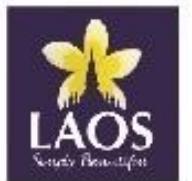
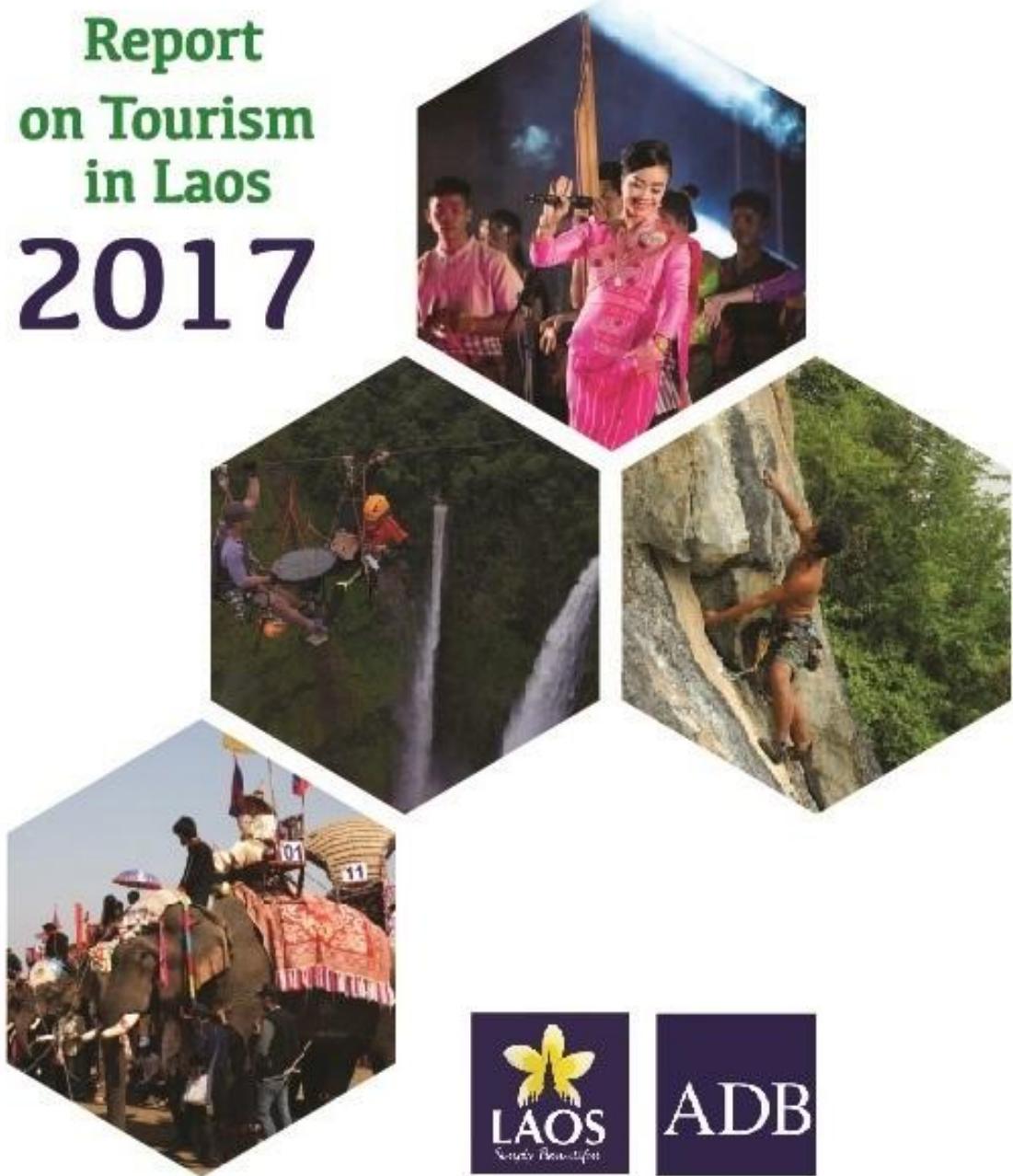


# Statistical

Report  
on Tourism  
in Laos  
**2017**



Ministry Of Information, Culture and Tourism  
Tourism Development Department  
Tourism Research Division

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Tourism Development Department (TDD), Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism publishes annually tourism statistics relating to tourist arrivals, foreign exchange earnings from tourism, tourist expenditures, the average length of stay of tourists in Laos as well as tourist profiles, accommodation establishments and occupancy rates. The purpose of this Statistical Report on Tourism is to provide the public with clear information on a rapidly expanding sector of the Lao economy.

The Tourism Development Department (TDD) would like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude to the following agencies: Provincial Tourism Division of Departments of Information, Culture and Tourism, the Lao Immigration Department, Wattay International Airport Authority, Lao travel agents and hotels for their cooperation as well as their valuable assistance in the processing of statistical data and conducting statistical surveys.

On behalf of the tourism sector, I hope that the 2017 Statistical Report on Tourism in Lao PDR will be useful and beneficial to all of you.



**Dr. Aloun BOUNMIXAY**  
Director General  
Tourism Development Department

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## Background Information

This section includes background information on the statistical data contained in this report and on how they were obtained.

### Categories of Foreign Visitors

Foreign visitors to Laos are grouped into two categories: **international tourists** and **regional tourists**.

**International tourists** are those tourists who enter Laos with a valid passport and visa obtained from a Lao embassy or consulate abroad, or a visa obtained on arrival at an international border checkpoint.

**Regional tourists** are tourists from neighboring countries such as: Thailand, China, Myanmar, Vietnam and Cambodia, which share borders with Laos. They enter Laos with valid border passes or passports. Although some of them are called "day trippers," they may make overnight stays.

From 1991 to 2002, there was a type of tourists called **Tourists for visa extension**. They are temporary workers in Thailand who cross over the border into Laos in order to extend their three-month visas before reentering Thailand. These tourists are mainly from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh. However, from 2003 this type of tourist has been reclassified as "international tourists".

### Data Collection

From 1990 to 1994, statistical data on **international tourists** were collected from embarkation/disembarkation cards of the immigration department and from documents received by the Lao National Tourism Administration (LNTA) from local travel companies. These documents contain the following information:

Name of Travel Company

Name of tourist

Sex

Passport number

Nationality

Carrier

Duration of stay

Port of entry

Place of stay

Since 1995, data on **international tourists** have been collected only from embarkation/disembarkation cards of the immigration department.

- Data on **regional tourists** were collected from tabulations sent to the Tourism Development Department (TDD) by immigration officers at each border checkpoint.
- Data on tourist profiles, length of stay, and average expenditure per person per day were all calculated using statistical surveys conducted periodically through sampling survey methods.

## Entry Ports

### *By air:*

- Wattay International Airport** is the main entry point by air for international tourists; flights are available through Thai Airways, Lao Airlines, Vietnam Airlines, Air Asia, China Eastern Airlines and Bangkok Airways from Vientiane to Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Hanoi, Hochiminh, Kuala Lumpur, Kunming, Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Seoul, Singapore and Guangzhou.
- Luang Prabang International Airport** is now an international entry point, and regular flights are available from Luang Prabang to Vientiane, Chiang Mai, Bangkok, Hanoi, Jinghong, Chenedu, Siemreap, Singapore and Incheon.
- Savannakhet International Airport**, the only international flight on this route is from Savannakhet to Bangkok and vice-versa operated by Lao Airlines.
- Pakse International Airport** is stopover point from Vientiane to Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Hochiminh and Bangkok. Lao Airlines flies daily from Pakse to Bangkok via Savannakhet.
- In addition, there are several **provincial airports**, used only for domestic flights within the Lao PDR. (Luang Prabang, Oudomxay, Bokeo, Huaphanh, Xiengkhouang and Attapeu).

## **By land:**

### **From Thailand:**

- **Mittaphab (Friendship Bridge I)**, Vientiane Capital City, the major point of entry for regional and international tourists.
- **Thanaleng Railway Station**, Vientiane Capital City.
- **Houeixay (Friendship Bridge IV) and Golden Triangle**, Bokeo Province.
- **Pakxan**, Bolikhamxay Province.
- **Mittaphab (Friendship Bridge III)**, Khammouane Province.
- **Mittaphab (Friendship Bridge II)**, Savannakhet Province.
- **VangTao**, Champassack Province.
- **Nam Heuang Bridge, PhanhKeo and Nam Ngeun**, Xaiyabouli Province.

### **From China:**

- **Boten**, LuangNamtha Province.
- **Lantoui**, Phongsali Province.

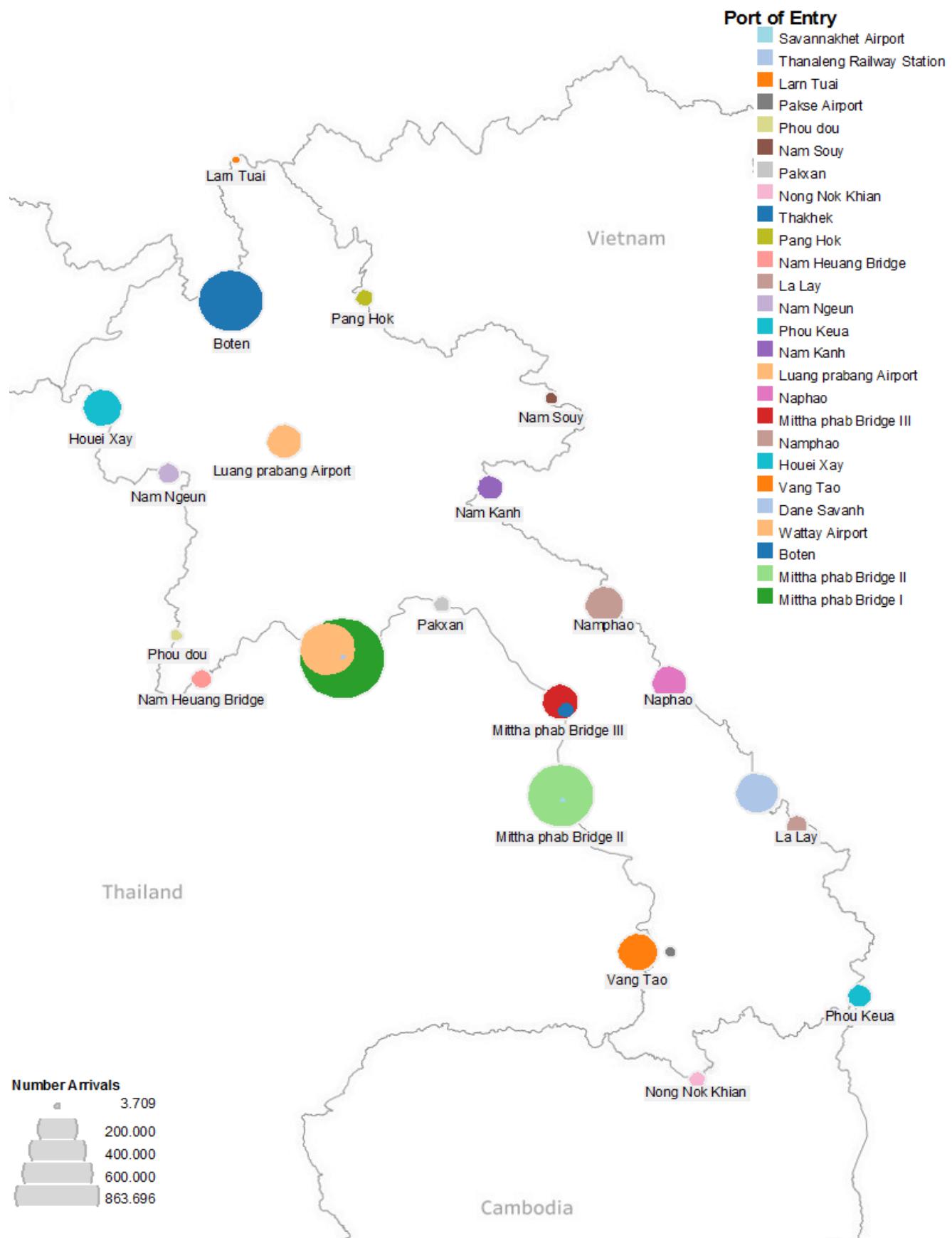
### **From Vietnam:**

- **Dane Savanh**, Savannakhet Province, the major point of entry for Vietnamese travelers.
- **Nam Kanh**, XiengKhouang Province (regional border checkpoint only).
- **Nam Phao**, Bolikhamxay Province.
- **Na Phao**, Khammouane Province.
- **NamSouy**, Huaphanh Province.
- **Pang Hok**, Phongsali Province.
- **Phoukeua**, Attapeu Province.
- **Lalai**, Saravanh Province.

