

Tourism - 1985

Tourist arrivals

The number of tourist arrivals in 1985 reached 149,500 representing an increase of about 7% over the total of 139,700 for 1984. However this rate of increase is much below the 13% increase noted between 1983 and 1984, in spite of the presence of about 3,500 additional visitors who came to Mauritius in connexion with the Second Indian Ocean Games in August 1985. Table II shows that one of the main reasons for the reduced rate of increase is the 14% decrease in the number of tourist arrivals from the Republic of South Africa : in fact the number fell from 31,560 in 1984 to 27,180 in 1985. However, the Republic of South Africa continues to be the second most important short-haul market for Mauritius - the first being, as usual, Reunion Island.

In general the number of tourist arrivals from the traditional suppliers for Mauritius has been on the increase : thus Australia, the federal republic of Germany, the United Kingdom and Switzerland each showed an increase of 53%, 18%, 24% and 13% respectively. Although the number of tourist arrivals from France has undergone only a relatively moderate increase of 9%, that country continues to be the most important long-haul market for Mauritius.

Tourist nights

The number of tourist nights increased by about 16% from 1.54 million in 1984 to 1.79 million in 1985. The average length of stay for a tourist in Mauritius in 1985 is estimated at 12 nights as compared to 11 nights in 1984.

Occupancy rates

The room occupancy rates for large hotels has fallen down from 71% in 1984 to 68% in 1985. The corresponding fall in bed occupancy rate was from 60% to 57%. The reasons for these declines are (i) a reduction in the number of tourist arrivals from the Republic of South Africa and (ii) an increase in the number of rooms available from 1,290 in 1984 to 1,344 in 1985. Furthermore many of the visitors who came in connexion with the Second Indian Ocean games stayed in small hotels, boarding houses and private bungalows.

Tourist earnings

It is estimated that tourist earnings amounted to 840 million rupees in 1985 as compared to 630 million rupees in 1984. The average amount spent by a tourist is therefore estimated at 5,620 rupees against 4,510 rupees in 1984, representing an increase of about 25%.

Central Statistical Office
Rose Hill

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Table 1 - Selected Tourism Statistics, 1981 - 1985

Year	Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (Million)	Tourist earnings (Rs Mn)
1981	121,620	1.36	421
1982	118,360	1.39	450
1983	123,820	1.41	503
1984	139,670	1.54	630
1984 : 1st Qr.	36,160	0.399	176.7
2nd Qr.	29,750	0.328	145.4
3rd Qr.	35,060	0.387	134.6
4th Qr.	38,700	0.426	173.3
1985 : 1st Qr.	36,650	0.439	222.1
2nd Qr.	31,330	0.375	187.9
3rd Qr.	38,760	0.464*	197.5*
4th Qr.	42,720	0.512*	232.5*
T O T A L	149,460	1.790*	840.0*

* provisional

Table II - Distribution of tourist arrivals by country of residence, 1983 - 1985

Country of residence	N U M B E R											
	1983	1984				Year	1985				Year*	
		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.*		
France	22,050	6,840	4,260	6,400	7,960	25,460	6,880	5,570	6,440	8,870	27,760	
Germany, Fed. Rep.	6,960	2,010	1,740	1,490	2,650	7,890	2,850	1,860	1,510	3,120	9,340	
Italy	5,520	2,340	950	1,240	1,640	6,170	2,400	1,030	1,340	1,930	6,700	
Switzerland	2,570	1,630	940	920	1,950	5,440	1,670	1,040	1,150	2,320	6,180	
United Kingdom	5,860	1,470	1,040	1,270	1,980	5,760	1,420	1,340	1,780	2,630	7,170	
Malagasy Republic	8,110	1,660	1,840	2,120	2,160	7,780	1,460	1,380	2,120	1,690	6,650	
Réunion Island	30,180	8,510	7,360	9,790	6,640	32,300	8,390	7,570	11,710	8,270	35,940	
Seychelles	560	80	50	90	120	340	90	130	370	210	800	
Kenya	690	150	200	80	270	700	180	170	170	350	870	
South Africa, Rep. of	27,210	7,850	7,310	7,520	8,880	31,560	7,100	5,890	6,380	7,810	27,180	
Zambia	720	180	170	140	190	680	60	200	110	130	500	
Zimbabwe	1,730	390	560	480	370	1,800	400	510	570	450	1,930	
Australia	1,680	210	300	610	460	1,580	280	580	800	760	2,420	
India	1,710	340	630	650	920	2,540	600	980	800	620	3,000	
U.S.A.	1,020	330	230	230	340	1,130	330	390	260	460	1,440	
Other countries	7,250	2,170	2,170	2,030	2,170	8,540	2,540	2,690	3,250	3,100	11,580	
All countries	123,820	36,160	29,750	35,060	38,700	139,670	36,650	31,330	38,760	42,720	149,460	

