

2024 INTERNATIONAL MARKET UPDATE INDIA

MARKET OVERVIEW

Results based on year ending June 2024

- India is South Australia's fifth largest inbound market with visitor expenditure up by 93% and visitation up by 7% compared to pre-Covid.
- Currently 65% of all Indian visitors to South Australia are here on a Visiting Friends and Relatives (VFR) purpose trip, making it the most dominant purpose of visitation.
- The Indian holiday travel market is still only small but growing quickly.
- Long stays with a few stopovers characterise an average India VFR trip to Australia.
- Key demand driving experiences include nature and wildlife, shopping, coastal and aquatic, food and wine.
- Australia is considered a 'highly aspirational' destination with natural landscapes and wildlife, with a wide range of experiences appealing to families and couples.
- As cricket is the most popular sport in India, Indians have a strong awareness of Adelaide Oval, which provides a basic reference point.
- 65% of Indian visitors to South Australia have been to Australia before.

SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT STATISTICS

Results based on year ending June 2024

VISITORS



NIGHTS



EXPENDITURE



AVERAGE SPEND



AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY

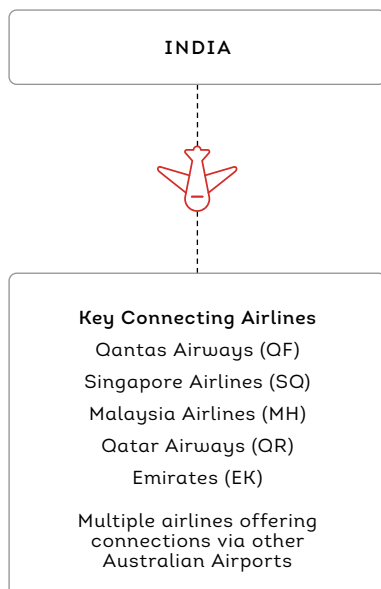


INTERNATIONAL RANKING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

#5 FOR VISITORS
#2 FOR NIGHTS
#2 FOR EXPENDITURE

[#]A high average due to VFR.

AIR ACCESS



FAST FACTS & FIGURES

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

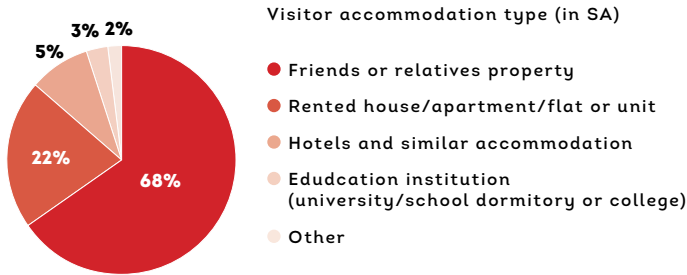
INDIA	HOLIDAY	VFR	BUSINESS	OTHER	TOTAL
Visits (SA)	4	11	1	2	18
Visits (AUS)	101	195	44	58	332
Nights (SA)	24	447	29	177	677
Nights (AUS)	1,015	10,735	998	6,520	19,268
ALOS - Nights (SA)	6	41	29	89	38
ALOS - Nights (AUS)	10	55	23	112	58

Expenditure **\$41M**

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

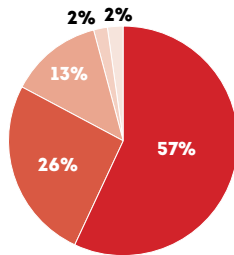
VISITOR ACCOMMODATION TYPE & TRAVEL PARTY DESCRIPTIONS

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



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



44%

Safety and security
VS. 53% GLOBAL AGGREGATE



40%

World class beauty and nature
VS. 40% GLOBAL AGGREGATE



30%

Value for money
VS. 37% GLOBAL AGGREGATE



30%

Family friendly
VS. 26% GLOBAL AGGREGATE



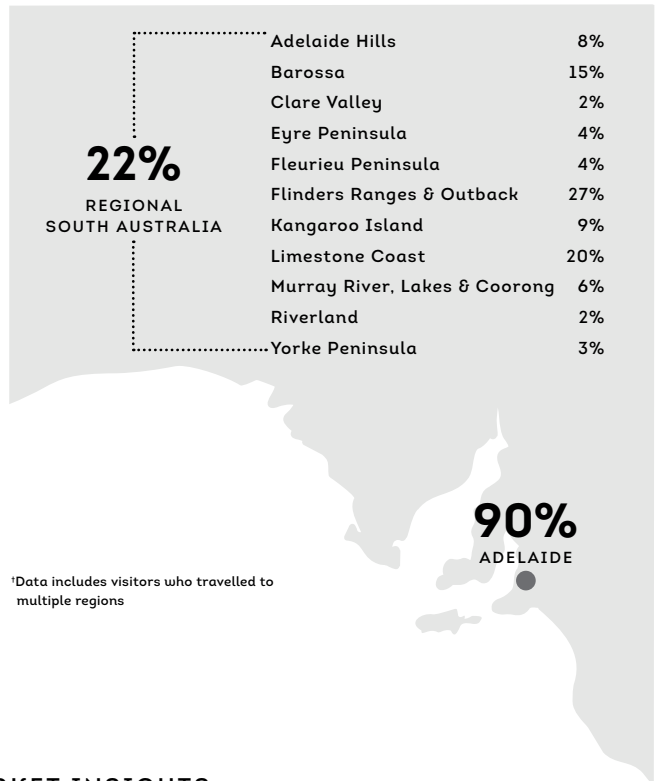
28%

World-class aquatic and coastal
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.