### **From Cambodia:**

- **NongNokKhian**, Champassack Province.

## Laos International Border Check Points



## Part I: Tourist Arrival Statistics 2017

**Table 1: Number of Tourist Arrivals, Revenue from Tourism, And Average Length of Stay, 1990-2017**

Year	Number of Tourist Arrivals	(%) △	Average Length of Stay (Days) for International Tourists	Average Length of Stay (Days) for Regional Tourists	Average Length of Stay (Days) for the Total Tourist Arrivals	Revenue from Tourism (Dollars)
1990	14,400	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1991	37,613	161	NA	NA	NA	2,250,000
1992	87,571	133	NA	NA	NA	4,510,000
1993	102,946	18	3.5	NA	NA	6,280,000
1994	146,155	42	5.1	NA	NA	7,557,600
1995	346,460	137	4.3	NA	NA	24,738,480
1996	403,000	16	4.8	1.8	3.3	43,592,263
1997	463,200	15	5.0	3.0	4.0	73,276,904
1998	500,200	8	5.0	2.4	3.7	79,960,145
1999	614,278	23	5.5	2.4	4.0	97,265,324
2000	737,208	20	5.5	2.4	4.0	113,898,285
2001	673,823	-9	8.0	2.4	5.2	103,786,323
2002	735,662	9	6.5	2.1	4.3	113,409,883
2003	636,361	-14	6.0	2.0	4.0	87,302,412
2004	894,806	41	6.5	2.0	4.3	118,947,707
2005	1,095,315	22	7.0	2.0	4.5	146,770,074
2006	1,215,106	11	7.0	2.0	4.5	173,249,896
2007	1,623,943	34	7.0	2.0	4.5	233,304,695
2008	1,736,787	7	6.5	2.0	4.3	275,515,758
2009	2,008,363	16	7.0	2.0	4.5	267,700,224
2010	2,513,028	25	7.0	2.0	4.5	381,669,031
2011	2,723,564	8	7.0	2.0	4.5	406,184,338
2012	3,330,072	22	7.2	2.0	4.6	506,022,586
2013	3,779,490	13	8.4	2.0	5.2	595,909,127
2014	4,158,719	10	7.9	2.0	4.9	641,636,543
2015	4,684,429	13	7.5	2.0	4.75	725,365,681
2016	4,239,047	-10	7.57	2.0	4.78	724,191,957
2017	3,868,838	-8.73	8.39	2.0	5.2	648,067,008

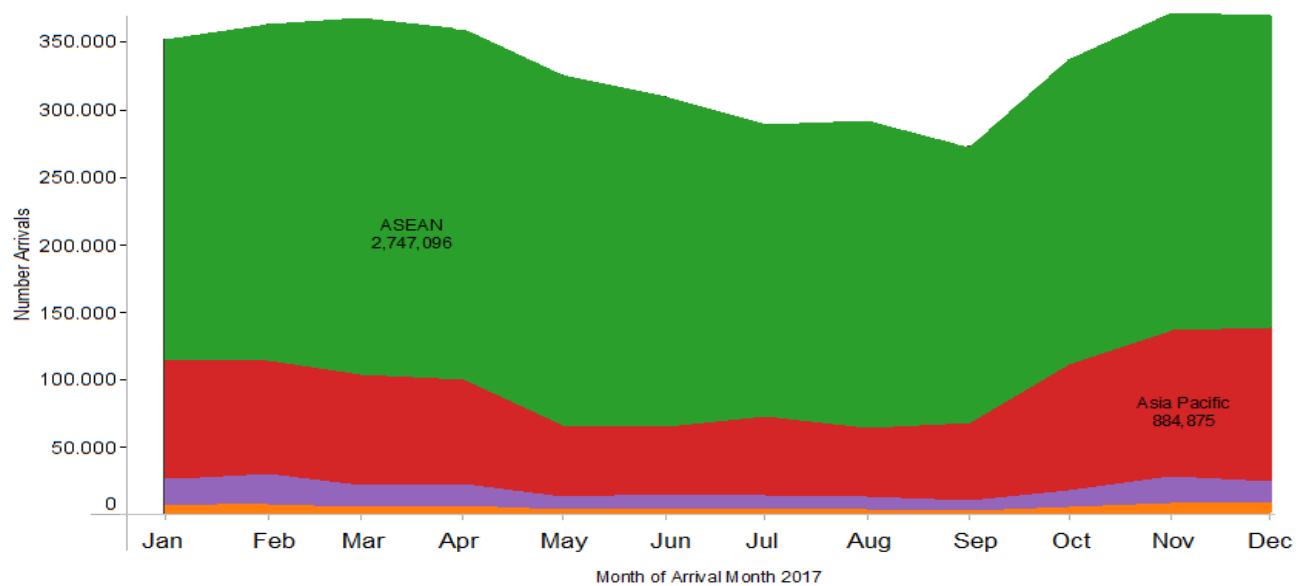
## Summary

Because of its strategic location (in the center of Indochina and South-East Asia), Lao PDR is considered to be a “add on destination”. Therefore, Lao tourism performances are likely influenced by several factors at regional level, they are worldwide tourism trends, the movement of tourists to the region climate change, political and economic circumstances, natural disasters, terrorist attacks, and other, the development of unique tourism products for Laos, tourists circuits living Laos with neighboring countries and increase in tourism cooperation with regional countries will be the essential factors to contribute to the success of Lao tourism.

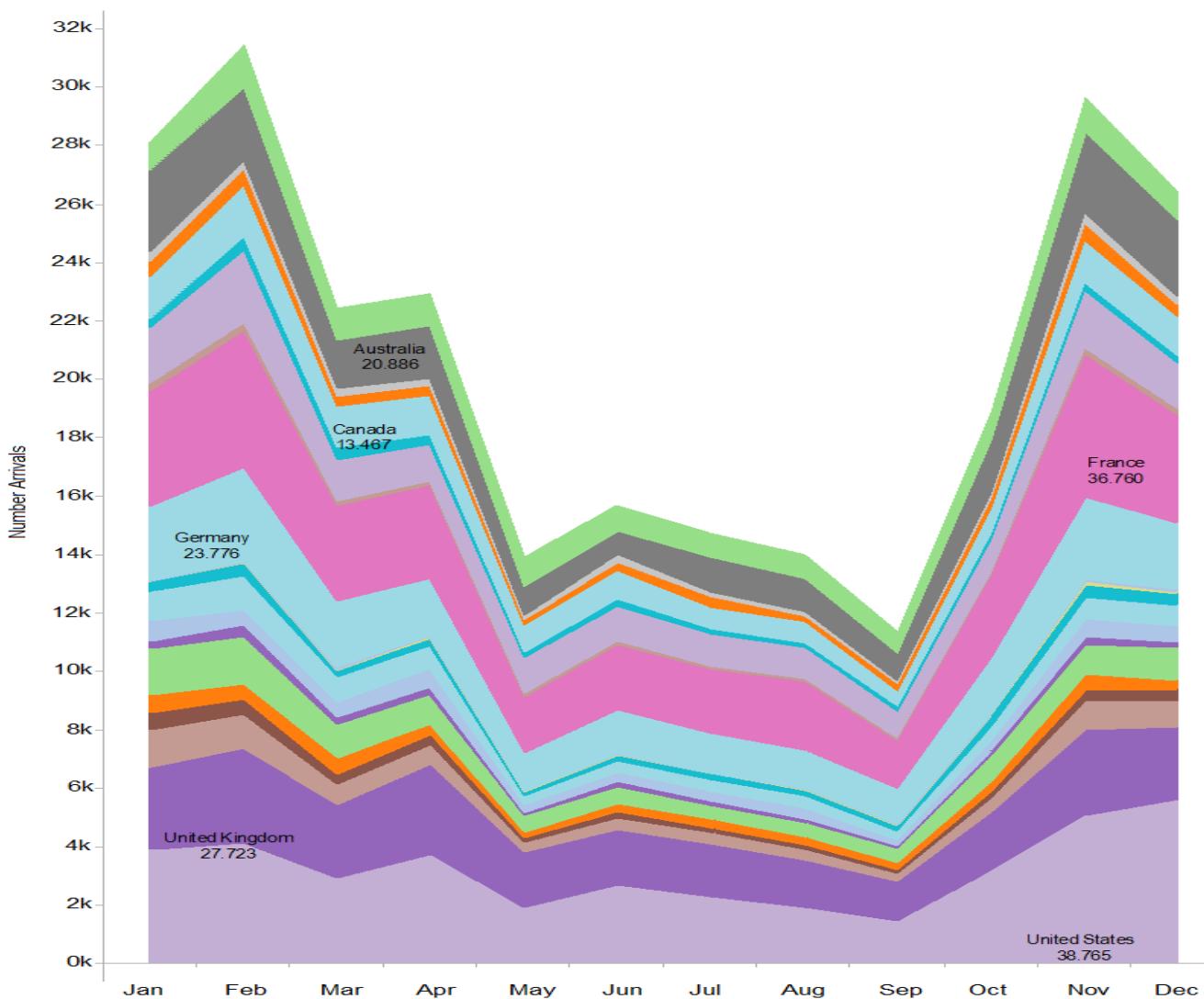
In addition, tourism is one of the eight priority programmes of the socio-economic development of the Lao government. Therefore, the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism has set up the National Tourism Strategy for the period 2016-2025, which is in line with the government policy.

In the period 1990 to 2016 the number of visitors increased every year. Since 2016 this trend has changed, with a drop of 9.6% in 2016 (4,215,285 visitors), and a further drop of 8.6% in 2017 (3,851,849). Only China showed an increased number of visitors to Laos in 2017.

