

GLOBAL TRAVEL DISTRIBUTION COVID-19 IMPACT

FEBRUARY 2021 EDITION



Travel Consul

Travel Consul is a network of the 18 best-in-class communications and marketing agencies worldwide that focus exclusively on travel, tourism and hospitality.

With experts in 44 countries, we deliver invaluable local insights and guidance on multimarket projects.







Reaching Today's Decision-Makers

B2B AND B2C TARGET AUDIENCES + INFLUENTIAL MEDIA + VALUABLE STAKEHOLDERS





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Global Services For Global Clients



Some Clients Working with Travel Consul Agencies in Multiple Markets





The Survey

Travel Consul launched its third survey to better understand the impact of COVID-19 on the industry and the future recovery of global travel distribution.

This round was conducted from late January to early February 2021 and gathered 1,292 complete responses from travel executives (tour operators and agency owners) across twenty outbound travel markets.

The first survey took place in June 2020 and the second in October 2020. These results are used in this report to compare and track progress.





Respondents by Company Type

1,292 COMPLETE RESPONSES



Q1. Respondents by company type



Respondents by Continent of Main Operation

1,292 COMPLETE RESPONSES



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RESPONSE TO COVID-19





Searching New Destinations Records a Consistent 5% Increase



Strengthening customer service Adjusting the business model Designing new products Examining new destinations Focusing on training programmes Investing in technology Reviewing internal docs (terms and conditions) Improving the current products Examining new audiences Improving supply base

Q3. What TOP THREE measures has your company implemented during the last three months?

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Travel Associations Remain the Primary Data Sources During the Crisis



Q4. What TOP THREE data sources are you using to help you cope with this crisis?





The Telephone Continues to Be the Second Most Popular Channel



Q5. Which channels are you using to interact with your clients these days? Please rank by order of relevance



1632.51 4.15

G

CHANGES AHEAD

28289.06 27956.04 ~Buy

OMX ICELAND 8

,06



Globally, Over Half Are Postponing Their Trips



Q6. What percentage of your clients are postponing, cancelling or travelling as scheduled these days?

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Significant Differences Per Continent



Q6. What percentage of your clients are postponing, cancelling or travelling as scheduled these days?

Globally, of those postponing, 50% are looking to go where they had originally booked



Q6.1 Of those clients who are postponing, what percentage (%) are...



Confidence Shows Rescheduling in Q3 2021

11% ~ Q2 2021
24% ~ Q3 2021
14% ~ Q4 2021
16% ~ 2022
35% ~ Clients are not committing to a date

Q6.2 Of those clients who are postponing, in which one period are they rebooking the most?

31% Of Europeans Expect A More Positive Outlook By Rescheduling To Q3 2021



Q6.2 Of those clients who are postponing, in which one period are they rebooking the most?

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A Positive 7% Increase In New Advance Bookings For International Trips



Q9. Of those clients making new bookings for international trips, how far in advance are they booking?



Advance New International Bookings Differ By Continent



Q9. Of those clients making new bookings for international trips, how far in advance are they booking?



Widespread Vaccinations Will Stimulate Bookings

We expect a higher no. of bookings only when vaccines are widely administered

Other factors (e.g. destination health certificate, reducing quarantine, free covid-19 test) will have more impact

Our clients have not changed their booking patterns yet

We are already seeing higher bookings with the news that a vaccine is on the way



Q7. How do you think that COVID-19 vaccine will have an impact on your international bookings during 2021?

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Immunity passport or e-vaccination certificate might be required from some destinations and suppliers (e.g. airlines) before international travel

66%

of distribution partners see this having a **positive impact on their 2021 bookings**

Q8. Do you see this having a positive or negative effect on your 2021 bookings?

Temperature Screening

Clients' #1 consideration when choosing a destination these days...

Destination Health And Safety Certification

Price & Access To Healthcare Systems Are Growing Client **Considerations**

Destination health/safety certification

Destination country government's management of the COVID-19 pandemic

Price

Strict enforcement of safety measures in the destination, i.e mask-wearing, safe distancing

Air transport safety measures

Access to and quality of healthcare systems

Hotel health/safety certification



Q10. What are your clients' TOP THREE considerations when choosing a destination today?

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A Continental Comparison





Q10. What are your clients' TOP THREE considerations when choosing a destination today?

