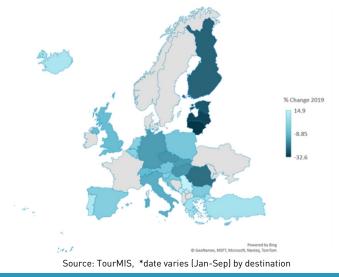
# **European Tourism:** Trends & Prospects - Q3/2023

### EUROPEAN TOURISM DISPLAYED ENCOURAGING RESILIENCE THIS SUMMER ALTHOUGH RECOVERY HAS BEEN UNEVEN ACROSS DESTINATIONS.

- Amid climate-related challenges and economic risks, European tourism is gradually rebounding, expected to reach 91% of pre-pandemic levels by the end of 2023.
- European airports near full passenger traffic recovery, with only a -3.4% decline in August 2019, but disruptions such as strikes remain a concern.
- The Israel-Palestine conflict poses a risk during shoulder and off-peak seasons, especially for popular destinations for some of these tourists, like France and Turkey.

European travel demand is down only 3.2% compared to 2019 levels, with intra-European and US travel flows driving this resilient performance.





Iceland



-33% Serbia +15% Lithuania

-30% Montenegro +14% Latvia

Portugal +11% Estonia -27%

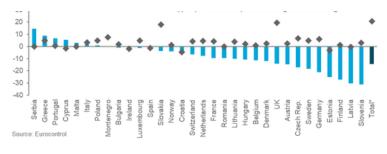
+9%

Romania Türkiye +8% -22%

# **Industry Performance**

- Following an improvement in Q2, the recovery in European RPKs has gone back on itself, with the latest data at 10.1% below 2019 levels and on par with what it was at the start of this year.
- At a country level, there are slightly fewer countries seeing flight volumes above 2019 levels, with Serbia now leading the recovery in flights volumes ahead of Greece.

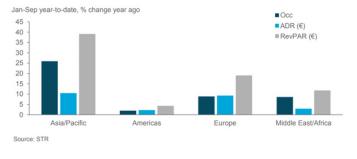
## European air traffic by country, total flights arriving and departing



Passenger load factor has continued to improve overall throughout the year so far, with the global load factor 1% above 2019 levels in the second quarter of this year, with a further improvement in August.

- RevPAR growth across Europe continues to moderate relative to the same period in 2022, although still in double-digit territory (19%).
- The recovery across all metrics in APAC is still considerably behind other regions such as the Americas and Europe, which can help to explain the stronger relative growth rates.

# **Global Hotel Performance**



Regarding short-term rentals, variations over European reservations were up by +48% since Q3 2022, averaging 137% this quarter. Great Britain (+57%), Italy (+48%), Spain (+32%) and France (+27%) all noted growth in reservations.

# Special Focus:

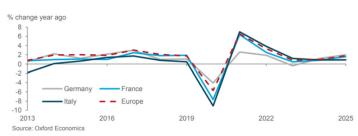


-24%

Finland

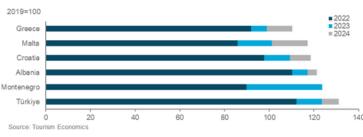
- The economic outlook across Europe appears subdued, with 0.5% GDP growth expected for this year and projected growth of 0.9% in 2024.
- The price of holidays was a top concern for cost-conscious travellers this year, who employed cost-saving tactics like shoulder-season travel, package holidays, and advanced bookings.

### Economic performance in key eurozone economies, real GDP



- Luxury travel grew as well, led by high-net-worth individuals with a preference for boutique hotels and exclusive experiences.
- Favourable exchange rates have influenced travel choices, with Transatlantic travel into Europe, and particularly Türkiye, benefiting from strong currency advantages.

# Overnights for selected destinations



- New Mediterranean travel destinations like Türkiye, Montenegro, Albania, and Croatia have emerged as competitors to traditional Western European destinations, offering lower prices.
- Younger individuals are prioritising travel over other expenses and savings due to the unfavourable economic environment and limited travel opportunities during the pandemic, but also multi-generational holidays are becoming more common.

# The US continues to dominate as Europe's leading outbound market



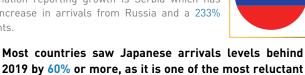
Canada has almost an equal split between countries reporting growth and those reporting shortfalls compared to 2019

Türkiye (+59%) had the greatest increase in arrivals, while countries in Central Europe were the weakest performing Almost every destination has continued to report

# steep declines from Russian travellers relative to The sole destination reporting growth is Serbia which has

seen a 159% increase in arrivals from Russia and a 233% increase in nights.





to travel overseas. Serbia breaks the decline pattern, with a recorded growth in overniahts of +55%

Türkiye continued to be a popular destination for Australians, with arrivals up 54% on 2019 levels. Spain (+44%), Cyprus (+30%) and Portugal (+23%) all saw

strong growth, while Estonia and Lithuania (both -52%) recorded the sharpest declines.





### Chinese arrivals are still significantly down at -70% compared to 2019

The Czech Republic (-87%), Austria (-85%) and Estonia (-82%) are the destinations with the steepest shortfalls in Chinese tourist arrivals when compared to 2019.

destination, experiencing a 115% increase in US arrivals.

For Americans, Türkiye stood out as the strongest





2019 levels.

Serbia (+155%) and Montenegro (+94%) saw very strong increases from India. Portugal (+19%) and Türkiye(+17%) saw more moderate

increases. Most of the reporting destinations recorded lower lewels of Indian tourism than in 2019

The nights recovery continues to outshine growth in arrivals from Brazil. Serbia (+21%) and Montenegro (+45%) were the strongest





performers in overnights and arrivals respectively.