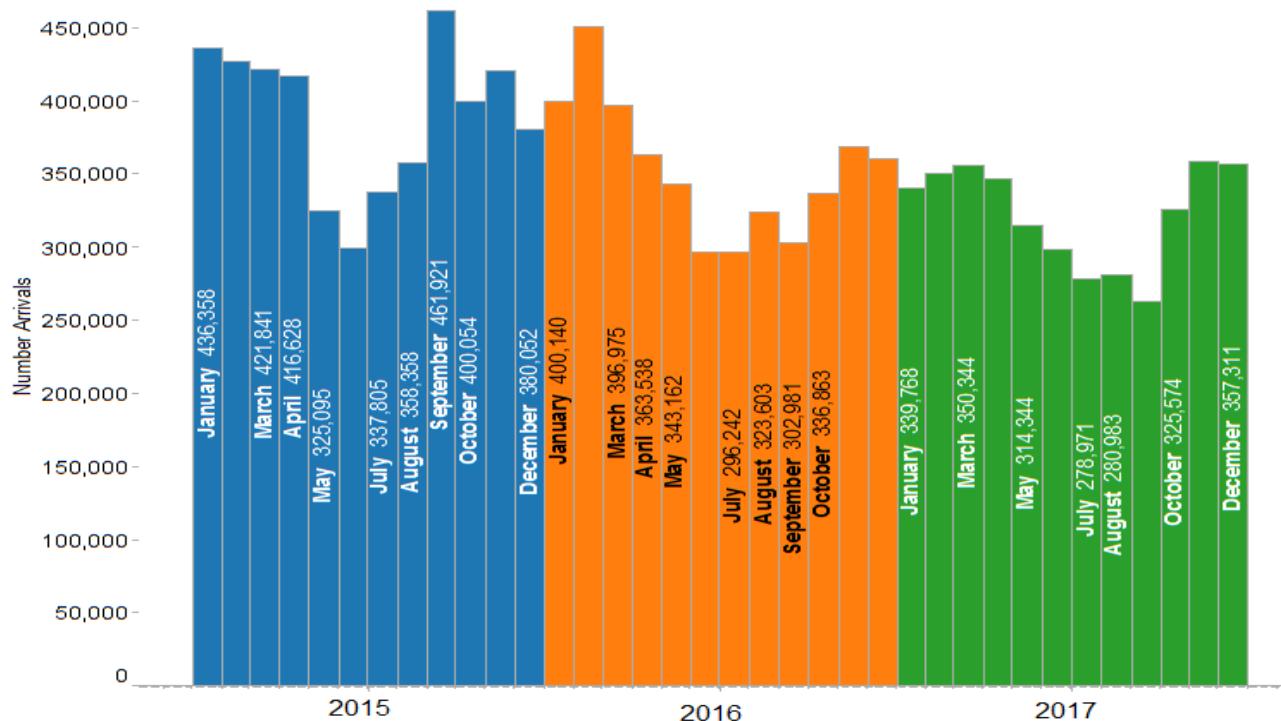
### Graph 1: Region Visitor Arrivals by Month



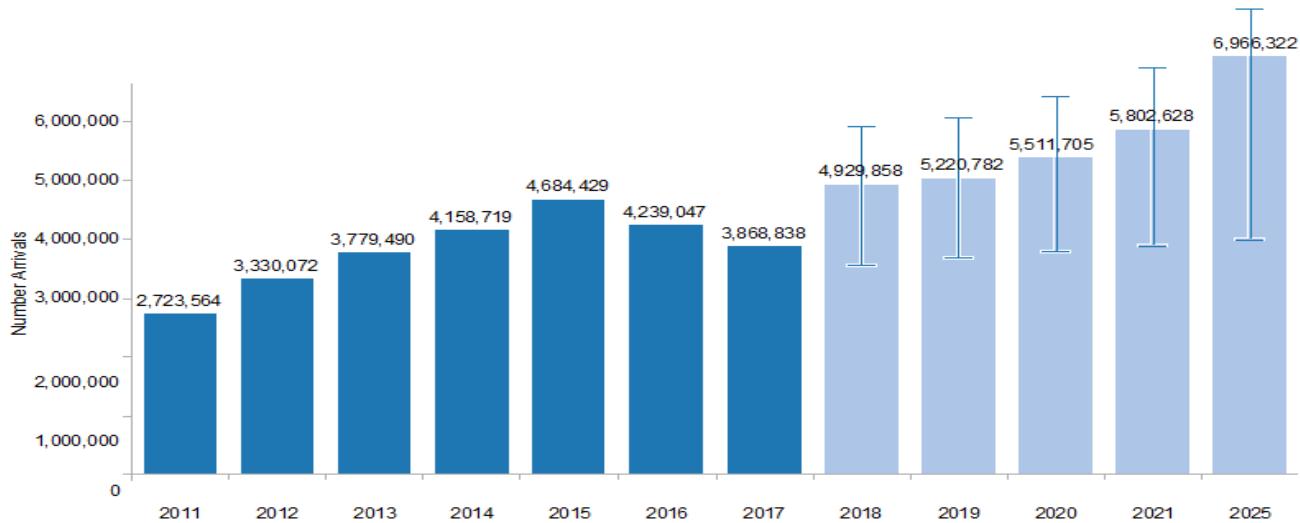
### Graph 2: Visitor Arrivals by Month



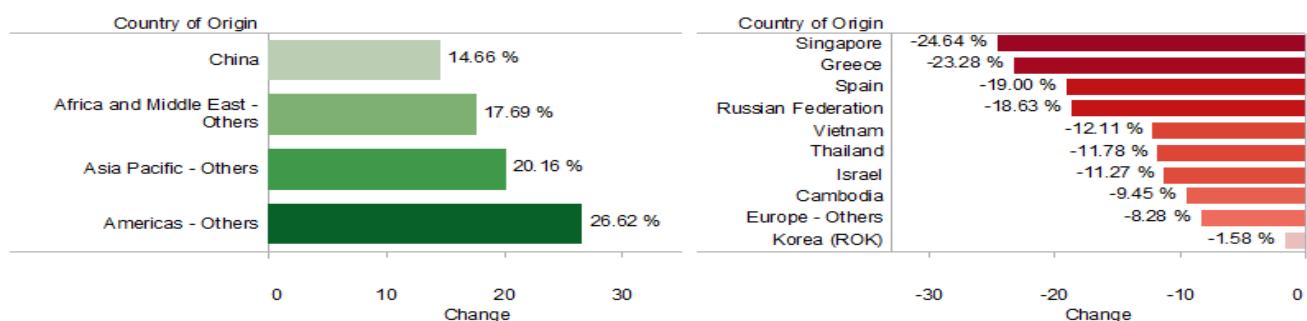
### Graph 3: Seasonality 3 Years



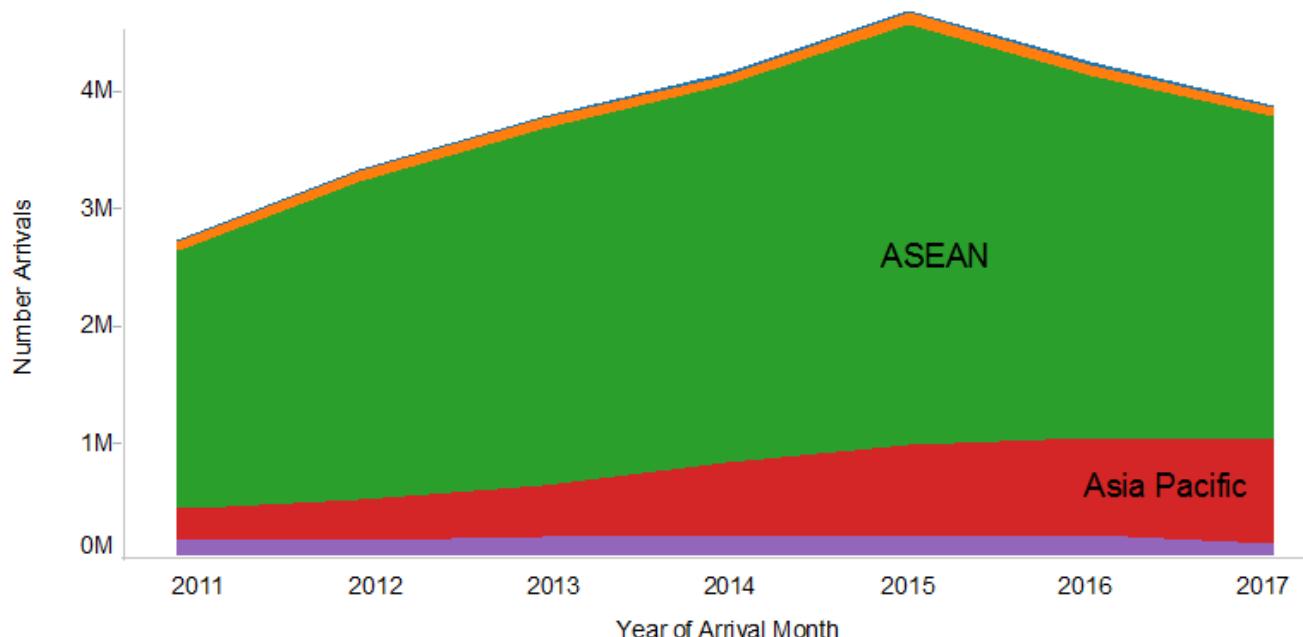
### Graph 4: Annual Growth in Visitor with Projection



Greatest % Increase in visitors from 2016 to 2017      Greatest % Fall in visitors from 2016 to 2017



### Graph 5: Visitor Arrivals by Regions



### Visitor Arrivals by Region

Region	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
ASEAN	2,191,224	2,712,478	3,041,233	3,224,080	3,588,538	3,083,383	2,747,096
Asia Pacific	273,427	348,637	431,878	630,361	778,942	836,282	884,875
Europe	181,539	185,802	212,566	209,331	217,307	221,908	161,194
Americas	69,990	75,851	85,899	86,027	88,987	86,211	64,227
Africa and Middle East	7,384	7,304	7,914	8,920	10,655	11,263	11,446
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,723,564</b>	<b>3,330,072</b>	<b>3,781,503</b>	<b>4,158,719</b>	<b>4,684,429</b>	<b>4,239,047</b>	<b>3,868,838</b>

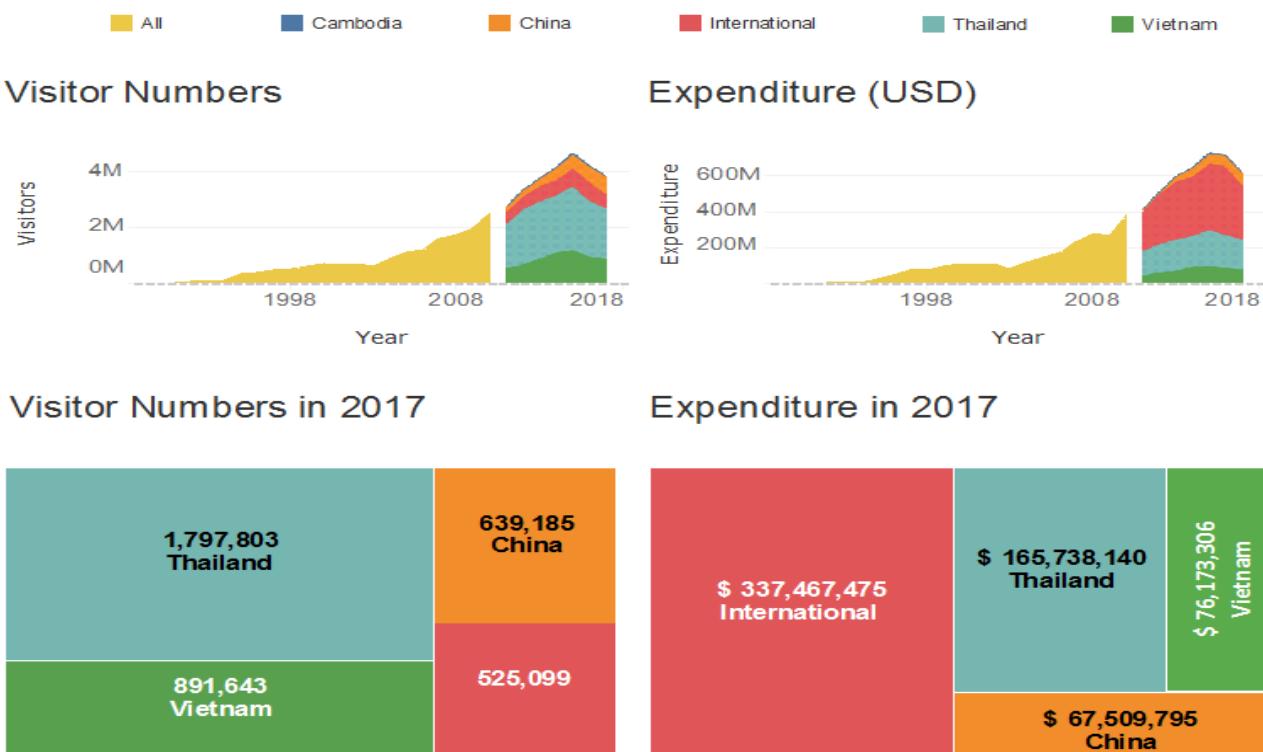
### Market Share of Visitor Arrivals by Region

