Tourism demand exceeds expectations in first half of 2013

International tourist arrivals grew by 5% during the first half of 2013 compared to the same period of 2012, reaching almost 500 million. Growth was above the projection made at the beginning of the year (+3% to +4%), also exceeding the trend of the UNWTO long-term outlook *Tourism Towards 2030* (+3.8% a year on average between 2010 and 2020).

Destinations around the world welcomed an estimated 494 million overnight visitors between January and June 2013. This represents an increase of 5%, or an additional 25 million international tourist arrivals, compared to the same period of 2012. Growth was stronger in emerging economy destinations (+6%) than in advanced economies (+4%), a trend which has marked the sector for many years now.

Asia and the Pacific and Europe lead the growth

In a still uneven global economic environment, results were positive in all regions and subregions, though the overall picture was mixed. Europe (+5%) performed surprisingly stronger than expected, driven by Central and Eastern Europe (+9%) and Southern and Mediterranean Europe (+6%). Asia and the Pacific (+6%) also exceeded expectations, boosted by South-East Asia (+12%) and South Asia (+7%). On the other hand, results were weaker than anticipated in the Americas (+2%), as South America and the Caribbean lagged behind.

The first semester normally accounts for around 45% of the total arrivals count of the year (the Northern hemisphere high season months of July and August fall into the second semester). Growth is expected to continue in the second half of 2013 but at a slower pace. At the beginning of this year UNWTO projected international arrivals to grow in the range of 3% to 4% in 2013. Given the strong results of the first semester, the 2013 full-year rate is likely to be at the higher end of this range or to slightly exceed it.
The UNWTO World Tourism Barometer is a publication of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). By monitoring short-term tourism trends on a regular basis, UNWTO aims to provide all those involved, directly or indirectly, in tourism with adequate up-to-date statistics and analysis in a timely fashion.

The UNWTO World Tourism Barometer is periodically updated. Issues contain as regular sections: an overview of short-term tourism data from destinations, generating countries and air transport; the results of the latest survey among the UNWTO Panel of Tourism Experts, providing an evaluation of and prospects for short-term tourism performance; and selected economic data relevant for tourism. The objective for future editions of the UNWTO World Tourism Barometer will be to broaden its scope and improve coverage gradually over time.

The UNWTO World Tourism Barometer is prepared by UNWTO’s Tourism Trends and Marketing Strategies Programme, with the collaboration of consultants, Nancy Cockerell and David Stevens. The UNWTO Secretariat wishes to express its sincere gratitude to all those who have participated in the elaboration of the UNWTO World Tourism Barometer, in particular all institutions that supplied data, and to the members of the UNWTO Panel of Tourism Experts for their valuable contributions.

For more information on the UNWTO World Tourism Barometer, including copies of previous issues, please refer to the Facts & Figures section on the UNWTO website at www.unwto.org/facts/menu.html.

We welcome your comments and suggestions at barom@unwto.org, tel +34 915678205 / fax +34 915678217.
Quick overview of key trends

International tourist arrivals up 5% in January-June 2013 compared to the same period of 2012

- A total of 135 countries and territories have so far reported data on international tourist arrivals (overnight visitors) for one or more months of 2013 (out of 220). Of these, 105 countries or territories (78%) have reported an increase in tourist arrivals, with 31 (23%) enjoying double-digit growth, while 30 countries (22%) have posted a decrease. Over 90 countries have reported results for at least the first six months of 2013.

- Based on this sample of destinations that reported data, it is estimated that destinations worldwide recorded 494 million international tourists between January and June 2013, some 25 million more than the 469 million recorded in the same period of 2012. This increase corresponds to a growth of 5%, reflecting a generally robust tourism sector despite on-going economic challenges in some parts of the world.

- Boosted by an early Easter holiday (with a date shift from early April in 2012 to late March in 2013), the strongest growth was recorded in March, when tourist arrivals increased by an estimated 9% compared to the same month last year. For the same reason, April was the weakest month (0%). February 2013 was also strong in tourism activity (+7%), as was May (+6%). June (+5%) was around the average for the whole period, while January was slightly below (+4%).

UNWTO Tourism Highlights, 2013 Edition

UNWTO has just released its UNWTO Tourism Highlights, 2013 Edition, presenting a concise overview of international tourism in the world based on the results for the year 2012.

UNWTO Tourism Highlights aims to provide a consolidated set of key figures and trends for international tourism in the year prior to its date of publication. The 2013 Edition presents in 16 pages a snapshot of international tourism in the world for 2012 based on the latest available information collected from national sources. Trends and results are analysed for the world, regions and major regional destinations, with statistics included on international tourist arrivals and international tourism receipts. Furthermore, it provides the ranking of top tourism destinations by arrivals and receipts, as well as information on outbound tourism generating regions and a list of top source markets in terms of spending.

Electronic copies can be downloaded in English, Spanish and French free of charge from <http://mkt.unwto.org/publications>. 

Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) ©
Save the date!

The 7th UNWTO/PATA Forum on Tourism trends and outlook

Tourism Development: New Knowledge, Practices and Challenges

21-23 October, 2013
Guilin, China

This 7th edition of the Forum is jointly organised by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), hosted by Guilin Municipal People's Government and in collaboration with Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

The forum will provide a platform for governments, industry and academics to share information, to analyse global trends and the broader environment impacting on tourism, and to map out the appropriate course of actions.

The two-day forum will be divided into two sessions:
- The technical sessions (on the first day) are aimed at a selected audience. The session will provide practitioners and academics with the opportunity to exchange the latest tourism research results, trends and views on tourism development with best practices and examples from both public and private sector perspective.
- The plenary sessions (on the second day) are open to a broad audience. These sessions, conducted by renowned international speakers from the tourism sectors, will be devoted to the current issues in tourism of the year.

