Booking.com

TRAVEL CONFIDENCE INDEX

REVEALING THE PROFILE OF THE APAC TRAVELLER

2022



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PROJECT BACKGROUND

Travel Confidence, tracking the profile of the APAC traveler

The start of 2020 saw the travel industry rocked by the sudden onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. For the first time, global borders were closed, countries went into various forms of lockdowns and travel came to a standstill.

Two years on, the travel industry is seeing the light at the end of the tunnel thanks to the rollout of widespread vaccination programmes and the gradual restart of travel.

As travellers resume feeding their wanderlust and the travel industry gears up for recovery, the question on our minds was "Who is the new APAC traveler?".

Milieu Insights was commissioned by Booking.com to run a survey across 11 markets in the APAC region, with the objective of diving into the attitudes and motivations that drive travel decisions in an endemic COVID-19 world while understanding how far travellers are willing to go in the name of sustainability.

The survey was constructed to touch on the following topics:

- 1. Restart of Travel
- 2. Behaviour once Travel Restarts
- 3. Role of Online Travel Companies
- 4. Travelling Sustainably
- 5. Country-Specific Questions



Survey Coverage

The survey covered 11 countries across the Asia Pacific region:

- Australia
- China
- Hong Kong
- India
- Japan
- Korea
- New Zealand
- Singapore
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Vietnam

The survey was open to general population aged 16 and above, and eventually 1,000 respondents in each country were surveyed in the period of April 19 – May 17, 2022, and were asked about their views towards travelling in an endemic COVID-19 world.





TRAVEL CONFIDENCE

Overview of market rankings by travel confidence index and sustainability index

VISUALISING TRAVEL CONFIDENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY ACROSS APAC

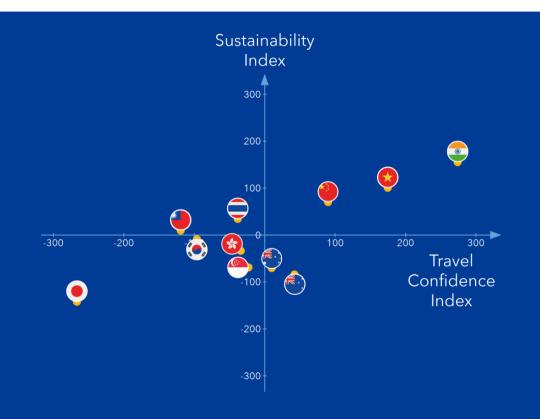
The Booking.com Travel Confidence Index showcases two key factors.

- 1. How confidence across the region as a whole varies from market to market
- How inclined toward sustainability each market is

By pitting the two indexes against each other, we were also able to visualize the diversity in Travel Confidence and Sustainability attitudes across the region.

The index is set upon a 300 by 300 score which was developed based on the total number of survey questions and final market scores yielded. Questions considered were those either tested Confidence or attitudes toward Sustainability.

Countries that scored in the positive end of the spectrum scored higher than average while those on the negative end of the spectrum scored lower than average.





MARKET-HOPPING

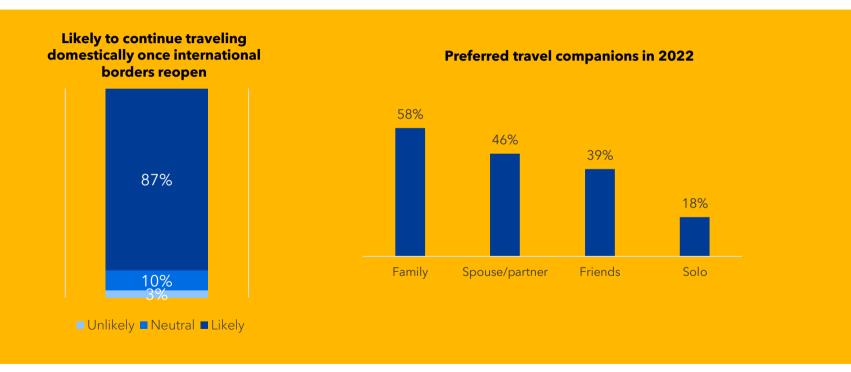
A deep-dive on understanding each market



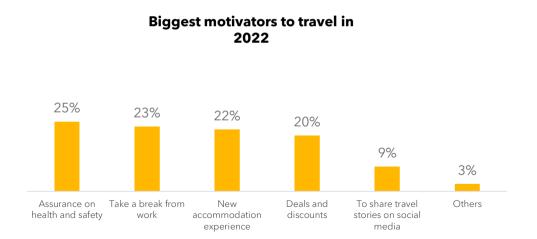
Travel Confidence in India is consistently high across the board with travelers looking likely to travel in the next 12 months despite travel disruptions

	INDIA	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	86% 📥	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	78% 📥	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	11% ▼	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	70% 📥	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	87% 📥	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	88% 📥	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	80% 📥	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	84% 📥	51%

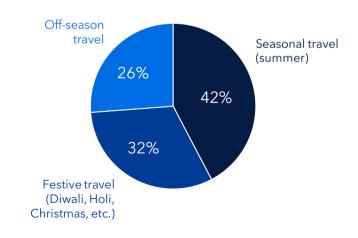
Domestic travel is set to fuel Indian travel with most travelers turning to family for travel company



An assurance toward health and safety has emerged the biggest motivator to travel, followed very closely by work break getaways, and new accommodations with most Indian travelers planning to travel over Summer.



