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# Qatari Tourists Visiting Turkey Increase by 46% in 2014

*GCC currently contributes to 5% of Turkey's tourism revenue*

**Dubai - Jun 17, 2014:** Turkey remains one of the most popular holiday destinations for Qataris. This is according to the "Turkish Culture and Tourism Office":<http://www.tourismturkey.ae/en> in Dubai, which found that Qataris visiting Turkey increased by 46% during the first four months of this year compared to the same period in 2013. Turkey is one of the most popular holiday destinations for GCC citizens.

"Turkey remains a popular destination, not only for the GCC but globally," said Mustafa Ozdemir, cultural & information attaché, Cultural & Information Office Turkish Consulate General in Dubai. "The GCC currently contributes 5 % of Turkey's tourism revenue, with Qatar being one of the highest contributors. It's understandable that the GCC and Turkey both have historical and cultural ties and this is evident in the increase of tourists over the last year. Residents are choosing the country based on its locality, cost and historical richness."

Last year Turkey attracted more than 39 million tourists, making it the sixth most popular tourist destination in the world. While Istanbul remains the most popular city for GCC tourists to visit in Turkey, Antalya, Bodrum and Bursa are fast becoming destinations of choice, especially during the peak summer period in July and August.

"In order to further increase visitors and highlight Turkey to Qatar, we will be looking for opportunities to invest in tourism in order to foster sustainable growth and mutual understanding between our two countries," added Ozdemir.

### ENDS ###

## **About Turkish Cultural and Tourism Office:**

The Turkish Cultural and Tourism Office in Dubai is the official representative of the Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism. One of the main aims of the Tourism Office is to bridge the gap between cultures and foster relationships with the travel industry by organising promotional activities throughout the GCC. The Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism participates in travel exhibitions and conferences to position the country as a leading tourist destination. With its breath-taking views, unique historical and archaeological sites, steadily improving hotel and touristic infrastructure and a tradition of hospitality and competitive prices, it's no wonder Turkey is among the most sought-after travel destinations in the world.

The primary functions of The Turkish Cultural and Tourism Office in Dubai are:

- Supervises all promotional activities relating to Turkey in the GCC
- Liaise with travel agencies
- Organises roadshows to further promote Turkey as a destination for leisure, shopping, health, sports and invest in the MICE (meetings, incentives, conference and exhibitions) Middle East market.

To read aggregated news about Turkish Tourism please click "here":[http://www.tcf-me.com/client\\_portal/turkey-tourism/content\\_items](http://www.tcf-me.com/client_portal/turkey-tourism/content_items)



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