Region	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
ASEAN	80.45%	81.45%	80.47%	77.53%	76.61%	72.74%	<b>71.01%</b>
Asia Pacific	10.04%	10.47%	11.43%	15.16%	16.63%	19.73%	<b>22.87%</b>
Europe	6.67%	5.58%	5.62%	5.03%	4.64%	5.23%	<b>4.17%</b>
Americas	2.57%	2.28%	2.27%	2.07%	1.90%	2.03%	<b>1.66%</b>
Africa and Middle East	0.27%	0.22%	0.21%	0.21%	0.23%	0.27%	<b>0.30%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

### % Change over Previous Year Visitor Arrivals by Regions

Region	11/10	12/11	13/12	14/13	15/14	16/15	17/16
ASEAN	10%	24%	12%	6%	11%	-14%	<b>-11%</b>
Asia Pacific	2%	28%	24%	46%	24%	7%	<b>6%</b>
Europe	2%	2%	14%	-2%	4%	2%	<b>-27%</b>
Americas	4%	8%	13%	0.15%	3%	-3%	<b>-26%</b>
Africa and Middle East	2%	-1%	8%	13%	19%	6%	<b>2%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>-8.73%</b>

## Graph 6: Growth in Visitor Number and Expenditure from Regional



Origin	1/1/14	1/1/15	1/1/16	1/1/17
Cambodia	1,149,978	1,558,290	1,308,840	1,178,292
China	46,656,510	53,779,305	59,329,845	67,509,795
International	329,400,513	368,956,822	388,948,126	337,467,475
Thailand	171,864,592	204,053,624	184,361,348	165,738,140
Vietnam	92,565,066	97,017,504	84,439,524	76,173,306

Origin	1/1/14	1/1/15	1/1/16	1/1/17
Cambodia	40,108	54,235	45,008	40,672
China	1,019,772	1,194,514	1,303,233	1,497,287
International	4,493,868	4,822,965	5,064,429	3,975,000
Thailand	3,970,076	4,639,390	4,129,741	3,706,363
Vietnam	3,140,770	3,310,058	2,856,316	2,571,951

% of Total Expenditure Table (Down)				
Origin	1/1/14	1/1/15	1/1/16	1/1/17
Cambodia	0%	0%	0%	0%
China	7%	7%	8%	11%
International	51%	51%	54%	50%
Thailand	27%	28%	26%	27%
Vietnam	14%	13%	12%	12%

% of Total Visitor Days along Table (Down)				
Origin	1/1/14	1/1/15	1/1/16	1/1/17
Cambodia	0%	0%	0%	0%
China	8%	9%	10%	13%
International	35%	34%	38%	34%
Thailand	31%	33%	31%	31%
Vietnam	25%	24%	21%	22%

% Difference in Expenditure from the Previous Year of Year				
Origin	1/1/14	1/1/15	1/1/16	1/1/17
Cambodia	43%	36%	-16%	-10%
China	91%	15%	10%	14%
International	2%	12%	5%	-22%
Thailand	0%	19%	-10%	-10%
Vietnam	22%	5%	-13%	-10%
Vietnam	22%	5%	-13%	-10%

% Difference in Visitor Days from the Previous Year of Year				
Origin	1/1/14	1/1/15	1/1/16	1/1/17
Cambodia	38%	35%	-17%	-10%
China	84%	17%	9%	15%
International	-3%	7%	5%	-22%
Thailand	0%	17%	-11%	-10%
Vietnam	22%	5%	-14%	-10%
Vietnam	22%	5%	-14%	-10%

**Table 2: Number of Tourist Arrivals to Laos by Category, 2016-2017**

Category	Border Pass		Border Pass		Passport		Total	
	Day tripper	Stay Overnight						
	2017		2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
<b>Grand Total</b>	611,992	496,228	1,184,151	1,108,220	3,054,896	2,760,618	4,239,047	3,868,838
<b>International Tourist</b>					681,294	525,099	681,294	525,099
<b>Regional Tourist</b>	611,992	496,228	1,184,151	1,108,220	2,373,602	2,235,519	3,557,753	3,343,739
Thailand	506,114	337,409	949,536	843,523	1,060,069	954,280	2,009,605	1,797,803
Vietnam	20,895	31,343	69,441	52,238	928,959	839,405	998,400	891,643
China	84,053	126,080	162,874	210,133	370,342	429,052	533,216	639,185
Cambodia	930	1,396	2,300	2,326	14,232	12,782	16,532	15,108

**Table 3: Revenue from Tourism by Category, 2017**

Category	Number of Tourist Arrivals (person)	Average Length of Stay (days)	Average Expenditure per Person per day (dollars)	Revenue from Tourism in 2017 (dollars)
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,868,838</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>52.11</b>	<b>648,067,008</b>
<b>International Tourist</b>	<b>525,099</b>	<b>8.39</b>	<b>76.6</b>	<b>337,467,475</b>
<b>Regional Tourist</b>	<b>3,343,739</b>			<b>310,599,533</b>
Thai (Passport)	954,280	3	52	148,867,680
Thai (Border pass)	843,523	1	20	16,870,460
Vietnam (Passport)	839,405	3	30	75,546,450
Vietnam (Day Tripper)	52,238	1	12	626,856
China (Passport)	429,052	3	50	64,357,800
China (Day Tripper)	210,133	1	15	3,151,995
Cambodia (Passport)	12,782	3	30	1,150,380
Cambodia (Border pass)	2,326	1	12	27,912

**Table 4: Tourist Arrivals to Laos by Nationality (Percent Increase) 2012-2017**

Region	Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% ▼
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,330,072</b>	<b>3,779,490</b>	<b>4,158,719</b>	<b>4,684,429</b>	<b>4,239,047</b>	<b>3,868,838</b>	<b>-8.73</b>
<b>ASEAN</b>		<b>2,712,478</b>	<b>3,041,233</b>	<b>3,224,080</b>	<b>3,588,538</b>	<b>3,083,383</b>	<b>2,747,096</b>	<b>-11</b>
	Brunei	533	582	564	865	484	342	-29
	Cambodia	15,140	12,180	15,342	20,625	16,536	15,108	-9
	Indonesia	4,256	4,888	4,812	6,019	5,010	3,241	-35
	Malaysia	22,785	26,035	24,312	24,095	24,391	19,114	-22
	Myanmar	1,730	1,947	2,157	2,661	3,695	2,848	-23
	Philippines	14,281	16,318	15,179	16,709	16,750	10,168	-39
	Singapore	10,545	9,685	9,621	8,258	8,512	6,829	-20
	Thailand	1,937,612	2,059,434	2,043,761	2,321,352	2,009,605	1,797,803	-11
	Vietnam	705,596	910,164	1,108,332	1,187,954	998,400	891,643	-11
<b>Asia and Pacific</b>		<b>348,637</b>	<b>431,878</b>	<b>630,361</b>	<b>778,942</b>	<b>836,282</b>	<b>884,875</b>	<b>6</b>
	Australia	33,878	35,450	44,964	34,665	33,077	20,886	-37
	China	199,857	245,033	422,440	511,436	545,493	639,185	17
	India	3,275	4,551	4,547	5,492	8,249	4,343	-47
	Japan	42,026	48,644	44,877	43,826	49,191	32,064	-35
	Korea	53,829	81,799	96,085	165,328	173,260	170,571	-2
	New Zealand	5,418	5,451	5,200	4,798	4,787	3,202	-33
	Taiwan	3,996	4,771	5,478	6,131	14,005	4,329	-69
	Others	6,358	6,179	6,770	7,266	8,220	10,295	25
<b>Europe</b>		<b>185,802</b>	<b>212,566</b>	<b>209,331</b>	<b>217,307</b>	<b>221,908</b>	<b>161,194</b>	<b>-27</b>
	Austria	2,860	3,339	3,835	3,910	5,324	2,874	-46
	Belgium	6,284	6,046	5,343	5,289	5,682	4,371	-23
	Denmark	5,054	4,586	5,065	4,491	4,479	3,198	-29
	Finland	2,962	2,735	3,751	3,013	3,218	2,023	-37
	France	46,903	52,411	52,146	55,151	54,953	36,760	-33
	Germany	23,417	29,250	29,800	31,897	34,018	23,776	-30
	Greece	366	433	498	878	593	481	-19
	Italy	6,289	8,822	9,710	8,990	10,052	7,537	-25
	Netherlands	9,283	10,899	8,683	8,429	7,004	5,500	-21
	Norway	3,307	3,531	3,606	3,499	4,018	2,334	-42
	Russia	8,642	11,649	13,340	12,532	13,033	10,986	-16
	Spain	4,208	5,127	5,219	4,856	5,461	4,589	-16
	Sweden	6,676	5,194	5,804	5,465	5,795	3,483	-40
	Switzerland	10,096	10,586	9,064	9,777	10,603	7,956	-25
	United Kingdom	35,694	41,741	39,061	41,508	39,170	27,723	-29
	Others	13,761	16,217	14,406	17,622	18,505	17,603	-5
<b>Americas</b>		<b>75,851</b>	<b>85,899</b>	<b>86,027</b>	<b>88,987</b>	<b>86,211</b>	<b>64,227</b>	<b>-26</b>
	Canada	16,744	17,132	19,096	19,785	19,315	13,467	-30
	USA	53,380	61,608	61,460	63,058	58,094	38,765	-33
	Others	5,727	7,159	5,471	6,144	8,802	11,995	36
<b>Africa and Middle East</b>		<b>7,304</b>	<b>7,914</b>	<b>8,920</b>	<b>10,655</b>	<b>11,263</b>	<b>11,446</b>	<b>2</b>
	Israel	3,241	3,364	4,068	4,163	3,593	2,128	-41
	Others	4,063	4,550	4,852	6,492	7,670	9,318	21



## Market Situation 2017

### Overall Trends

In 2016 there was a fall in overall number of visitors, but this was driven by reduction in numbers from Thailand (-13%) and Vietnam (-16%), while all other markets showed some growth in 2016. In fact, excluding Thailand and Vietnam, visitor numbers increased by 4.5% in 2016.

However, in 2017 we see a drop in visitors from every market, with the only exception being China, with a 17.2% increase in visitors compared to 2016.

We should not focus on just the number of visitors – the length they stay and how much they spend per day are important measures. Looking at the number of visitor days (the number of visitors multiplied by the average length of stay), we see that the biggest market is still the international visitors, comprising 34% of all visitor days. Taking average expenditure into account, the international visitor group is even more significant, accounting for 50% of all estimated expenditure.

China accounts for 16.6% of all visitors and 11% of estimated expenditure in 2017, compared to only 6.5% of visitors and 4% of expenditure five years ago.

Visitors from South Korea had grown extremely quickly up to 2015, moderated in 2016, and has fallen slightly (-1.6%) in 2017. Despite this, the overall market share of South Korea rose to 4.4% in 2017.

