



MEDIA RELEASE

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1,899,148 TOURISTS IN MAY 2008

A total of **1,899,148** tourists visited Malaysia in **May 2008**, representing an increase of **3.1%** compared to the same month in 2007.

Cumulatively, tourist arrivals recorded from **January to May 2008** were **9,001,765**, representing an **increase** of **1.3%** compared to **8,886,832** for the same period in 2007.

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

MONTH	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2007	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2008	CHANGE %
MAY	1,841,870	1,899,148	3.1

Source: Immigration Department of Malaysia

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

MONTHS	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2007	TOURIST ARRIVALS 2008	CHANGE %
JANUARY - MAY	8,886,832	9,001,765	1.3

Source: Immigration Department of Malaysia

For **May 2008**, **Singapore** maintained its position as the biggest tourist generating market for Malaysia with 1,011,090 Singaporeans visiting the country. Others in the top ten list are **Indonesia** (189,157), **Thailand** (125,715), **China (including Hong Kong & Macau)** (78,538), **Brunei** (75,245), **India** (74,422), **the Philippines** (36,729), **Japan** (30,560), **Australia** (28,432) and **South Korea** (22,457).

For the first time, the monthly arrivals from **India** reached a record **70,000** figure in the month of May.

Most major markets also recorded double digit growth in the month of **May 2008** compared to the same month in 2007. They are **Russia** (96.7%), **South Korea** (69.8%), **South Africa** (66.5%), **the Netherlands** (56.9%), **Canada** (52.7%), **Switzerland** (48.2%), **New Zealand** (48.2%), **Australia** (42.7%), **France** (39.7%), **Cambodia** (38.9%), **China (including Hong Kong & Macau)** (38.2%), **the United Kingdom** (35.3%), **Germany** (35.1%), **India** (32.5%), **Japan** (31.2%) **the Philippines** (18.5%), **Indonesia** (14.3%) and **Taiwan** (13.5%).

The top ten tourist generating markets from **January to May 2008** were **Singapore** (4,499,057), **Indonesia** (886,496), **Thailand** (613,993), **China (including Hong Kong & Macau)** (418,327), **Brunei** (350,386), **India** (234,245), **Japan** (173,128), **Australia** (163,210), **the Philippines** (153,526) and **the United Kingdom** (149,890).

For more information, please log on to Tourism Malaysia's online Media Centre at http://www.tourismmalaysia.gov.my/tourismbiz/media_centre/ and click on "Facts and Figures."

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