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A High Level Of Client Interest Remains In Solo Travel, All-inclusive Resorts And Hotels & Resorts



Q11. What is the level of interest in the following products (low, medium or high)?



Favourite Continent/Region To Travel In 2021



Q12. What TOP ONE region/continent are your clients considering the most to travel in 2021?

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Travelling Within One's Own Continent Is The Preferred



Q12. What TOP ONE region/continent are your clients considering the most to travel in 2021?

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SOUTHERN EUROPE

Top 1 region selected by 64% of clients who are considering EUROPE to travel in 2021

WesternNorthernCentralEuropeEuropeEastern18%13%Europe6%

Q12.1 Which region in EUROPE are your clients considering the most to travel in 2021? Answered: 455





SOUTH ASIA

Top 1 region selected by 44% of clients who are considering ASIA to travel in 2021

Eastern South Asia East Asia 32% 24%

Q12.1 Which region in ASIA are your clients considering the most to travel in 2021? Answered: 177





NORTH AMERICA

Top 1 region selected by 78% of clients who are considering THE AMERICAS to travel in 2021

SouthCentralAmericaAmerica14%8%

Q12.1 Which region in THE AMERICAS are your clients considering the most to travel in 2021? Answered: 395



43% Increase In Domestic Travel



Q14. Has your domestic trip business increased or remained the same during the last three months?



The perception of the travel season is changing

• NO Travel seasons remain the same 59%

41% (+5)

• YES Summer/winter season is being extended into fall/spring or longer

Q15. Have travel seasons being stretched out?

C@NSUL Length Of Stay More Than Doubled In International Trips From1-7 To 8-14 Days



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60%

+15% compared to October 2020

of distribution partners believe that suppliers' cancellation and flexibility policies are having a **positive impact on their businesses**

Q17. How much are suppliers' cancellation and flexibility policies impacting your business?



THREE MOST REQUESTED ACTIONS FROM DMOS **TURISMO DE**

Presenting useful and timely data



3.

& Safe

Introducing a health and safety certification



Marketing campaigns for consumers

Q18. How important are the following actions that destination organizations can do to help you?

What Activities DMOs Can Do To Support Distribution Partners In Recovery



Q18. How important are the following actions that destination organizations can do to help you?

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Certifications are Vital



Q18. How important are the following actions that destination organizations can do to help you?

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OUTLOOK

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Q20. When do you expect your business to go back to normal pre COVID-19 levels?



Compared to October

2020

Modifying Reservations will be a Major Role

■Less ■Same ■More



Q22. Considering your role will change going forward and become more important to meet consumers' new needs, do you think you will be doing More, Same or Less in 2021?



Social Media Continues To Be The No. 1 Marketing Activity



Q24. Which marketing activities do you plan for the coming months?





50% Of Global Respondents Are Very Likely To Consider HOTELS & RESORTS Not Previously Offered





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Nearly 60% Of Global Respondents Are Very Likely To Consider DESTINATIONS Not Previously Offered



Q23. Will you consider destinations you have never sold before?





44% Of Respondents Are Likely And Very Likely To Consider New SUPPLIERS



Not likely Somewhat likely Very likely

Q23. Will you consider suppliers you have never offered before?



Evolving Roles

Round I, June 2020

Answered: 657 Skipped: 246

SUPPLIERS CUSCULATION STATES SAFETING COUNSELORS SAFETING COUNSELORS SAFETING DESTINATION CHALLENGING ANSWERS

Round II, October 2020

Answered: 635 Skipped: 386



Q28. How do you think your role will change going forward into 2021 and beyond?

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Evolving Roles

- Becoming more of an advising and information source during 2021 and beyond.
- Increasing awareness of critical markets and requirements.
- Being more trusted by travellers who will depend upon travel advisors more than before for accurate and timely information.
- Running more checks and scrutiny while selecting a destination.
- Offering more flexibility, support and reassurance to their client (less sales, service fees will need to be applied).

Round III, February 2021

Answered: 790 Skipped: 502



"We will become even more trusted and the "go to" person for all our customer's travel needs"



A Much Smaller... And different Industry

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Q21. What's the likelihood of your staff or independent contractors leaving the industry in 2021?

A Much Smaller... And different Global Industry



Q21. What's the likelihood of your staff or independent contractors leaving the industry in 2021?

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For More Information Please Contact Your Local Travel Consul Agency Partner



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THANK YOU

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