



MEDIA RELEASE

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15 October 2008

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1.59 MILLION TOURIST ARRIVALS TO MALAYSIA IN SEPTEMBER 2008

Tourist arrivals to Malaysia numbered **1,599,418** for the month of **September 2008**, a **-0.1%** decrease from last year's September figure of **1,601,016**.

Cumulatively, tourist arrivals recorded from **January to September 2008** were **16,329,855** representing an **increase** of **4.4%** compared to **15,648,292** for the same period in 2007.

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

MONTH	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2007	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2008	CHANGE %
SEPTEMBER	1,601,016	1,599,418	-0.1

Source: Immigration Department of Malaysia

Table 2: Comparison of tourist arrivals to Malaysia (January – September 2007 and 2008)

MONTHS	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2007	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2008	CHANGE %
JANUARY – SEPTEMBER	15,648,292	16,329,855	4.4

Source: Immigration Department of Malaysia

For **September 2008**, **Singapore** maintained its position as the largest tourist generating market for Malaysia with **839,444** Singaporeans visiting the country. Others in the top ten list were: **Indonesia** (179,668), **Thailand** (93,291), **Brunei** (91,315), **China (including Hong Kong & Macau)** (68,540), **Australia** (37,780), **India** (37,237), **Japan** (35,978), the **Philippines** (31,572) and **United Kingdom** (29,100).

During the month of September 2008, the **Canadian** market performed the best with a growth of **134.4%**. Significant growth was also recorded for arrivals from the **Netherlands** (107.1%), **Cambodia** (87.6%), **Russia** (78.2%), the **Philippines** (48.0%), **New Zealand** (44.9%), **Indonesia** (44.7%), **France** (40.8%), **Germany** (39.5%), **Australia** (39.4%), **United Kingdom** (34.7%), **Switzerland** (32.2%), **South Korea** (30.6%), **Italy** (24.9%), **India** (23.2%), **USA** (17.8%), **Japan** (17.1%) and **Vietnam** (11.3%).

The top ten tourist generating markets from **January to September 2008** were: **Singapore** (8,122,613), **Indonesia** (1,713,778), **Thailand** (1,100,507), **Brunei** (736,181), **China (including Hong Kong & Macau)** (728,176), **India** (414,248), **Japan** (319,791), **Australia** (308,015), the **Philippines** (287,559) and the **United Kingdom** (272,015).

TOURIST ARRIVALS TO MALAYSIA BY MAJOR MARKETS SEPTEMBER 2008

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE	SEPTEMBER		(% CHANGE SEP 08/ SEP 07	JANUARY - SEPTEMBER		(% CHANGE JAN-SEP 08/ JAN-SEP 07
	2007	2008		2007	2008	
SINGAPORE	816,776	839,444	2.8	7,779,193	8,122,613	4.4
THAILAND	121,617	93,291	-23.3	1,162,699	1,100,507	-5.3
INDONESIA	124,132	179,668	44.7	1,335,958	1,713,778	28.3
BRUNEI	104,275	91,315	-12.4	808,204	736,181	-8.9
PHILIPPINES	21,328	31,572	48.0	240,737	287,559	19.4
VIETNAM	7,445	8,290	11.3	99,085	93,534	-5.6
CAMBODIA	1,418	2,660	87.6	17,241	26,088	51.3
CHINA (Incl Hong Kong & Macao)	66,668	68,540	2.8	570,489	728,176	27.6
JAPAN	30,721	35,978	17.1	272,182	319,791	17.5
TAIWAN	19,309	14,063	-27.2	155,295	152,232	-2.0
SOUTH KOREA	14,251	18,617	30.6	166,995	212,215	27.1
INDIA	30,227	37,237	23.2	315,705	414,248	31.2
WEST ASIA	21,093	10,661	-49.5	210,568	207,697	-1.4
SAUDI ARABIA	8,731	1,854	-78.8	67,925	59,350	-12.6
UAE	2,484	269	-89.2	35,211	30,998	-12.0
IRAN	2,713	6,201	128.6	22,291	44,177	98.2
CANADA	2,290	5,367	134.4	35,730	55,522	55.4
U.S.A	12,553	14,788	17.8	156,308	168,694	7.9

AUSTRALIA	27,108	37,780	39.4	222,814	308,015	38.2
NEW ZEALAND	3,523	5,104	44.9	28,255	40,205	42.3
UNITED KINGDOM	21,605	29,100	34.7	202,197	272,015	34.5
SCANDINAVIA	5,980	6,485	8.4	88,010	86,254	-2.0
<i>DENMARK</i>	1,211	1,602	32.3	15,458	18,091	17.0
<i>FINLAND</i>	2,390	1,041	-56.4	29,152	17,343	-40.5
<i>NORWAY</i>	685	1,413	106.3	10,749	16,052	49.3
<i>SWEDEN</i>	1,694	2,429	43.4	32,651	34,768	6.5
NETHERLANDS	3,932	8,145	107.1	42,369	66,130	56.1
FRANCE	4,210	5,929	40.8	45,434	64,191	41.3
GERMANY	6,624	9,241	39.5	57,490	80,446	39.9
SWITZERLAND	1,331	1,759	32.2	15,602	19,448	24.7
RUSSIA	970	1,729	78.2	12,306	18,421	49.7
POLAND	2,762	838	-69.7	28,272	8,790	-68.9
ITALY	2,049	2,560	24.9	24,373	30,058	23.3
TURKEY	716	597	-16.6	7,702	6,018	-21.9
SOUTH AFRICA	1,863	1,218	-34.6	16,820	18,434	9.6
OTHERS	124,240	37,442	-69.9	1,530,259	972,595	-36.4
GRAND TOTAL	1,601,016	1,599,418	-0.1	15,648,292	16,329,855	4.4

To view the full statistics table, please download the PDF file.

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