The Forum is aimed at participants from the following areas:
- Senior tourism policy, management, marketing and research officials from National Tourism Administrations, National Tourism Organizations, regional and local Tourism Administrations and Tourism Organizations
- Practitioners from tourism industries (tour operators, hotels, transport services, financial bodies, consultancy firms, etc)
- Research institutions and universities

More information will be posted shortly on: www.unwto.org/asia/guilinforum/en/guilin.php

Save the date!

The World Tourism Organization, the European Travel Commission and the Government of Croatia are pleased to announce the

UNWTO-ETC e-marketing master class:
Optimise your skills in developing, integrating and evaluating e-marketing strategies and tactics

23-24 October 2013
Zadar, Croatia

The UNWTO-ETC e-marketing master class will be the occasion for the official launch of the brand new ETC-UNWTO Handbook on e-marketing for tourism destinations – fully revised and extended version 3.0.

The master class aims to coach tourism professionals in optimising the integration of e-marketing into their strategies operations and planning, and take full advantage of the opportunities it offers, striving for excellence in e-marketing to manage strong brands in a dynamic digital environment. The master class will involve and engage participants and build on latest insights in trends and opportunities, with special attention to social media, mobile marketing and the measurement and evaluation of e-marketing activities.

The UNWTO-ETC e-marketing master class will gather renowned experts and key industry representatives to share their views on current practices in e-marketing for tourism destinations. During this two-day event, experts and participants will discuss trends, challenges and opportunities in e-marketing techniques for tourism destinations.

¡For further information regularly check the website http://europe.unwto.org/en! The full programme and additional information on the event will be available shortly.

We look forward to welcoming you to Zadar!
### International Tourist Arrivals by (Sub)region

#### Full year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>World</th>
<th>Advanced economies¹</th>
<th>Emerging economies¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(million)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>51.6</td>
<td>6.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>807</td>
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<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013*</td>
<td>1,052</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### By UNWTO regions:

- **Europe**
  - 2012: 51.6%
  - 2013: 6.4%

- **Northern Europe**
  - 2012: 6.2%

- **Western Europe**
  - 2012: 4.7%

- **Central/Eastern Eu.**
  - 2012: 10.8%

- **Southern/Medit. Eu.**
  - 2012: 18.4%

- **Asia and the Pacific**
  - 2012: 22.6%

- **North-East Asia**
  - 2012: 11.9%

- **South-East Asia**
  - 2012: 8.2%

- **Oceania**
  - 2012: 1.2%

- **South Asia**
  - 2012: 6.1%

- **Americas**
  - 2012: 158.3%

- **North America**
  - 2012: 103.3%

- **Caribbean**
  - 2012: 17.1%

- **Central America**
  - 2012: 4.3%

- **South America**
  - 2012: 6.1%

- **Africa**
  - 2012: 26.2%

- **North Africa**
  - 2012: 10.2%

- **Subsaharan Africa**
  - 2012: 16.0%

- **Middle East**
  - 2012: 24.1%

### Source

World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) © (Data as collected by UNWTO August 2013)


See box at page Annex-1 for explanation of abbreviations and signs used.

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**Note:**

- The detailed information in the continuation of the UNWTO World Tourism Barometer and its Statistical Annex is not included in the complimentary excerpt of this document.
- The full document is available in electronic format for sale and free of charge for UNWTO members and subscribed institutions through the UNWTO elibrary at www.e-unwto.org/content/w83v37.
- For more information on the UNWTO World Tourism Barometer, please refer to the Facts & Figures section on the UNWTO website at www.unwto.org/facts.
- Copyright © 2013 World Tourism Organization.
The Chinese Outbound Travel Market and Understanding Chinese Outbound Tourism

China is the fastest-growing tourism source market in the world and the top international tourism spender since 2012. In view of the worldwide interest in this market, ETC and UNWTO have prepared two joint reports on this subject: 'The Chinese Outbound Travel Market – 2012 Update', which offers an overview of the features and rapid evolution of the Chinese outbound tourism market, and 'Understanding Chinese Outbound Tourism – What the Chinese Blogosphere is Saying about Europe', which analyses the trends, themes and behaviour of Chinese tourists based on the analysis of online social media and internet searches.

Available in English

The Indian Outbound Travel Market, The Russian Outbound Travel Market and The Middle East Outbound Travel Market

The Middle Eastern, Indian and Russian outbound travel markets are some of the fastest growing, and consequently increasingly important markets in the world. UNWTO and ETC have jointly published in-depth studies of each unique market, which aim to provide the necessary information to understand the structure and trends of these growing markets. Topics covered include: destination choice, purpose of travel, tourism expenditure, holiday activities and market segmentation, as well as the use of the internet and social media.

Available in English


The Compendium of Tourism Statistics provides data and indicators on inbound, outbound and domestic tourism, as well as on the number and types of tourism industries, the number of employees by tourism industries, and macroeconomic indicators related to international tourism. The 2012 edition presents data for 209 countries from 2007 to 2011, with methodological notes in English, French and Spanish.

Available in English

Demographic Change and Tourism

The UNWTO/ETC report on Demographic Change and Tourism aims to be a reference for destinations and the industry, a means to achieve a better understanding of current and future demographic changes (e.g. population growth and ageing, migration and family diversification) and how these will impact upon tourism, how to anticipate and react upon them in the most competitive way.

Available in English

The easy way to obtain UNWTO publications in print or electronic format and download full catalogue: www.unwto.org/pub