### Seasonality

There has been a gradual shift in the low season from month of May in 2015, to June/July in 2016, and September in 2017 recording the lowest number of visitors. This may reflect the growth in Visitors from China, and the reduction in visitors from Europe and the Americas.

There are also significant differences in seasonality in different markets, probably reflecting the reason for travel to Laos. Wattay Airport show the high season to be October to December, whereas Luang Prabang airport is January to March. For European, North American and Korean visitors the high season is November to April. There is less seasonality in visitors from ASEAN, but the high season is February to June. Holidays such as Tet show and increase in visitors from Vietnam, and from China during Chinese New Year.

Seasonality is important to consider in marketing Laos overseas and also for Tourism and Hospitality business and even Immigration to plan their staff needs.

Please see the online version of the Statistical Report on Tourism in Laos for more detailed information.



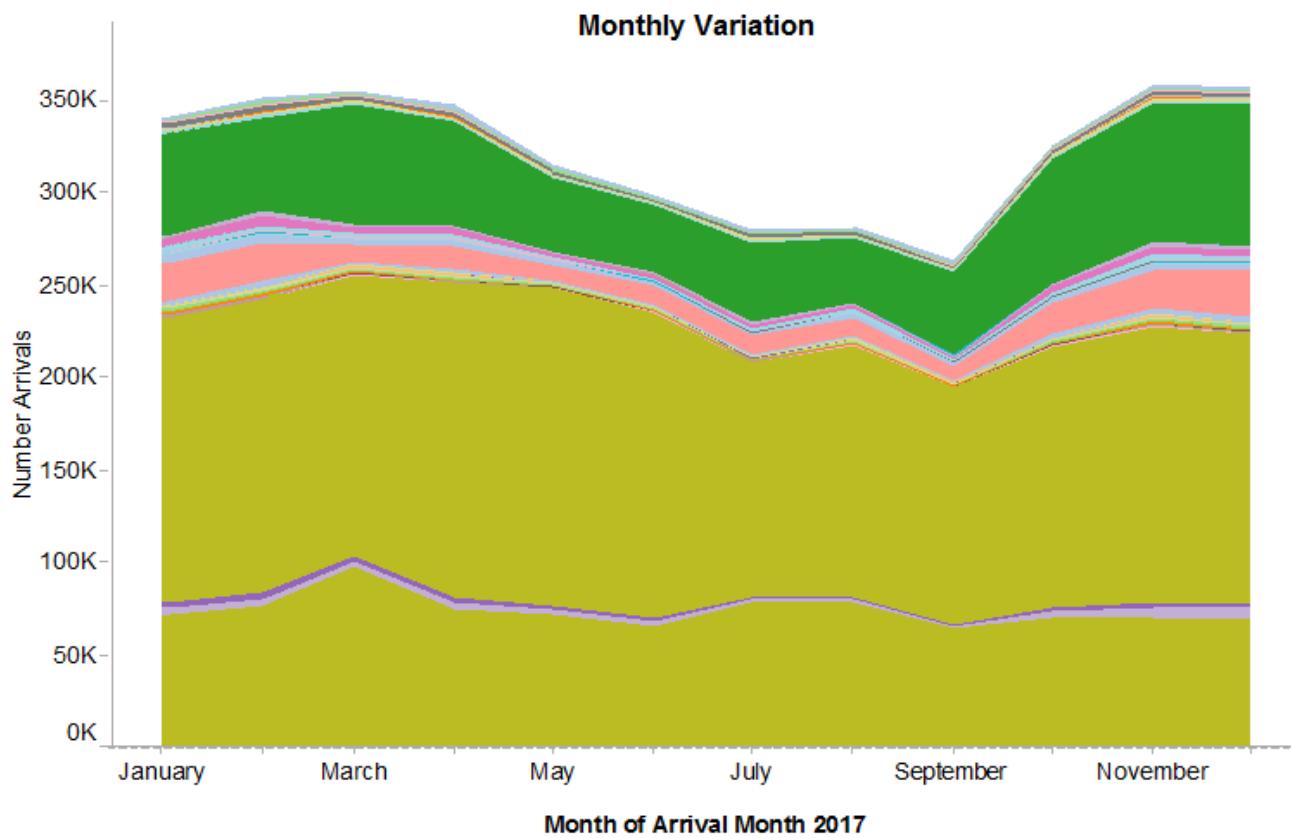
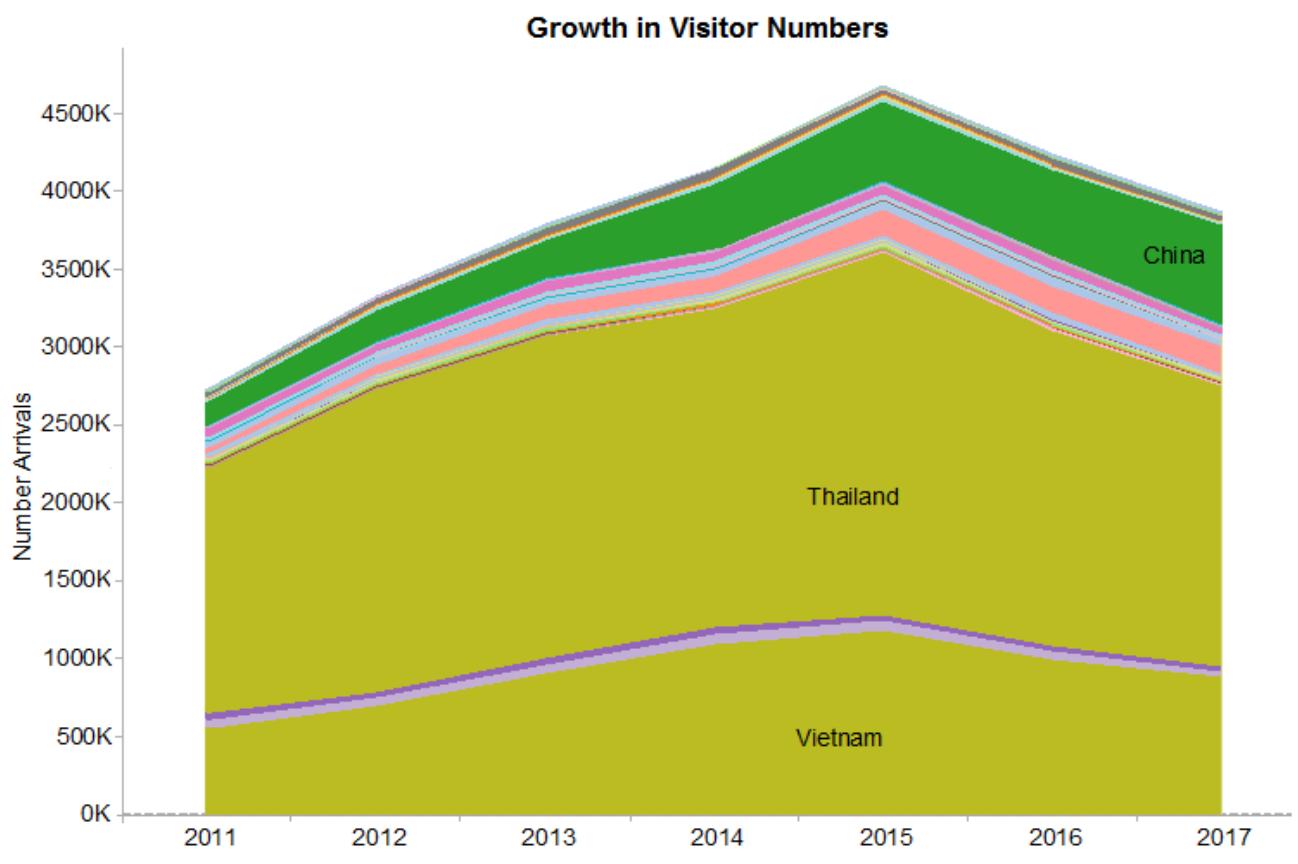
**Table 7: Arrivals of non – resident visitors at national borders, by month**

<b>Months</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,779,490</b>	<b>4,158,719</b>	<b>4,684,429</b>	<b>4,239,047</b>	<b>3,868,838</b>
<b>1st QUARTER</b>	<b>1,003,579</b>	<b>1,113,319</b>	<b>1,284,896</b>	<b>1,248,017</b>	<b>1,045,329</b>
January	345,411	367,980	436,358	400,140	<b>339,768</b>
February	349,459	384,664	426,697	450,902	<b>350,344</b>
March	308,709	360,675	421,841	396,975	<b>355,217</b>
<b>2nd QUARTER</b>	<b>901,807</b>	<b>938,590</b>	<b>1,040,693</b>	<b>1,002,972</b>	<b>959,209</b>
April	331,717	366,610	416,628	363,538	<b>346,559</b>
May	296,938	339,580	325,095	343,162	<b>314,344</b>
June	273,152	232,400	298,970	296,272	<b>298,306</b>
<b>3rd QUARTER</b>	<b>887,478</b>	<b>990,022</b>	<b>1,158,084</b>	<b>922,826</b>	<b>822,418</b>
July	297,239	316,631	337,805	296,242	<b>278,971</b>
August	308,065	304,725	358,358	323,603	<b>280,983</b>
September	282,174	368,666	461,921	302,981	<b>262,464</b>
<b>4th QUARTER</b>	<b>986,626</b>	<b>1,116,788</b>	<b>1,200,756</b>	<b>1,065,232</b>	<b>1,041,882</b>
October	326,479	382,064	400,054	336,863	<b>325,574</b>
November	331,423	365,824	420,650	367,964	<b>358,997</b>
December	328,724	368,900	380,052	360,405	<b>357,311</b>

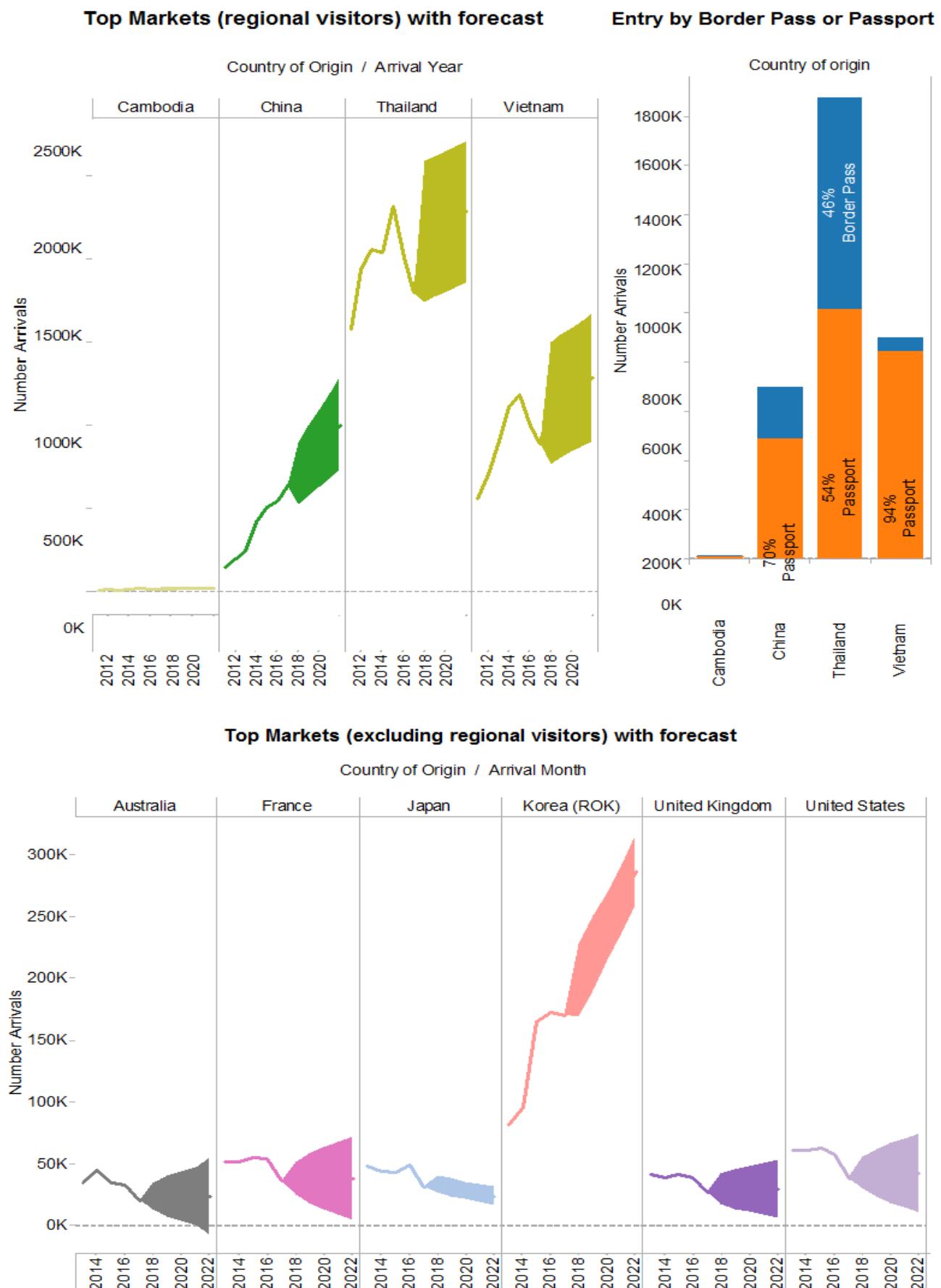
**Table 8: Tourist Arrivals by Month through Category, 2014-2017**