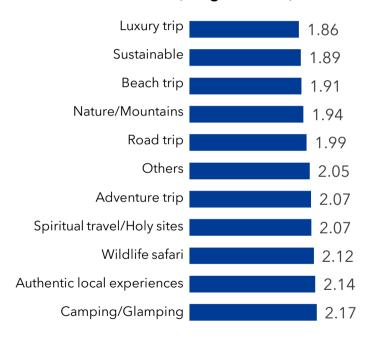
Preferred time/season for 2022 travel



Indian travelers are keen to experience sustainable luxury when travelling domestically.

Interestingly, they showcase the least preference for the outdoors.

Trip Type Preferred for Domestic Travel (Weighted Rank)



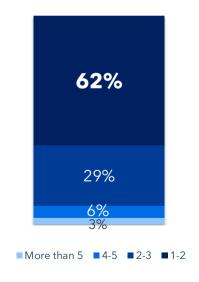


Like India, Travel Confidence in Vietnam has emerged consistently high with travelers likely to travel in the next 12 months and are confident they are ready to welcome international travelers

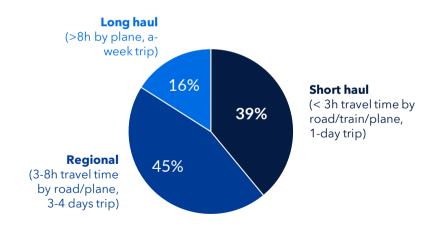
	VIETNAM	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	85% 📥	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	68% 📥	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	16% ▼	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	49% 📥	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	82% 📥	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	78% 📥	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	67% 📥	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	75% 📥	51%

Over half of Vietnamese travelers are planning to travel within the region at least once in the next 12 months

Number of trips planned in the next 12 Months

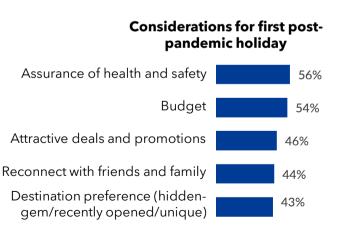


Prioritized length of trip for first post-pandemic holiday



Trip types preferred when

A potential side-effect of the pandemic, the assurance of health and safety, alongside budget have emerged the top considerations for restarting travel with most Vietnamese travelers looking toward authentic local experiences



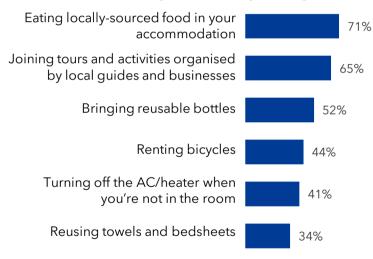
Authentic local experiences 51% Beach trip 49% Nature/Mountains 42% Camping/Glamping 38% Adventure trip 29% Road trip 23% Wildlife safaris 23% Spiritual travel/Holy sites 20%

Luxury trip

18%

When it comes to sustainability, there is a focus on locally-sourced food alongside experiencing local tours and activities

Important sustainable practices in upcoming travel

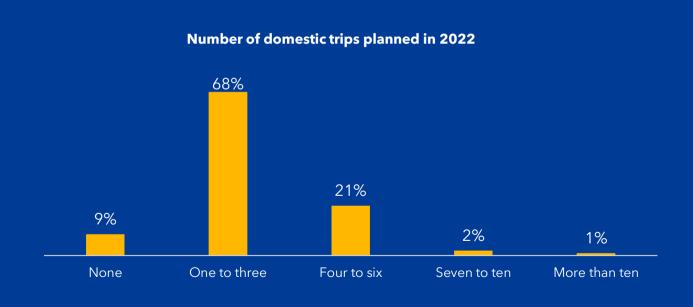




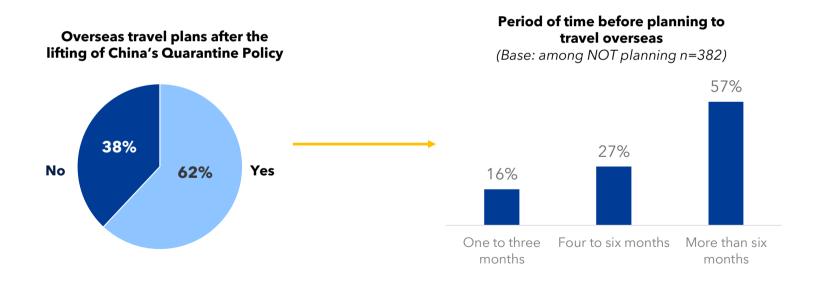
Confidence amongst Chinese travelers is high. However when asked about travel disruptions, slightly less than half would accept this

	CHINA	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	89% 🔺	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	61% 📥	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	12% 🔻	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	48% 📥	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	61% 🔺	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	76% 📥	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	70% 📥	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	70% 📥	51%

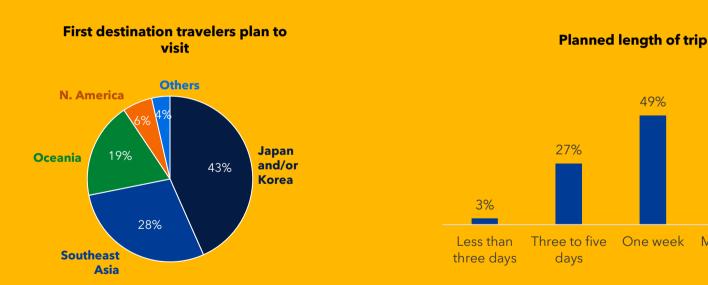
Nearly 3 in 10 travelers plan to take up to three domestic trips in 2022



