# 2023 INTERNATIONAL MARKET UPDATE MALAYSIA

# MARKET OVERVIEW

FLEURIEU PENINSULA

Results based on year ending June 2023

- Malaysia is South Australia's tenth largest inbound market and is currently 35% down on pre-Covid visitation levels, and 37% down on expenditure levels.
- Key demand-driving experiences include food and wine, nature and wildlife and the range of distinctive landscapes on Adelaide's doorstep such as the Barossa, Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu Peninsula.
- Malaysians usually visit one or maximum two states on each visit to Australia.
- Malaysians have limited time to travel, preferring to take a series of short trips rather than one long holiday per year.
- 98% of Malaysian visitors to South Australia have been to Australia before.

# SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT STATISTICS

Results based on year ending June 2023

Åb 10k

VISITORS

EXPENDITURE



AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY



"A high average due to education visitors.

NIGHTS



AVERAGE SPEND



**\$142** per Night **\$3,869**<sup>#</sup> per Visitor

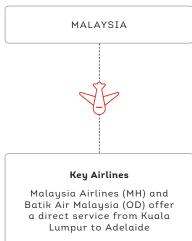
INTERNATIONAL RANKING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**#10** FOR VISITORS

**#8** FOR NIGHTS

**#9** FOR EXPENDITURE

# AIR ACCESS



Multiple airlines offer connections via other Australian Airports

# FAST FACTS & FIGURES

Annual average of 2017-2019 figures

Expenditure					\$55M	
ALOS <sup>^</sup> - Nights (AUS)	8	19	9	84	23	
ALOS <sup>^</sup> - Nights (SA)	9	18	8	104	28	
Nights (AUS)	1,747	2,477	226	3,705	8,155	
Nights (SA)	44	126	8	207	385	(s)
Visits (AUS)	208	133	24	44	351	(000)s)
Visits (SA)	5	7	1	2	14	
MALAYSIA	HOLIDAY	VFR^	BUSINESS	OTHER	TOTAL	

^ ALOS = Average Length Of Stay. VFR = Visiting Friends and Relatives.

## VISITOR ACCOMMODATION TYPE & TRAVEL PARTY DESCRIPTIONS

Annual average of 2017-2019 figures - current year samples not yet sizeable enough

# VISITOR DISPERSAL<sup>†</sup>

Annual average of 2017-2019 figures - current year samples not yet sizeable enough



1%

20%

46%

#### Travel party description (to SA)

- Unaccompanied
- Adult couple
- Family group
- Friends/relatives travelling together
- Business

### **IMPORTANCE FACTORS**

Data from Consumer Demand Project (CDP) report - August 2023



# 60%

**Safety and security** VS. **53%** GLOBAL AGGREGATE



# 44%

Value for money VS. 37% GLOBAL AGGREGATE



# 40%

World-class beauty and nature VS. 40% GLOBAL AGGREGATE



# 35%

Clean cities VS. 25% GLOBAL AGGREGATE



# 33%

Good food and wine VS. 37% GLOBAL AGGREGATE

GLOBAL AGGREGATE: This is from the Consumer Demand Project research conducted quarterly by Tourism Australia in 12 key international markets for Australia. Global aggregate refers to the average across all these markets.

# TARGET MARKET PROFILE



Professionals who travel as a couple or with family/friends, well-travelled, seeking unique and bespoke experiences most having been to Australia previously.



# MARKET INSIGHTS

- Malaysian travellers are price-conscious, digitally sophisticated and very comfortable actively searching for deals and better perceived value for money.
- South Australia generally attracts couples and families residing in the Klang Valley (Kuala Lumpur), Penang and Johor Bahru.
- Working with trade partners remains important in the market to ensure that trade have the knowledge required to sell South Australia confidently.
- The SATC continues to build on strong relationships with key trade partners, media, and airlines to reach consumers directly to ensure that destination awareness continues to be raised for South Australia.
- The Australian visa application for Malaysians is more stringent in comparison to others such as Singapore. This plays an important part in their decision-making process when selecting a holiday destination.
- Australia has a high appeal for incentive groups in Malaysia with 86% likelihood of planning an incentive trip to Australia in the next 12-24 months.
- Halal meals (alcohol and pork-free) and prayer facilities are essential considerations for the Muslim travellers which is a sector of growing importance from Malaysia. It is important to be aware of cultural and religious sensitivities when promoting your experience to this market.



#### **INFORMATION SOURCES**

Annual average of 2017-2019 figures - current year samples not yet sizeable enough



#### **TOP 3 BARRIERS TO** VISITING AUSTRALIA

Data from Consumer Demand Project (CDP) report - August 2023



High cost of travelling around



High cost of living expenses



**Expensive** airfares

## **CONTRACTING & BROCHURE TIMES**

The key contracting period runs from April to June with validity from 1 October to 30 September

## MALAYSIA CHECKLIST

Consider the following points when targeting travellers from Malaysia:

- Be easy to book online by ensuring you have a  $(\bullet)$ seamless booking platform and informative, up to date website.
- $(\bullet)$ Connect with major OTAs in-market to ensure that your product/experiences are showcased to their audiences.
- Build relationships with trade partners by  $(\bullet)$ attending various trade events, ensure that you keep them across any changes to your product and be responsive to their enquiries and questions.
- Showcase the immersive experiences you offer  $(\bullet)$ highlighting the unique and authentic aspects of your offering with rich imagery and video assets.

### **KEY TRADE PARTNERS**

#### Key Agents

- Apple Vacation
- Corporate Information Travel (CIT)
- Forever Travel (Penang)
- Sedunia Travel
- Holiday Tours
- Airlink Travel

#### Inbound Representative Company in Australia

Business is highly competitive and travel agents do not contact a single inbound operator, rather request quotations for each tour and confirm the booking with the inbound tour operator that provides the cheapest quotation for that particular tour.

Active inbound companies include:

- Xceptional Tours Australia
  - Holiday Services Down Under
  - H2Oz
  - Valentino

#### TOP ONLINE TRAVEL AGENTS





## **TOP TRAVEL RESOURCES**







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Source: International Visitor Survey Dec 17, Dec 18, Dec 19 and June 23 conducted by Tourism Research Australia, Consumer Demand Project (CDP) Aug 23. Unless otherwise stated, all data refers to the Annual Average results for the 3 years from Dec 2017 to Dec 2019. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding. VFR = Visiting Friends and Relatives. ALOS = Average Length of Stay (Nights).

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