<b>Months</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>			<b>% ▽</b>
				<b>International</b>	<b>Regional</b>	<b>Total</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4,158,719</b>	<b>4,684,429</b>	<b>4,239,047</b>	<b>525,099</b>	<b>3,343,739</b>	<b>3,868,838</b>	<b>-8.73</b>
January	367,980	436,358	400,140	59,275	280,493	<b>339,768</b>	-15.09
February	384,664	426,697	450,902	64,327	286,017	<b>350,344</b>	-22.30
March	360,675	421,841	396,975	39,964	315,253	<b>355,217</b>	-10.52
April	366,610	416,628	363,538	44,858	301,701	<b>346,559</b>	-4.67
May	339,580	325,095	343,162	29,002	285,342	<b>314,344</b>	-8.40
June	232,400	298,970	296,272	31,939	266,367	<b>298,306</b>	0.69
July	316,631	337,805	296,242	30,669	248,302	<b>278,971</b>	-5.83
August	304,725	358,358	323,603	31,113	249,870	<b>280,983</b>	-13.17
September	368,666	461,921	302,981	24,153	238,311	<b>262,464</b>	-13.37
October	382,064	400,054	336,863	44,588	280,986	<b>325,574</b>	-3.35
November	365,824	420,650	367,964	62,324	296,673	<b>358,997</b>	-2.44
December	368,900	380,052	360,405	62,887	294,424	<b>357,311</b>	-0.86

### Graph 7: Origin and Growth in Visitors



## Graph 8: Top Generating Markets



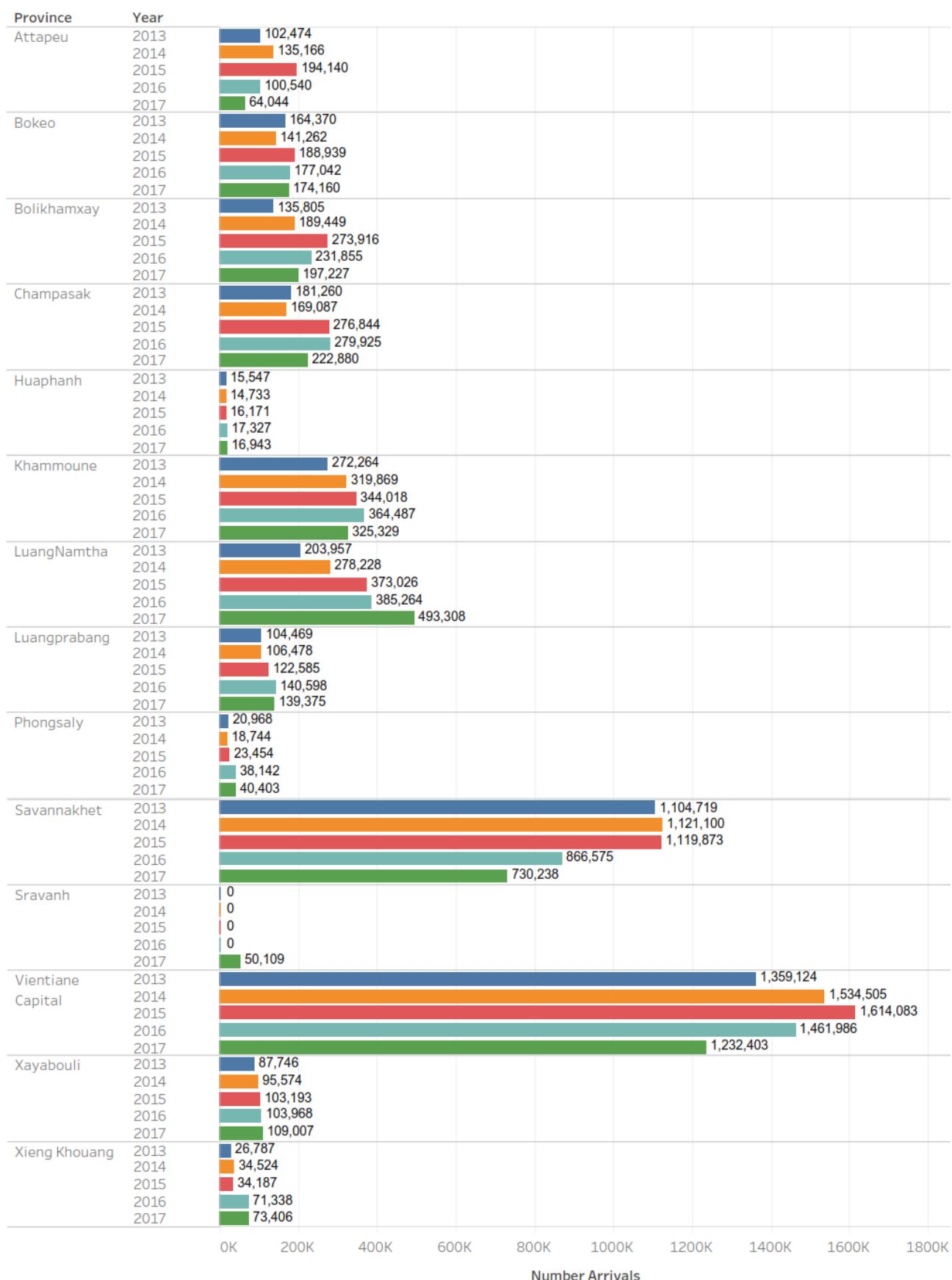
**Table 9: Ranks Country by Tourist Expenditures, Not Total Arrivals.**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% Δ</b>
1	Thailand	2,009,605	47	Thailand	1,797,803	46
2	Vietnam	998,400	24	Vietnam	891,643	23
3	Korea	173,260	4	China	639,185	17
4	China	545,493	13	Korea	170,571	4
5	USA	58,094	1	USA	38,765	1
6	France	54,953	1	France	36,760	1
7	Japan	49,191	1	Japan	32,064	1
8	UK	39,170	1	UK	27,723	1
9	Germany	34,018	1	Germany	23,776	1
10	Australia	33,077	1	Australia	20,886	1
11	Other	243,786	6	Other	189,662	5

**Table 10: Tourist Arrivals by Port of Entry through Category, 2013-2017**

<b>Port of Entry</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Regional Visitors</b>	<b>Percent Share</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,779,490</b>	<b>4,158,719</b>	<b>4,684,429</b>	<b>4,239,047</b>	<b>3,868,838</b>	<b>2,914,263</b>	<b>% 100</b>	<b>% 17/16</b>
Watay Airport	303,601	381,127	387,586	421,792	364,714	-	8.60	-13.53
Savannakhet Airport	4,118	5,890	3,487	3,113	3,709	-	0.09	19.15
Pakse Airport	9,400	6,195	6,865	13,422	12,378	-	0.29	-7.78
Luang Prabang Airport	104,469	106,478	122,585	140,598	139,375	-	3.29	-0.87
Friendship Bridge I	1,051,560	1,149,706	1,222,595	1,035,911	863,642	719,037	22.32	-16.63
Thanaleng Railway Station	3,963	3,672	3,902	4,283	4,047	1,799	0.10	-5.51
Boten	203,957	278,228	373,026	385,264	493,308	476,922	12.75	28.04
Houei Xay	164,370	141,262	188,939	177,042	174,160	75,750	4.50	-1.63
Friendship Bridge II	824,670	797,290	787,506	637,295	517,903	486,325	13.39	-18.73
Dane Savanh	275,931	317,920	328,880	226,167	208,626	187,111	5.39	-7.76
Vang Tao	152,842	144,488	245,400	229,133	181,587	149,456	4.69	-20.75
Nong Nok Khian	19,018	18,404	24,579	37,370	28,915	8,077	0.75	-22.63
Nam Phao	117,408	167,807	245,793	207,546	168,933	161,812	4.37	-18.60
Pakxan	18,397	21,642	28,123	24,309	28,294	27,135	0.73	16.39
Friendship Bridge III	108,898	123,256	121,961	141,193	153,076	118,904	3.96	8.42
Thakek	27,722	43,147	46,709	44,299	30,681	30,681	0.79	-30.74
Naphao	135,644	153,466	175,348	178,995	141,574	135,268	3.66	-20.91
Nam Heuang Friendship Bridge	35,961	48,604	44,980	46,645	42,857	40,708	1.11	-8.12
Nam Ngeun	51,785	46,970	50,952	44,474	50,303	48,081	1.30	13.11
Phou dou	-	-	7,261	12,849	15,849	15,724	0.41	23.35
Nam Kanh	26,787	34,524	34,187	71,338	73,406	70,698	1.90	2.90
Nam Souy	15,547	14,733	16,171	17,327	16,943	15,334	0.44	-2.22
Pang Hok	20,968	18,744	20,387	25,865	33,983	27,157	0.88	31.39
Larn Tuai	-	-	3,067	12,277	6,420	6,407	0.17	-47.71
Phoukeua	102,474	135,166	194,140	100,540	64,044	62,109	1.66	-36.30
Lalai	-	-	-	-	50,109	49,769	1.30	100.00