The majority of Chinese travelers plan to head overseas once China's quarantine policy is lifted, while those don't, plan to wait more than half a year before traveling



When looking beyond China's borders, the majority of travelers were looking at neighboring Japan and Korea, planning to spend up to a week away



21%

More than a

week

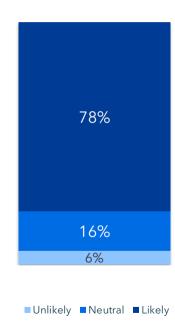


8 in 10 New Zealand travelers are set to travel in the next 12 months but are less willing to share their personal information for both safety and personalization

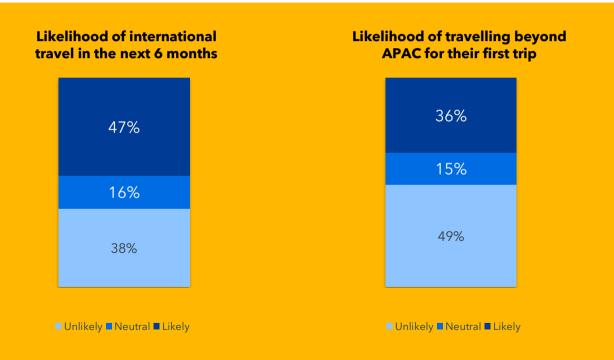
	NEW ZEALAND	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	79% 📥	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	49% 📥	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	27% ▼	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	41% 📥	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	61% 📥	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	58% V	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	47%▼	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	58% 🔺	51%

Even with the resumption of international travel, a large majority of New Zealand travelers are likely to continue with domestic travel

Likelihood of continuing to travel domestically even with the resumption of international travel

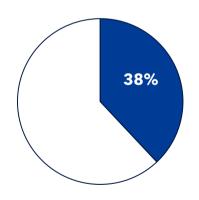


Despite this, nearly half are likely to travel internationally in the next 6 months with the majority of travelers planning to travel within the APAC region

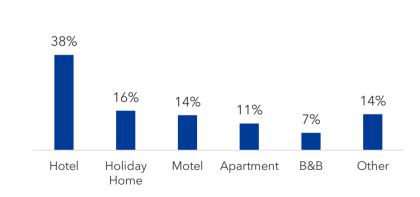


The pandemic has had some impact on the type of accommodation that travelers prefer with hotels emerging most popular, potentially due to a desire for more transparency around safety

Accommodation preferences have been changed by the pandemic



Preferred accommodation for next trip



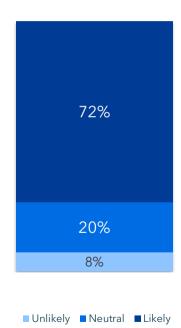


Australia ranked in the middle for Travel Confidence and continue to look at the COVID-19 situation in their destination country for travel guidance

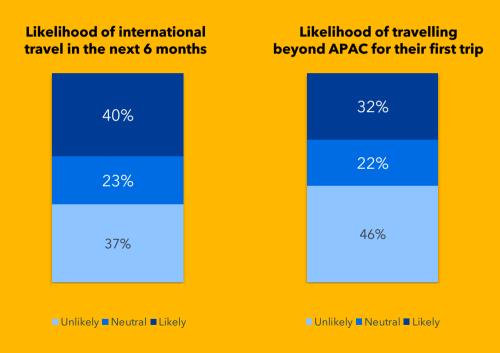
	AUSTRALIA	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	72% 🔻	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	49% V	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	30% 🔺	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	36% V	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	55% 🔺	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	56% V	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	46% V	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	53% 📥	51%

Domestic travel looks set to continue driving the bulk of Australian travel

Likelihood of continuing to travel domestically even with the resumption of international travel

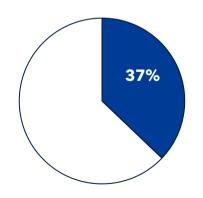


Despite this, a considerable number intend to travel internationally in the next 6 months, but most continue to look within the region for their first trip

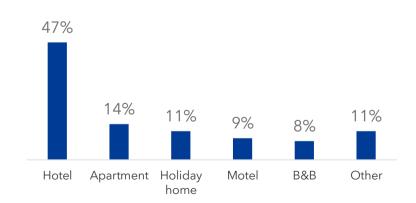


Consistent across ANZ is the impact of the pandemic on the type of accommodation that travelers prefer. Hotels have emerged most popular, potentially due to a desire for more transparency around safety