* provisional

Table III - Tourist arrivals by month, 1983 - 1985

M O N T H	N U M B E R		
	1 9 8 3	1 9 8 4	1 9 8 5
January	13,130	14,180	14,250
February	9,190	10,850	10,620
March	9,780	11,130	11,780
1st Quarter	<u>32,100</u>	<u>36,160</u>	<u>36,650</u>
April	8,570	11,080	11,480
May	9,550	11,080	11,470
June	6,370	7,590	8,380
2nd Quarter	<u>24,490</u>	<u>29,750</u>	<u>31,330</u>
1st Semester	<u><u>56,590</u></u>	<u><u>65,910</u></u>	<u><u>67,980</u></u>
July	9,790	10,430	9,840
August	12,970	13,650	17,410
September	10,070	10,980	11,510
3rd Quarter	<u>32,830</u>	<u>35,060</u>	<u>38,760</u>
October	10,020	11,360	11,720
November	10,450	12,420	13,700
December	13,930	14,920	17,300
4th Quarter	<u>34,400</u>	<u>38,700</u>	<u>42,720</u>
2nd Semester	<u><u>67,230</u></u>	<u><u>73,760</u></u>	<u><u>81,480</u></u>
Whole Year	123,820	139,670	149,460

Table IV - Monthly room occupancy rates in large hotels, 1983 - 1985

M O N T H	P E R C E N T A G E		
	1 9 8 3	1 9 8 4	1 9 8 5
January	67.9	79.3	79.4
February	69.5	80.9	80.6
March	66.3	78.0	75.6
1st Quarter	<u>67.3</u>	<u>79.4</u>	<u>78.4</u>
April	57.5	74.0	69.8
May	50.4	69.2	61.1
June	44.9	51.9	46.0
2nd Quarter	<u>51.0</u>	<u>65.1</u>	<u>59.0</u>
July	49.8	56.1	51.8
August	57.7	65.7	64.7
September	60.9	65.9	61.9
3rd Quarter	<u>56.1</u>	<u>62.4</u>	<u>59.4</u>
October	66.8	73.9	69.5
November	82.3	81.5	83.2
December	73.2	72.3	73.4
4th Quarter	<u>74.0</u>	<u>75.8</u>	<u>75.2</u>
Whole Year	<u>62.3</u>	<u>70.7</u>	<u>68.0</u>

Table V - Monthly bed occupancy rates in large hotels, 1983 - 1985

M O N T H	P E R C E N T A G E		
	1 9 8 3	1 9 8 4	1 9 8 5
January	57.2	69.9	68.7
February	56.1	68.5	68.5
March	54.2	64.4	61.9
1st Quarter	<u>55.8</u>	<u>67.6</u>	<u>66.3</u>
April	48.8	64.6	59.2
May	40.1	57.3	50.1
June	35.0	41.8	36.3
2nd Quarter	<u>41.4</u>	<u>54.7</u>	<u>48.5</u>
July	40.5	47.4	42.7
August	47.5	56.6	55.9
September	49.9	55.9	51.3
3rd Quarter	<u>45.9</u>	<u>53.2</u>	<u>49.9</u>
October	57.0	62.1	58.3
November	66.3	67.9	68.9
December	63.7	62.8	65.9
4th Quarter	<u>62.3</u>	<u>64.3</u>	<u>64.3</u>
Whole Year	<u><u>51.4</u></u>	<u><u>60.0</u></u>	<u><u>57.2</u></u>