## Graph 9: Arrivals Year Border Point

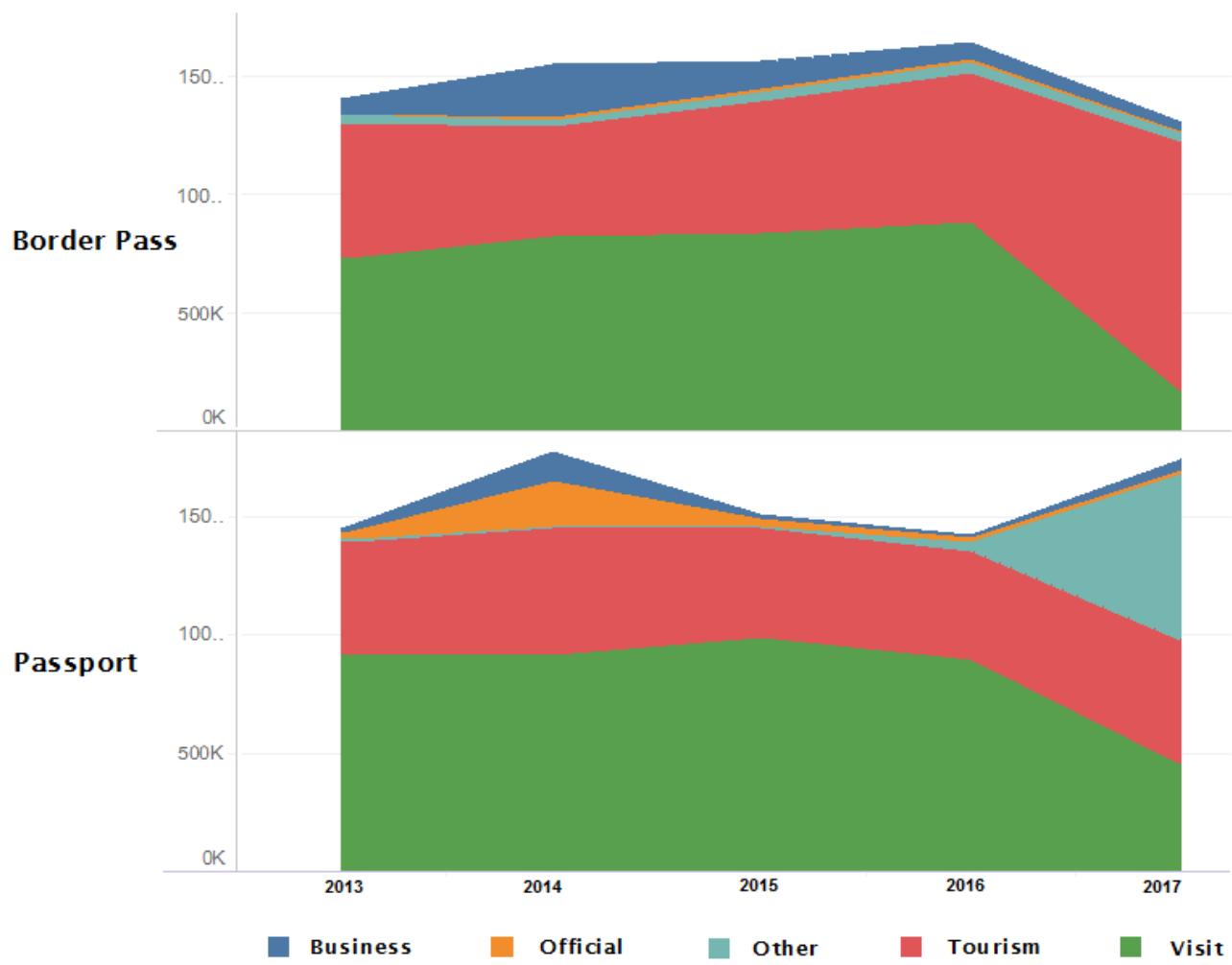








### Graph 10: Out-going Laos Travelers



**Table 14: Out-going Lao Travelers, 2013-2017**

Border Check Point	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% ▽
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,857,345</b>	<b>3,319,702</b>	<b>3,066,525</b>	<b>3,058,815</b>	<b>3,049,152</b>	<b>-0.32%</b>
Attapeu	4,391	1,727	7,497	5,249	5,569	6%
Bokeo	47,189	26,558	34,576	54,223	43,222	-20%
Bolikhamsay	71,540	93,157	102,043	105,683	103,780	-2%
Champasak	118,425	107,131	157,069	216,080	260,246	20%
Huaphanh	7,519	3,737	3,957	5,617	2,293	-59%
Khammouane	459,345	438,942	495,225	495,540	393,197	-21%
Luangnamtha	223,741	129,883	162,989	130,575	113,235	-13%
Luangprabang	2,708	1,960	1,998	1,890	1,801	-5%
Phongsaly	2,541	1,906	3,967	4,756	4,721	-1%
Sravanh					11,384	
Savannakhet	368,805	846,053	347,932	329,345	389,178	18
Friendship bridge I	1,405,251	1,534,970	1,570,894	1,543,693	1,535,634	-1%
Xayabouli	140,987	121,991	170,153	159,343	174,752	10%
Xiengkhouang	4,903	11,687	8,225	6,821	10,140	49%





**Table 19: Visitor Arrivals to Luang Prabang Province**

Region	Country	2014	2015	2016	2017	%
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>531,327</b>	<b>607,584</b>	<b>643,319</b>	<b>655,412</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Laos</b>		<b>152,328</b>	<b>161,712</b>	<b>173,733</b>	<b>182,470</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Foreigner</b>		<b>378,999</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>445,872</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>469,586</b>
						<b>100%</b>
					<b>472,942</b>	<b>100%</b>
						<b>1</b>
<b>ASEAN</b>		<b>65,163</b>	<b>17.19</b>	<b>67,979</b>	<b>15.25</b>	<b>70,458</b>
	Brunei	326	0.09	28	0.01	47
	Cambodia	563	0.15	618	0.14	708
	Indonesia	527	0.14	12	0.00	36
	Malaysia	2,241	0.59	36	0.01	97
	Myanmar	346	0.09	426	0.10	437
	Philippines	1,326	0.35	121	0.03	146
	Singapore	3,350	0.88	46	0.01	143
	Thailand	52,120	13.75	61,201	13.73	61,406
	Vietnam	4,364	1.15	5,491	1.23	7,438
<b>Asia and Pacific</b>		<b>98,468</b>	<b>25.98</b>	<b>133,355</b>	<b>29.91</b>	<b>139,039</b>
	Australia	18,482	4.88	19,542	4.38	21,672
	China	36,923	9.74	60,793	13.63	63,290
	India	425	0.11	89	0.02	143
	Japan	18,042	4.76	19,149	4.29	18,072
	Korea	17,732	4.68	33,582	7.53	34,178
	New Zealand	3,528	0.93	124	0.03	482
	Taiwan	689	0.18	64	0.01	1,167
	Others	2,647	0.70	12	0.00	35
<b>Europe</b>		<b>153,226</b>	<b>40.43</b>	<b>171,884</b>	<b>38.55</b>	<b>178,134</b>
	Austria	3,164	0.83	3,738	0.84	3,741
	Belgium	795	0.21	963	0.22	1,035
	Denmark	3,839	1.01	3,851	0.86	3,869
	Finland	5,382	1.42	5,397	1.21	5,462
	France	28,590	7.54	29,936	6.71	31,330
	Germany	27,094	7.15	28,891	6.48	30,144
	Greece	683	0.18	994	0.22	843
	Italy	9,640	2.54	12,935	2.90	12,958
	Netherlands	7,336	1.94	8,416	1.89	8,497
	Norway	3,264	0.86	4,316	0.97	4,364
	Russia	10,742	2.83	14,261	3.20	14,605
	Spain	4,247	1.12	6,292	1.41	6,893
	Sweden	3,592	0.95	4,670	1.05	4,851
	Switzerland	7,961	2.10	8,994	2.02	9,246
	United Kingdom	31,649	8.35	32,258	7.23	33,568
	Others	5,248	1.38	5,972	1.34	6,728
<b>Americas</b>		<b>55,296</b>	<b>14.59</b>	<b>64,762</b>	<b>14.52</b>	<b>72,780</b>
	Canada	18,648	4.92	20,642	4.63	21,856
	USA	25,859	6.82	27,594	6.19	28,560
	Others	10,789	2.85	16,526	3.71	22,364
<b>Africa and Middle East</b>		<b>6,846</b>	<b>1.81</b>	<b>7,892</b>	<b>1.77</b>	<b>9,175</b>
	Israel	4,734	1.25	5,198	1.17	5,214
	Others	2,112	0.56	2,694	0.60	3,961

## Part II: International Visitor Survey

The results in this section of the report relate to information obtained from 2,591 international visitors surveyed during the period April-December 2017 at Wattay International Airport, Friendship Bridge, Luangprabang and Champassack Provinces. The international visitors who were randomly interviewed represent all tourist arrivals to Laos.

**Table 20: Profile of International Tourist Arrivals to Laos, 2012 to 2017**

CHARACTERISTIC	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>MODE OF ARRIVAL</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Air	43	32.4	29.3	28.4	25.8	26.4
Land	57	67.6	70.7	71.6	74.2	73.6
<b>SEX</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Male	46	49.6	55	54.3	53.4	56.7
Female	54	50.4	45	45.7	46.6	43.3
<b>AGE GROUP</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
15 to 19	2.6	4.7	3.5	1.1	4.9	4.4
20 to 29	21.8	43.6	35.3	27	28.5	29.5
30 to 39	23.73	20.7	23.6	26.1	22.4	23.5
40 to 49	17.36	11.6	12.4	16.3	13	12.5
50 to 59	17.1	11.9	13.1	14.3	12.7	11.1
60 and above	17.4	7.4	12.1	15.2	18.5	19
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Government	17.54	13.1	10	10.4	10.1	13
Private company	30.43	35.5	37.2	32.2	35	33.2
Student	10.28	23.6	19.2	19.1	13.8	14.2
Housewife	4.3	1.4	2.1	1	3	3
Retired	16.56	5.1	8.1	13.8	13.1	13.9
Self-employed	15.93	7.3	8.4	9.9	8.6	9.2
Others	4.96	13.9	15	13.6	16.4	13.5
<b>PURPOSE OF VISIT</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Business	2.66	7	4.6	3.5	8.8	12.4
Holiday	74.9	83.6	89.6	91.1	80.3	76.8
Visit family	9.4	5.5	2.1	1.4	4.2	5.1
Official, convention and seminar	4.83	1.7	1.6	2.4	2.2	2.1
Education						1.6
En Route / In transit						0.3
Others	8.21	2.1	2.1	1.6	4.5	1.7
<b>TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION</b>	%	%	%	%	%	%
Hotel	58.86	54.5	62.5	66.7	61.3	60.8
Guest House	34.08	42.5	42.4	41.3	39.9	39.4
Home Stay						4
Private house	3.3	1.5	5.5	3.9	7.9	5.9
Others	3.76	1.6	2.8	2.6	5.4	4.6
<b>PERSONS ACCOMPANIED WITH</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Alone	12.87	26.2	24.2	13.8	20.9	25.8
Spouse/partner	32.58	32.2	42	42.3	35.9	37.9
Child	7.7	3.2	5	11.4	7.6	6.6
Colleague	38.6	2.8	2.1	3.8	4.1	4.9
Friend	6.8	32.4	25.3	29.4	25.7	22.6
Others	1.45	3.2	7.9	4.2	5.8	5.1
<b>TYPE OF TRANSPORTATION IN LAO PDR</b>	%	%	%	%	%	%
Airplane						51.4
Bus						43.9
Boat						23.4
Tuk-Tuk						45.5
Taxi						26.4
Car						24.4
Bicycle						16.6
Others						13.4