Accommodation preferences have been changed by the pandemic



Preferred accommodation for next trip

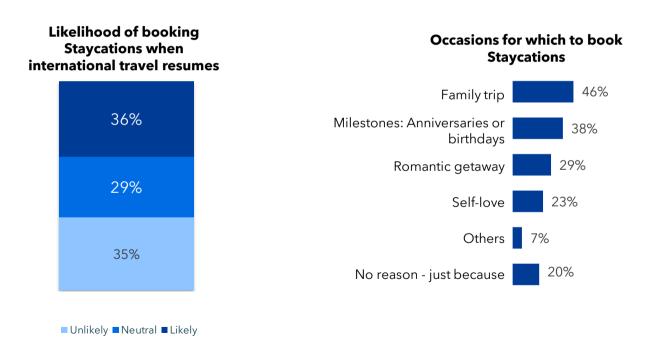




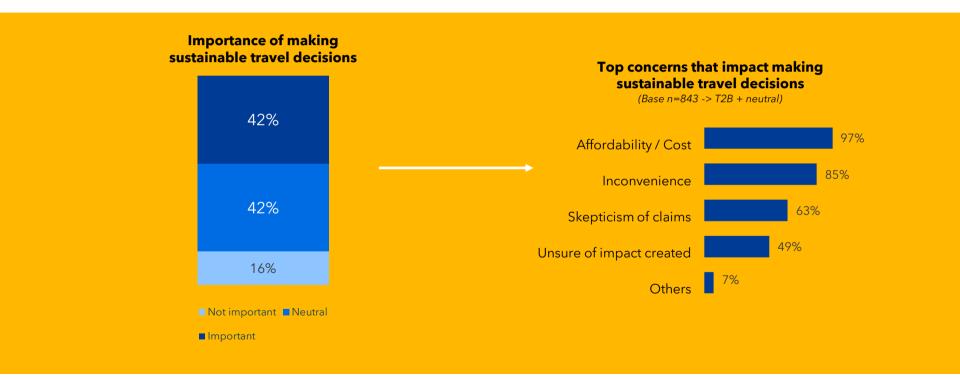
Singaporeans are confident when it comes to travel, however are less likely than the wider region to travel in the next 12 months

	SINGAPORE	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	75% V	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	42% V	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	25% 🔺	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	35% V	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	56% 🔺	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	57% V	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	45% V	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	56% 📥	51%

Staycations look set to stay part of the Singaporean holiday toolkit as an answer to family trips, milestones or even just because

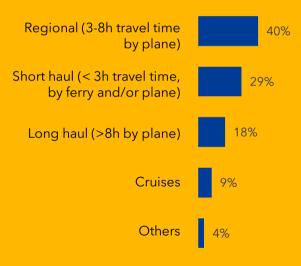


While 42% of Singaporeans place importance on sustainable travel decisions, motivations around affordability and convenience are key



When it comes to holiday trips, Singaporeans want to stay within the region

Post-pandemic holiday preferences





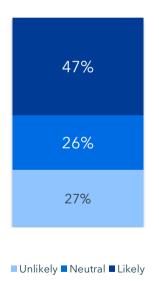
71% of Hong Kong travelers plan to travel in the next 12 months but the majority will still postpone a trip in case of a COVID-19 surge

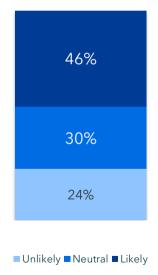
	HONG KONG	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	71% 🔻	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	55% 📤	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	16% ▼	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	50% 📥	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	44% V	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	63% V	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	57% ▼	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	48% V	51%

Staycations are set to stay popular among Hong Kong travelers with many likely to focus on getting closer to nature

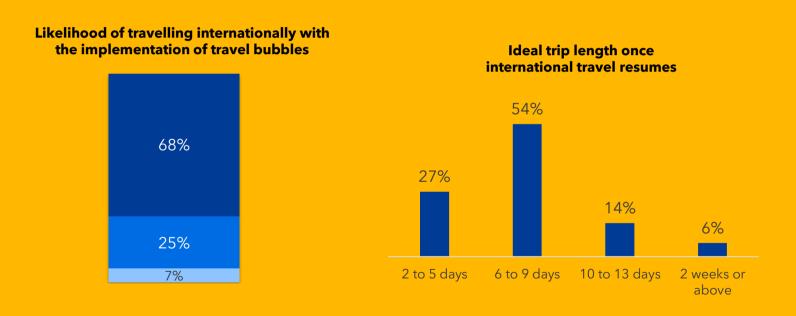


Likelihood of engaging in local outdoor activities (i.e. camping) when international travel resumes





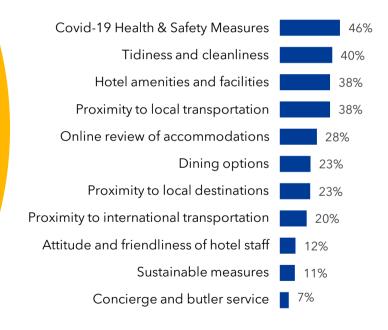
Meanwhile, the majority of Hong Kong travelers likely to travel internationally fueled by the implementation of travel bubbles with most looking to spend about a week away



■ Unlikely ■ Neutral ■ Likely

Besides safety measures and cleanliness, hotel amenities the and proximity to local transportation are factors that impact the types of accommodation Hong Kong travelers will book

Top considerations that impact accommodation choices for both domestic and international travel





Thai travelers ranked low on the index with a particular discomfort both with the reopening of borders and welcoming travelers to their shores

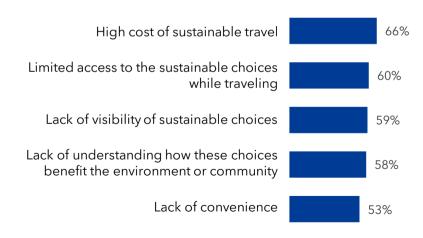
	THAILAND	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	70% 🔻	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	63% 📥	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	14% V	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	66% 📥	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	39% ▼	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	65% V	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	58% 🔺	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	29% V	51%