VISITOR DISPERSAL[†]

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



MARKET INSIGHTS

- Indians living in Australia are highly influential, and their impact on itinerary planning should not be underestimated.
- Indian travellers can be value conscious. Some examples of value add options are discounts on products, such as: kids stay/eat free, family packages, bundling attractions together, complimentary upgrades, food included in the cost, stay 3 nights pay 2 nights, offering room discounts across multiple cities etc.
- Developing relationships with key trade at events such as the Australian Tourism Exchange (ATE), Tourism Australia's Marketplace, G'Day Australia and other trade events and missions is critical for business success. Invest the time and be remembered.
- It is likely within a group of Indians there will be a variety of dietary requests. Many Indians are vegetarian and there are many different types of vegetarianism common in India. Halal is another dietary requirement among some Indian travellers to be mindful of.
- Indians often prefer to eat late dinners. Hot meals are always preferred.
- India has many festivals throughout the year and recognising an important religious festival will be appreciated by travellers.
- Provide clear and visible information on the location and opening/closing hours of nearby key shopping areas. This includes the locations of discount/outlet shops and centres if nearby.
- Most travellers from India are now granted a three year visa, which allows multiple entries. This creates an excellent opportunity to capture repeat visitation and wider dispersal.

TARGET MARKET PROFILE



South Australia targets the 'high value traveller' including families and honeymooners in the affluent middle class from key cities including Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore.

BOOKING PREFERENCES

Data from Consumer Demand Project (CDP) report - March 2024



59%

Online Travel Agent
(e.g. Expedia)



37%

Retail Travel Agent/
Tour Operator



35%

Direct with
Airline



27%

Direct with
Accommodation



12%

Direct with
Experienced Provider



1%

Other

TOP 3 BARRIERS TO VISITING AUSTRALIA

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



High cost of travelling around



Other places I would prefer to go



Expensive airfares

INDIA CHECKLIST

Consider the following points when targeting travellers from India:

- ✓ **As a strong VFR market**, the local Indian community can have a huge influence on the travel plans of their visitors. Targeting this market first could provide an efficient entry point into the market.
- ✓ If food is part of your offering, note that many Indians are vegetarian and even non-vegetarians will often only eat some meats. They prefer hot meals and generally eat late. **Checking (and double checking) dietary requests and preferences** is strongly recommended.
- ✓ **The Inbound Tour Operators who service the market are a critical link** in the chain and collectively service thousands of agents across India. Engaging them as a first step is important to target the holiday segment.
- ✓ Indian visitors rarely visit one state and they're likely to be **combining South Australia with at least one or two more states**. They are limited on time so make it clear why they must include your product in their itinerary. Be uniquely South Australian.
- ✓ **Be prepared for buyers to want to negotiate on the rate**. This is a normal course of doing business in the market.

KEY TRADE PARTNERS

INBOUND TOUR OPERATORS

The Inbound Tour Operators who service the market highly influence product selection. They often have offices both in Australia and India and service the trade right across the market. Any operators interested in the market should be engaging with the inbound Tour Operators as a first step. Below is a list of some of the key ones but this grows and changes regularly.

- Australia & Beyond Holidays
- AOT Inbound
- Australia & Worldwide Travels
- ATM
- Pacific Vacations Australia
- Travel Maestro Inbound
- Turtle Down Under
- Xplore Australia

IN-MARKET KEY DISTRIBUTION PARTNERS

As defined by Tourism Australia, the Key Distribution Partners are as per below. Whilst this is a useful reference point, it is important to note that the Indian travel trade is characterised by hundreds of small agents - too many to name in this document - each who have the ability to send small numbers to Australia. It is these smaller agents who may have more appetite to put forward itineraries to Australia that go beyond the East Coast cities.

- Flamingo Travels
- Kesari Tours
- Kulin Kumar Holidays
- Makemytrip.com
- Pickyourtrail.com
- SOTC
- Thomas Cook India Ltd
- Veena World

ONLINE TRAVEL AGENTS



*Currently small but growing market presence

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Disclaimer: Source: International Visitor Survey Dec 2017, Dec 2018, Dec 2019, and June 2024 conducted by Tourism Research Australia, Consumer Demand Project (CDP) Aug 2023 and 2024. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding. VFR = Visiting Friends and Relatives. ALOS = Average Length of Stay (Nights).

Disclaimer: This summary has been prepared by the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) in good faith. While every care has been taken in preparing the information, the SATC does not represent or warrant that it is correct, complete, or suitable for the purposes for which you wish to use it. By using this information, you acknowledge that it is provided by SATC without any responsibility on behalf of the SATC and agree to release and indemnify the SATC for any loss or damage that you or any third party may suffer as a result of your reliance on this information. Produced by the South Australian Tourism Commission September 2024.