## Part III: Tourism Projections

**Table 21: Tourist Arrivals to Laos, Revenue from Tourism, Average Length of Stay by Time Trend from 1993-2025**

Year	Number of Tourist Arrivals	Revenue from Tourism (Dollars)	Average Length of Stay (Days) for international tourists	Remark
1993	102,946	6,280,000	3.5	
1994	146,155	7,557,600	5.1	
1995	346,460	24,738,480	4.3	
1996	403,000	43,592,263	4.1	
1997	463,200	73,276,904	5.0	
1998	500,200	79,960,145	5.0	
1999	614,278	97,265,324	5.5	
2000	737,208	113,898,285	5.5	
2001	673,823	103,786,323	8.0	
2002	735,662	113,409,883	6.5	
2003	636,361	87,302,412	6.0	
2004	894,806	118,947,707	6.5	
2005	1,095,315	146,770,074	7.0	
2006	1,215,106	173,249,896	7.0	
2007	1,623,943	233,304,695	7.0	
2008	1,736,787	275,515,758	6.5	
2009	2,008,363	267,700,224	7.0	
2010	2,513,028	381,669,031	7.0	
2011	2,723,564	406,184,338	7.0	
2012	3,330,072	506,022,586	7.2	
2013	3,779,490	595,909,127	8.4	
2014	4,158,719	641,636,543	7.9	
2015	4,684,429	725,365,681	7.5	
2016	4,239,047	724,191,957	7.57	
<b>2017</b>	<b>3,868,838</b>	<b>648,067,008</b>	<b>8.39</b>	
2018	4,929,858	820,999,343	8.4	Estimated
2019	5,220,782	876,382,689	8.6	Estimated
2020	5,511,705	931,766,034	8.7	Estimated
2021	5,802,628	987,149,380	8.9	Estimated
2025	6,966,322	1,208,682,762	9.4	Estimated

**Table 22: Tourist Arrivals Forecast by Season from 2018 to 2025**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2005	77,093	81,766	113,722	100,477	83,665	96,140	67,878	85,940	77,694	99,437	100,217	111,286	1,095,315
2006	111,917	112,520	104,675	99,928	94,017	85,016	79,525	93,045	86,762	108,720	111,747	127,234	1,215,106
2007	150,853	140,238	137,463	117,805	141,771	117,741	121,541	127,687	126,071	152,366	139,478	150,929	1,623,943
2008	158,776	149,744	140,256	142,321	150,314	149,299	133,355	122,636	128,427	134,943	158,673	168,043	1,736,787
2009	186,668	176,596	154,059	101,288	117,754	140,929	161,055	156,239	178,194	191,697	190,132	253,752	2,008,363
2010	229,032	196,746	210,337	224,753	179,168	140,929	182,876	201,273	195,318	220,925	237,692	265,613	2,484,662
2011	265,367	237,554	257,454	221,854	266,080	237,153	244,181	219,440	209,259	182,671	192,683	189,868	2,723,564
2012	298,227	283,945	285,583	314,494	287,100	267,306	213,953	238,725	228,186	275,948	347,212	289,393	3,330,072
2013	345,411	350,459	308,847	331,717	297,038	273,152	297,439	308,065	280,235	326,579	331,823	328,725	3,779,490
2014	367,980	384,664	360,675	366,610	339,580	232,400	316,631	304,725	368,666	382,064	365,824	368,900	4,158,719
2015	436,358	426,697	421,841	416,628	325,095	298,970	337,805	358,358	461,921	400,054	420,650	380,052	4,684,429
2016	400,140	450,902	396,975	363,538	343,162	296,272	296,242	323,603	302,981	336,863	367,964	360,405	4,239,047
2017	339,764	350,380	355,217	346,559	314,344	298,306	278,971	280,983	262,464	325,574	358,997	357,280	3,868,838
2018	446,892	478,933	453,033	451,863	395,107	341,513	350,602	366,529	385,181	412,281	440,955	406,970	4,929,858
2019	472,516	511,210	482,506	482,515	419,254	361,251	368,964	386,693	406,945	436,018	466,635	426,276	5,220,782
2020	498,140	543,487	511,980	513,167	443,402	380,988	387,325	406,856	428,710	459,754	492,316	445,581	5,511,705
2021	523,764	575,764	541,453	543,818	467,549	400,726	405,686	427,019	450,474	483,491	517,996	464,887	5,802,628
2025	626,260	704,871	659,347	666,425	564,139	479,677	479,132	507,673	537,532	578,438	620,717	542,109	6,966,322

**Table 23: Number of Lao Travel Agents from 2011-2017**

Province	Number of Travel Agents							Number of Branch Travel Agents						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total	236	275	290	342	368	381	422	74	75	75	68	55	51	45
Attapeu	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Bokeo	12	14	15	15	17	16	17	3	4	4	1	3	1	1
Bolikhamsay	2	2	2	2	1	2	4	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Champasack	23	22	24	28	29	27	30	16	12	14	0	10	7	7
Houaphanh	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Khammouane	6	4	4	4	3	3	5	2	4	4	4	1	2	2
Luang Namtha	3	5	5	5	5	6	7	3	3	3	28	1	1	1
Luang Prabang	35	39	42	49	57	61	67	25	27	25	0	24	23	20
Oudomxay	2	3	3	3	4	3	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Phongsaly	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	9	1	1	1
Saravanh	1	1	1	3	3	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Savannakhet	11	12	12	12	10	10	11	4	4	4	4	0	0	0
Sekong	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0
Vientiane Capital	127	157	162	197	216	218	238	9	9	9	0	9	9	8
Vientiane Province	2	4	6	6	9	17	18	2	2	2	0	2	2	2
Xaisomboun	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Xaiyabouli	5	4	4	5	5	7	8	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Xieng Khouang	1	1	3	6	6	7	6	8	8	8	0	4	5	3

**Table 24: Number of Tourist Sites in Laos in 2017**

Province	Natural sites	Cultural sites	Historical sites	Garand Total
Total	1184	632	278	2094
Attapeu	31	18	10	59
Bokeo	71	22	6	99
Bolikhamsay	89	12	3	104
Champasak	116	60	40	216
Houaphanh	51	66	35	152
Khammouane	139	29	29	197
Luang Namtha	53	56	14	123
Luang Prabang	108	86	34	228
Oudomxay	54	40	12	106
Phongsaly	27	74	4	105
Saravanh	52	37	6	95
Savannakhet	74	29	13	116
Sekong	20	6	9	35
Vientiane Capital	13	10	14	37
Vientiane Province	133	15	5	153
Xaisomboun	37	4	9	50
Xaiyabouli	29	12	6	47
Xieng Khouang	87	56	29	172

**Table 25: International visitor arrivals by mode of transport And purpose of visit, 2014-2017**

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4,158,719</b>	<b>4,684,429</b>	<b>4,239,047</b>	<b>3,868,838</b>
<b>By mode of transport</b>				
By air	499,690	520,523	578,925	520,176
By land	3,659,029	4,163,906	3,660,122	3,348,662
<b>By purpose of visit</b>				
Business	191,301	163,955	373,036	479,735
Holiday	3,726,212	4,267,515	3,403,955	2,816,509
Visit	87,333	65,582	178,039	352,064
Official, Convention	66,540	112,426	93,259	81,245
Education				61,902
En Route/ In transit				11,606
Others	87,333	74,951	190,758	65,777

**Table 26: Revenue from Tourism and Major Exports, 2013-2017**

Note: Revenue in Millions of US Dollars

Product	2017		2016		2015		2014		2013	
	Revenue	Rank								
Tourism	648.0	4	724.1	4	725.3	3	641.6	2	595.9	2
Garments	182.3	6	88.8	6	199.3	6	219.5	6	232.7	5
Electricity	1,280.3	3	940.7	3	495.5	4	586.1	3	592.3	3
Wood Products	48.6	8	39.0	7	144.6	7	159.9	7	83.5	7
Coffee	105.1	7	59.9	8	54.7	8	48.4	8	79.7	8
Agricultural Products	582.5	5	584.2	5	319.8	5	238.2	4	290.1	4
Minerals	1,390.5	1	1,314.0	1	1,292.4	1	1,325.2	1	1,982.0	1
Handicrafts	3.20	9	0.97	9	2.1	9	5.3	9	0.94	9
Other Industries	1,295.0	2	1,312.1	2	917.2	2	237.6	5	133.0	6

Source: Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

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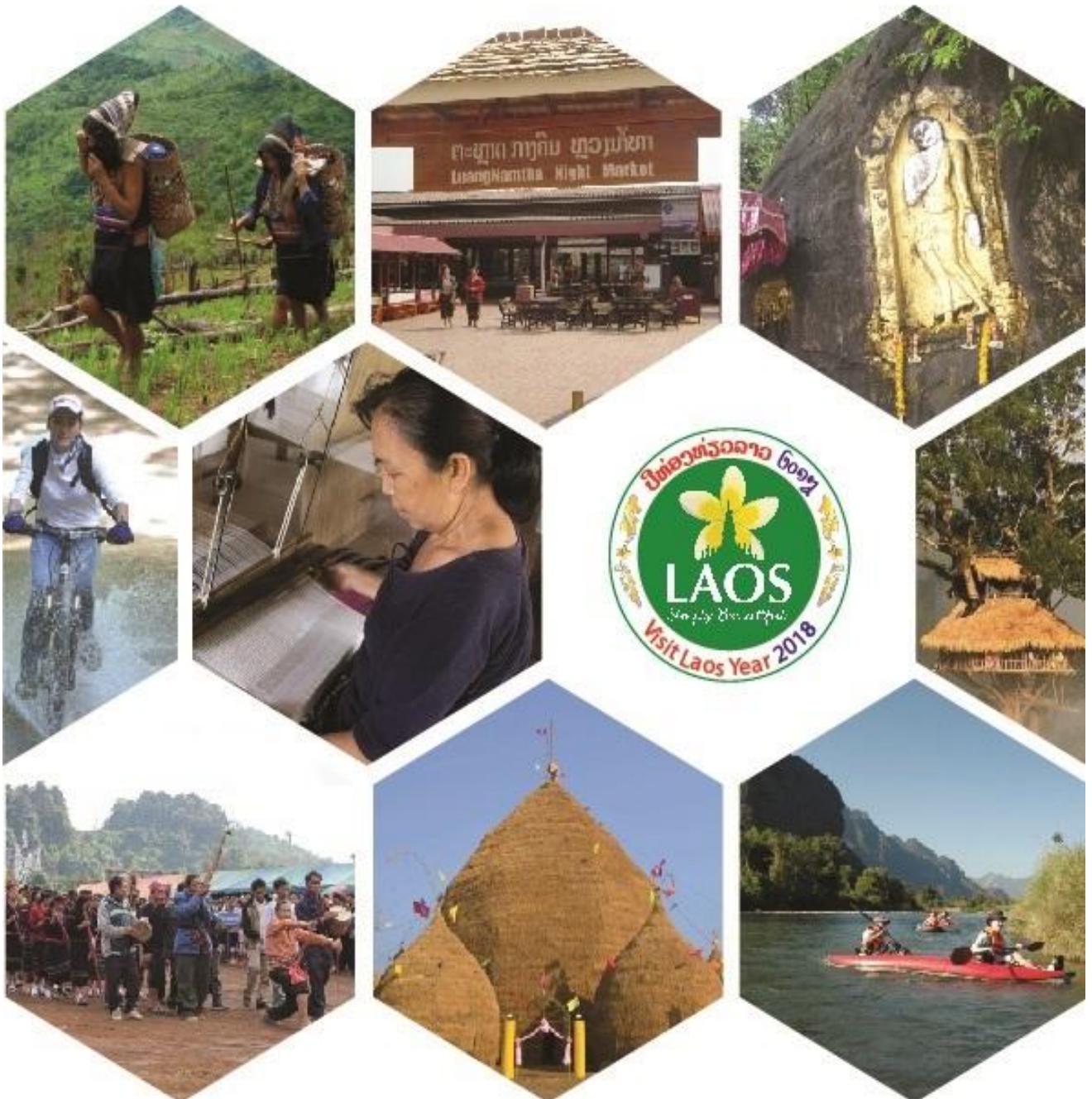
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