Nearly three in four Thai travelers would continue looking domestically for travel inspiration with a large number looking for time to relax close to nature

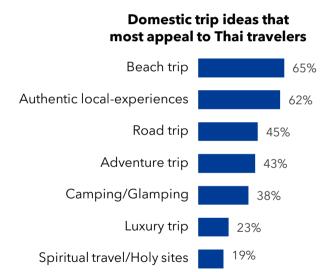


For Thai travelers, the high costs associated with sustainability impact their desire to make sustainable travel decisions

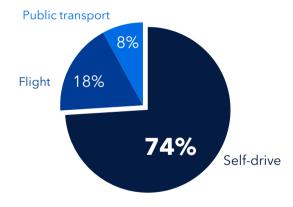
Concerns around sustainable travel



For most, self-driving is the preferred way to get around with the majority looking toward beach vacations for some sun and sand



Preferred Mode of Transportation for Travel





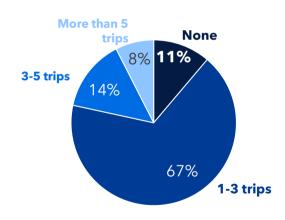
Korean travelers showcased a low confidence across the board and yet are likely to travel in the next 12 months

Rank 9th

	KOREA	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	80% 📥	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	54% V	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	14% V	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	31% 🔻	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	45% V	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	59% V	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	53% ▼	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	41% 🔻	51%

Most travelers see themselves taking up to 3 domestic trips in 2022 with a focus on the beach and road trips through the country

Number of domestic trips planned in 2022



Trip Types Preferred (Weighted Rank)



For Koreans, special occasions and loved ones are motivation enough to travel even during the pandemic

Top Motivations for Travel Despite the Ongoing Pandemic (Weighted Rank)



For Korean travelers, an accommodation's implementation of sustainable practices make it more appealing. Other things they consider are the amenities alongside an overall cleanliness



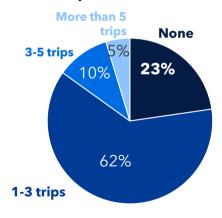


Taiwanese travelers see themselves heading abroad in the next 12 months but are not fully confident or comfortable with the idea of open borders

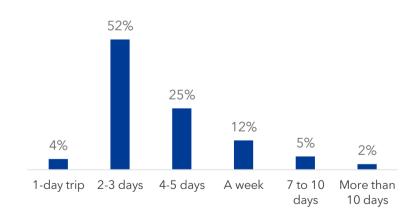
	TAIWAN	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	70% V	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	41% V	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	8% ▼	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	68% 📥	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	27% 🔻	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	68% 📥	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	65% 🔺	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	28% 🔻	51%

Most Taiwanese travelers are looking at embarking on up to three domestic trips in 2022, spending two to three days away at a time

Number of domestic trips planned in 2022



Ideal domestic trip length once international travel resumes

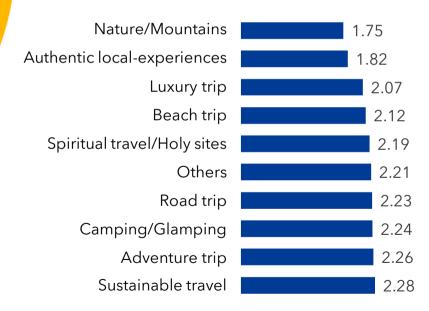


When booking accommodation, Taiwanese travelers place importance on health and safety measures alongside the experiences of past travelers. For them, hotels and B&Bs are where they usually look



Taiwanese travelers are nature lovers who also appreciate authentic local experiences

Trip types preferred for domestic travel (Weighted Rank)



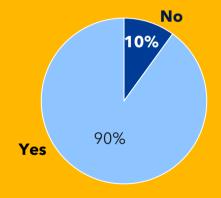


Japanese travelers ranked consistently lower against the regional average with the lowest number of respondents likely to travel in the next 12 months

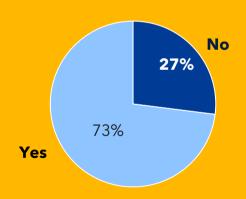
	JAPAN	TOTAL 11M
Likely to travel in the next 12 months	62% V	76%
Consider leisure travel important during COVID-19	34% ▼	54%
Would not postpone a trip despite surge in COVID-19 cases at their destination	19% 🛕	17%
Accepting of anticipated travel disruptions	24% V	47%
Comfortable with the reopening of borders	26% V	53%
Willing to share their personal information for safety	47% V	65%
Willing to share their personal information for greater personalization	42% ▼	57%
Have confidence with their country receiving international travelers	18% 🔻	51%

9 in 10 have not travelled in two years thanks to COVID-19 and but a majority plan to travel during the upcoming summer season



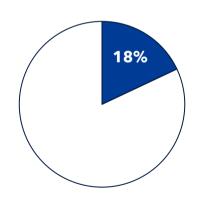


Travelers that plan to travel either domestically or internationally during Golden Week / Summer / Obon

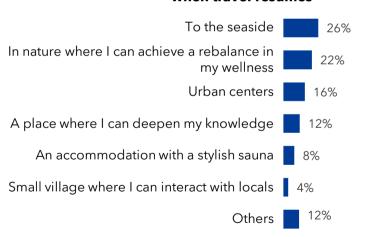


Japanese travelers do not feel informed enough about overseas travel but are hoping to go somewhere where the ocean is beautiful and other nature-inspired locations once they can

