Makandawa Conservation Forest	1,491	557	2,048	80,178	411,653	491,830
Kottawa Conservation Forest	1,185	186	1,371	70,482	101,583	172,064
Kanneliya Conservation Forest	33,739	1,726	35,465	2,578,005	1,722,261	4,300,266
Hurulu Eco Park	43,585	67,618	111,203	7,337,913	115,617,391	122,955,304
Sinharaja Conservation Forest	45,153	12,232	57,385	4,799,506	12,021,189	16,820,694
Udawattakele Conservation Forest / Kandy	21,781	3,947	25,728	1,177,126	3,044,352	4,221,479
Knuckles Conservation Forest	123,223	17,982	141,205	7,147,194	3,047,214	10,194,408
Kuruluakele	1,765	0	1,765	94,990	0	94,990
Nuwaragala (Ampara)	1,166	0	1,166	143,375	7,826	151,201
Rathna Ella (Kandy)	5,076	638	5,714	303,565	471,843	775,408
Mandaramnuwara (Nuwaraeliya)	14,227	03	14,230	847,825	2,348	850,173
Piduruthalagala (Nuwaraeliya)	15,362	54	15,416	857,685	40,695	898,381
Badagamuwa Ecological Zone (Kurunegala)	5,752	01	5,753	234,956	522	235,478
Galwila Eco Park (Puttlam)	153	09	162	15,285	6,885	22,170
Dolukanda (Kurunegala)	2,119	07	2,126	133,650	4,590	138,240
Badulla Haputhale	8,336	10,972	19,308	492,141	7,779,054	8,271,195
Geradigala	278	01	279	29,009	783	29,792
Yahangala	82	02	84	8,557	1,565	10,122
Kande Ela Nuwara Eliya	371	0	371	13,344	0	13,344
Gal Oya	654	2,401	3,055	67,096	1,866,130	1,933,226
Ek Gal Oya	205	0	205	0	0	133,200
Total	325,703	118,336	444,039	26,431,881	146,147,884	172,712,965



Table 23: Public Sector Revenue from Tourism (Rs. Mn) – 2016 - 2023

Source of Revenue	2016 (Rs Mn)	2017 (Rs Mn)	2018 (Rs Mn)	2019 (Rs Mn)	2020 (Rs Mn)	2021 (Rs Mn)	2022 (Rs Mn)	2023 Rs (Rs Mn)
Tourism Development Levy	1,276.80	1,541.50	1,482.10	924.2	540.9	818.1	1,439.90	1,473.80
Income of Tourism Development Authority	168.7	248.9	248.6	238.8	231.8	245.9	480.4	377.1
Embarkation tax on Foreign Tourists	2,355.40	2,378.80	2,824.90	2,089.20	489.5	483.9	2,597.80	4,234.30
Culture Triangle	3,363.30	3,774.40	4,200.10	3,290.70	830.6	173	1,540.60	3,490.10
Botanical Gardens	594.3	640	673.4	537.1	181.8	35.7	200.1	568.6
Zoological Garden	841.1	728.9	698.8	476.9	113.7	25.2	471.1	528.7
Wildlife Parks	1,445.90	1,730.70	2,138.40	1,827.70	494.9	135.6	1,219.20	3,779.50
Conservation Forests	–	25.4	66.1	124.4	61.3	10.6	67.3	146.1
Museums	33.6	50.2	76	56.4	14.1	1.8	2.2	51.2
BMICH	551.4	648.8	464.8	21.4	3.2	*	*	*
Total	10,630.50	11,767.60	12,408.40	9,586.80	2,961.80	1,929.80	8,018.60	14,649.40
Exchange Rate (1 USD = Rs)	145.6	152.5	162.5	178.8	185.5	198.9	324.5	327.5





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