



MEDIA RELEASE

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Contact : Siti Rahmah Lehan
Tel : 603 2615 8447
Fax : 603 2615 8299
Email: sitirahmah@tourism.gov.my

1,839,235 TOURISTS IN AUGUST 2008

A total of **1,839,235** tourists visited Malaysia in **August 2008**, representing an increase of **12.0%** compared to the same month in 2007.

Cumulatively, tourist arrivals recorded from **January to August 2008** were **14,730,437** representing an **increase of 4.9%** compared to **14,047,276** for the same period in 2007.

Table 1: Comparison of tourist arrivals to Malaysia (August 2007 and 2008)

MONTH	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2007	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2008	CHANGE %
AUGUST	1,642,899	1,839,235	12.0

Source: Immigration Department of Malaysia

Table 2: Comparison of tourist arrivals to Malaysia (January - August 2007 and 2008)

MONTHS	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2007	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2008	CHANGE %
JANUARY - AUGUST	14,047,276	14,730,437	4.9

Source: Immigration Department of Malaysia

For **August 2008**, **Singapore** maintained its position as the largest tourist generating market for Malaysia with **894,845** Singaporeans visiting the country. Others in the top ten list are; **Indonesia** (201,663), **Thailand** (120,785), **Brunei** (96,732), **China (including Hong Kong & Macau)** (90,976), **India** (41,770), **West Asia** (41,364), **Japan** (40,751), **United Kingdom** (38,198) and the **Philippines** (35,364).

During the month of August 2008, the **Cambodian** market performed the best with a growth of **113.7%**. Double digit growth was also recorded for arrivals from **Canada** (78.8%), **Russia** (77.6%), **United Kingdom** (75.3%), **Germany** (71.4%), **India** (65.7%), **France** (60.6%), the **Netherlands** (60.5%), **New Zealand** (59.4%), **Indonesia** (55.3%), **Italy** (53.4%), **Australia** (50.4%), the **Philippines** (39.2%), **Japan** (36.6%), **China (including Hong Kong & Macau)** (32.2%), **Switzerland** (26.3%), **South Korea** (24.2%) and **Singapore** (11.7%).

The top ten tourist generating markets from **January to August 2008** were: **Singapore** (7,283,169), **Indonesia** (1,534,110), **Thailand** (1,007,216), **China (including Hong Kong & Macau)** (659,636), **Brunei** (644,866), **India** (377,011), **Japan** (283,813), **Australia** (270,235), the **Philippines** (255,987) and the **United Kingdom** (242,915).

TOURIST ARRIVALS TO MALAYSIA BY MAJOR MARKETS AUGUST 2008

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE	AUGUST		(% CHANGE AUG 08 / AUG 07	JANUARY - AUGUST		(% CHANGE JAN-AUG 08 / JAN-AUG 08
	2007	2008		2007	2008	
SINGAPORE	801,442	894,845	11.7	6,962,417	7,283,169	4.6
THAILAND	115,124	120,785	4.9	1,041,082	1,007,216	-3.3
INDONESIA	129,888	201,663	55.3	1,211,826	1,534,110	26.6
BRUNEI	94,353	96,732	2.5	703,929	644,866	-8.4
PHILIPPINES	25,411	35,364	39.2	219,409	255,987	16.7
VIETNAM	11,101	12,172	9.6	91,640	85,244	-7.0
CAMBODIA	1,333	2,848	113.7	15,823	23,428	48.1
CHINA (Incl Hong Kong & Macao)	68,831	90,976	32.2	503,821	659,636	30.9
JAPAN	29,828	40,751	36.6	241,461	283,813	17.5
TAIWAN	21,996	19,960	-9.3	135,986	138,169	1.6
SOUTH KOREA	22,118	27,473	24.2	152,744	193,598	26.7
INDIA	25,207	41,770	65.7	285,478	377,011	32.1
WEST ASIA	60,391	41,364	-31.5	189,475	197,036	4.0
SAUDI ARABIA	21,718	14,373	-33.8	59,194	57,496	-2.9
UAE	16,901	5,665	-66.5	32,727	30,729	-6.1
IRAN	2,225	6,401	187.7	19,578	37,976	94.0
CANADA	4,078	7,293	78.8	33,440	50,155	50.0

U.S.A	17,935	19,287	7.5	143,755	153,906	7.1
AUSTRALIA	22,573	33,942	50.4	195,706	270,235	38.1
NEW ZEALAND	3,090	4,926	59.4	24,732	35,101	41.9
UNITED KINGDOM	21,791	38,198	75.3	180,592	242,915	34.5
SCANDINAVIA	7,052	5,809	-17.6	82,030	79,769	-2.8
<i>DENMARK</i>	1,561	1,590	1.9	14,247	16,489	15.7
<i>FINLAND</i>	2,581	759	-70.6	26,762	16,302	-39.1
<i>NORWAY</i>	842	1,244	47.7	10,064	14,639	45.5
<i>SWEDEN</i>	2,068	2,216	7.2	30,957	32,339	4.5
NETHERLANDS	6,399	10,269	60.5	38,437	57,985	50.9
FRANCE	6,705	10,770	60.6	41,224	58,262	41.3
GERMANY	6,136	10,517	71.4	50,866	71,205	40.0
SWITZERLAND	1,594	2,013	26.3	14,271	17,689	24.0
RUSSIA	978	1,737	77.6	11,336	16,692	47.2
POLAND	1,824	749	-58.9	25,510	7,952	-68.8
ITALY	4,790	7,346	53.4	22,324	27,498	23.2
TURKEY	723	616	-14.8	6,986	5,421	-22.4
SOUTH AFRICA	2,062	1,819	-11.8	14,957	17,216	15.1
OTHERS	128,146	57,241	-55.3	1,406,019	935,153	-33.5
GRAND TOTAL	1,642,899	1,839,235	12.0	14,047,276	14,730,437	4.9

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Menara Dato' Onn, Putra World Trade Centre, 45 Jalan Tun Ismail, 50480 Kuala Lumpur
P.O. Box 10328, 50710 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. TEL : 03-2615 8188. FAX : 03-2693 5884
EMAIL : enquiries@tourism.gov.my WEBSITE: www.tourismmalaysia.gov.my