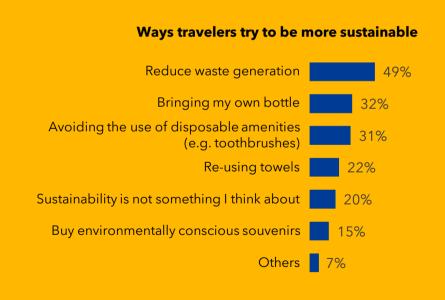




Travel destinations most keen to visit when travel resumes



Japanese travelers look at the small things they can do around waste generation and bottles when looking at how to be more sustainable while traveling





SPOTTING OPPORTUNITIES

Identifying nuances on travel considerations across markets

The main trigger for booking a trip is to get away and avoid feeling stuck

India: Have more varied triggers, such as visiting a new destination, visiting family, and continuing a postponed trip.

China: Mainly want to continue a postponed trip or travel a new destination

New Zealand & **Australia**: Motivated to travel in order to visit family.

TRIP TRIGGERS







I want to visit a destination I just



I planned for this trip before the





There is an event that I would like to attend (sports, concert, etc.)



Work travel

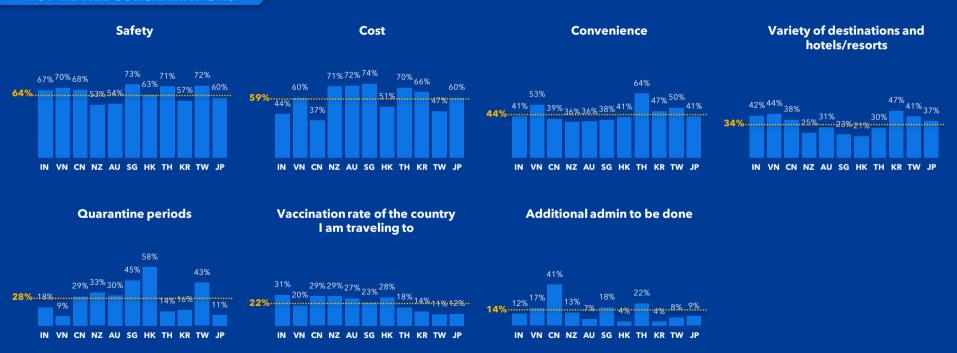


Top travel considerations are mainly safety, cost, and convenience

China: Additional administration that comes with traveling during the pandemic is weighs slightly heavier compared to other countries.

Hong Kong: Quarantine periods are of a bigger consideration, relative to other countries.

TOP TRAVEL CONSIDERATIONS

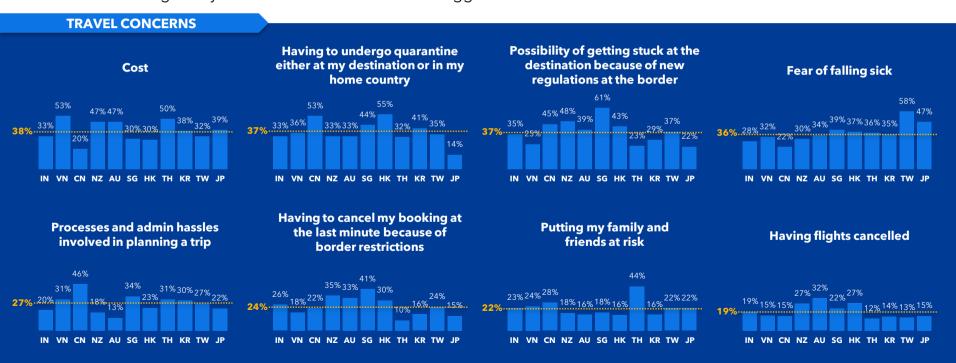


Concerns vary per market, but all show a degree of concern of travel costs, quarantining, getting stuck in destinations, and falling sick

China: Both a consideration and a concern, processes and admin hassles affect Chinese travel.

Singapore: High concern placed on last minute cancellations due to border restrictions.

Thailand: Putting family and friends at risk becomes a bigger concern.



Travelers across all markets seek flexible cancellations and clear refund information on their trips

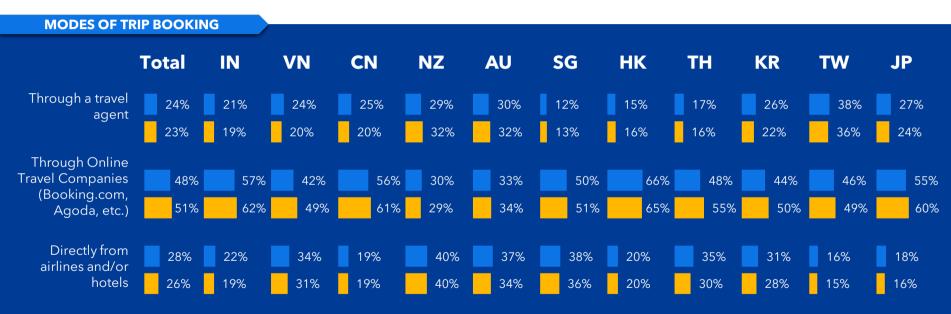
China and **Japan**: Higher support sought for peace of mind around knowing that airlines and hotels are clean.



Online Travel Companies are still the go-to for booking travel - both before and after the pandemic

New Zealand: Booking directly from airlines and/ or hotels is the most used mode of booking.

