

Travel and Tourism - Bermuda - May 2015

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"Our lofty goals include greater investment in our tourism product. We can create a substantial volume of new pathways to success for Bermudians if we can foster greater private-sector investment in our tourism infrastructure. This is the focus of the BTA's investment division."

- Jessica Kelly, Senior Tourism Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- Why does the booming cruise industry have a downside for Bermuda tourism?
- Why has Bermuda's room stock fallen in recent years and how that is about to change?
 What steps have been taken to compensate for a shortfall in Bermuda's annual tourism budget?
- How is Bermuda now positioning itself as a tourist destination and how does that compare with the past?

Bermuda has a 'mature' tourism industry and for some 30 years, tourist arrivals (and consequently revenues) have scarcely moved. In 2014, Bermuda welcomed 224,000 international passengers who arrived by air. A further 356,000 came by cruise ship. Together, according to World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) data, they generated US\$504 million in tourism revenues.

Bermuda Tourism Authority (BTA) figures show that in terms of international arrivals, the tourism industry peaked back in the 1980s, when foreign arrivals consistently ran over 600,000 annually – not so much more than in 2014 (585,000 arrivals) but the difference is in the breakdown of those arrivals. In 1980, only 19% of foreign tourists were cruisers, whereas in 2014, 61% were cruise arrivals – tourists who seldom stay on the island for more than 24 hours.

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This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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