Australia: Modes of booking are a bit more varied compared to other countries and do not rely solely on travel companies.



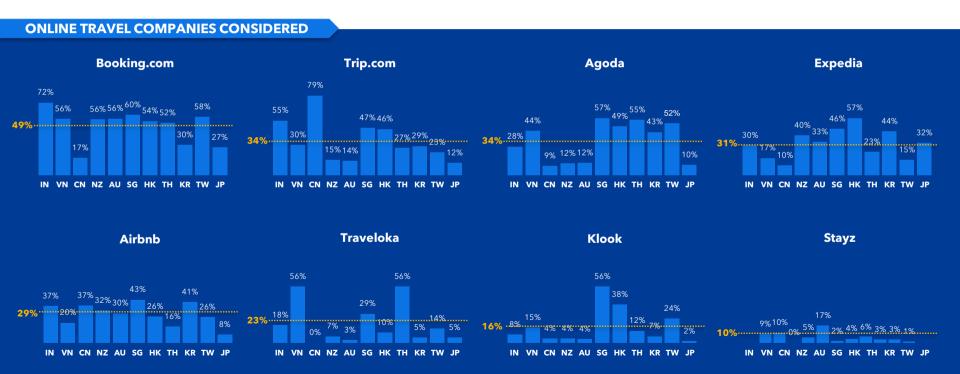
Legend:

Pre-Pandemic Modes of Booking

Modes of Booking for Next Trip

Booking.com emerges the market leaders across the majority of APAC though slightly weaker in China, Japan and Korea

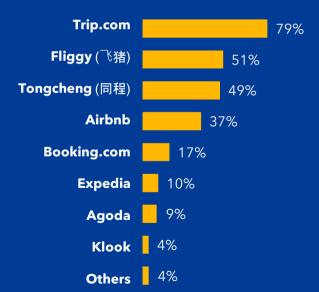
Japan: More than half use another unspecified online travel company for trip bookings.



In China, Trip.com emerges the leader across Online Travel Companies

ONLINE TRAVEL COMPANIES CONSIDERED (CHINA)

Most popular Online Travel Companies in China

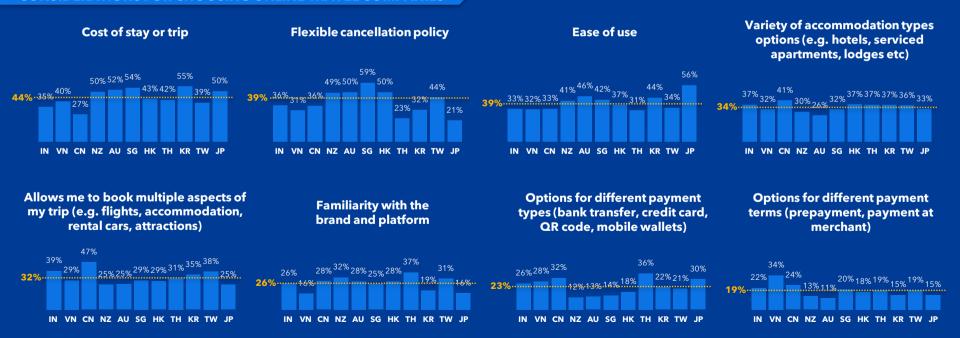


Travel costs and convenience (via flexible cancellations) factor strongly when it comes to booking travel

China: Higher consideration placed on allowing multiple aspects of trip (e.g. flights, accommodation, rental cars, attractions). **Thailand**: Options for different payment types are of bigger consideration compared to other countries.

Japan: Ease of use is a very important factor in choosing an online travel company.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHOOSING ONLINE TRAVEL COMPANIES



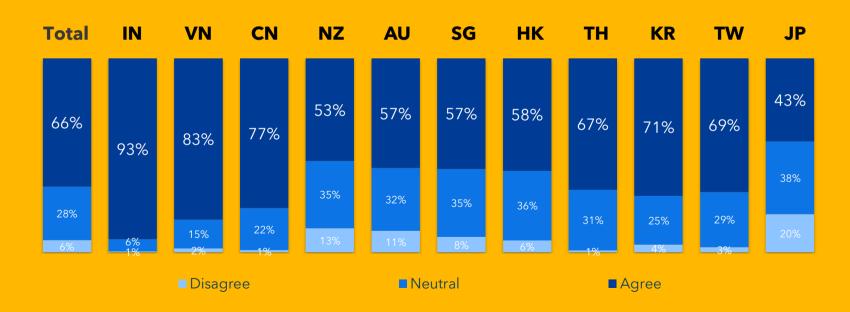
Travelers across all markets continue to use online travel companies primarily for booking accommodation and flights

TRAVEL VERTICALS OFFERED BY ONLINE TRAVEL COMPANIES



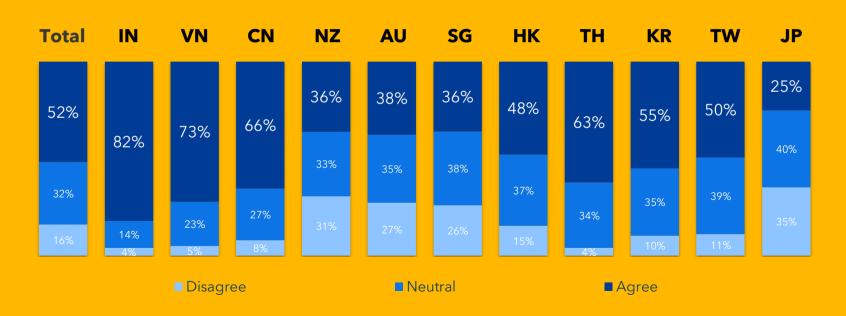
Making sustainable travel-related decisions is important to travelers, especially so for those in China, India and Vietnam

IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL DECISIONS



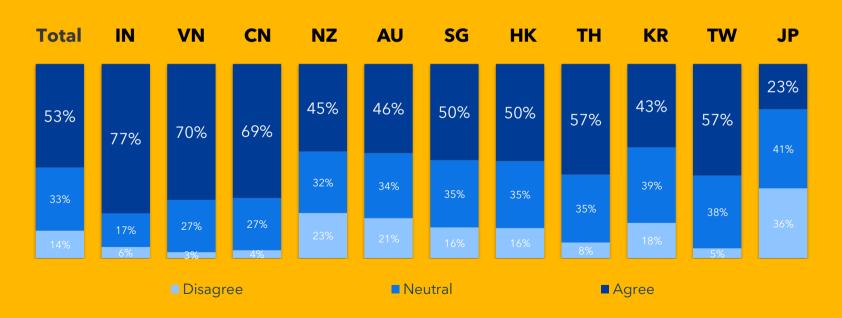
Travelers across APAC are generally willing to pay more for sustainable options, with Indonesia and Vietnam most open to doing so

WILLINGNESS TO PAY MORE FOR SUSTAINABILITY



APAC Travelers are generally willing to have less variety in accommodation - as long as they are sustainable options

WILLINGNESS TO HAVE LESS VARIETY FOR SUSTAINABILITY





WAY FORWARD

Summary of Results



- Majority are likely to travel domestically once restrictions are lifted, mainly with family and spouse/partner
- Health and safety are of utmost concern, and most travelers opt for season-based travel
- A variety of trip types are sought after by Indians who are up for luxury trips, nature-related activities, sustainable trips, beach trips, road trips, and mountains



- More than half prefer to take **at least 1-2 trips** (either domestic or internationally) for the next 12 months, either short haul or regional type of trip
- **Health, safety, and budget** are of utmost priority for travelers, with preferences on looking for authentic local experiences, beaches, and nature
- A variety of sustainable practices are considered important, such as eating locally-sourced food and joining activities and tours by locals



- A big majority prefer to have at least 1-3 domestic trips within the year
- The majority plan to head overseas once China's quarantine policy lifts while those who don't, plan on waiting more than 6 months before they do
- In terms of international travel plans, **majority prefer to travel within the vicinity** (Japan/Korea and SEA), lasting for 1 week or shorter
- Additional admin work to be done is bit a more highly considered compared to other countries.



Rank 3rd



- Despite the resumption of international travel, a large majority would still like to continue spending holidays at home
- Almost half still have the intention to travel internationally in the next 6 months, and a considerable number (36%) intend to go outside APAC
- A small number (38%) claim that the pandemic has affected the type of accommodation they prefer to stay in majority prefer hotels











- Despite the resumption of international travel, 7 out of 10 would still like to continue spending holidays at home
- Some (40%) still intend to travel internationally in the next 6 months, with a considerable proportion (32%) intending to travel out of APAC
- A small number (37%) claim the pandemic has affected the type of accommodation they prefer to stay in majority prefer hotels
- A small number (36%) intend to still do local staycations once international travel resumes, for family trips or milestone trips (e.g. birthdays)
- Making sustainable travel decisions is seen to be important by some (42%), with **affordability/cost** and inconvenience as top concerns for sustainable choices
- When it comes to holiday trips, short haul to regional trips are preferred
- High concern is placed on last minute cancellations due to border restrictions.
- Almost half are likely to book domestic staycations once international travel resumes
- Meanwhile, majority (68%) are likely to travel internationally given the implementation of travel bubbles, going for a duration of 6-9 days or less
- Besides safety measures and cleanliness, hotel amenities/facilities and proximity to local transportation are factors that impact booking accommodation
- Mandatory quarantine time is a big consideration when it comes to deciding to travel
- A big majority (69%) would still holiday at home even when international travel is possible
 - A number of concerns are considered regarding taking sustainable trips, but cost of access to sustainable journey is the top concern
 - Meanwhile, a big majority would prefer self-driving (74%) as main mode of transportation, going to beach trips and authentic local experiences



- Majority (67%) plan 1-3 domestic trips for this year, preferring beach trips, road trips, and even luxury trips
- **Key motivations to book travel include** to celebrate special occasions, to reconnect, to visit hidden gems, and to relax are stand-outs
- Travelers are likely to choose accommodation that practices sustainable measures, considering cleanliness, amenities, and proximity to local destinations



- Majority plan 1-3 (62% domestic trips for this year, mostly lasting for 2-3 days or less
- Safety measures are the main consideration for booking accommodations, followed by online reviews and proximity to local destinations
- Preferences are varied for domestic trips with **nature/mountains and authentic local experiences** as the most preferred



- An overwhelming majority (90%) have not travelled both overseas or domestically since the pandemic, but around a third plan to travel in the coming summer.
- Travelers are **not yet well-informed** on information on overseas travel
 - Sustainability practices have been done by travelers, with **reducing waste generation** as the top practice done by most

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