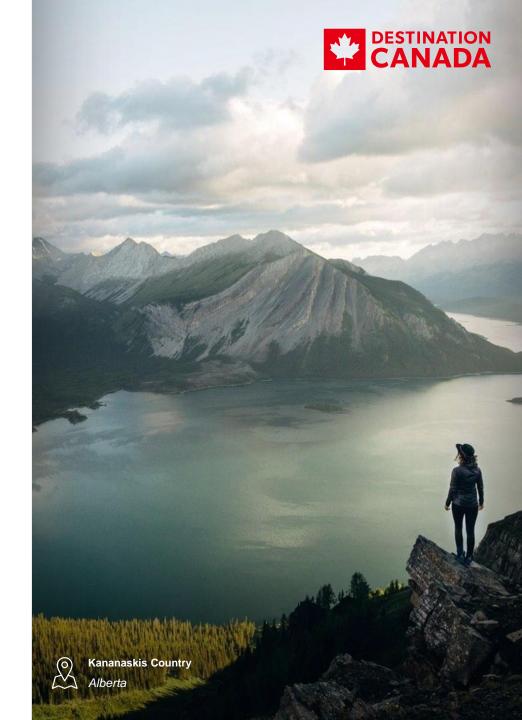


# **UK Market Overview**

An annual view of the UK market to help understand general trends towards travel and how Canada fares against competitors on key destination brand metrics.

Please note that the insights in this report are drawn from two of YouGov's proprietary syndicated data products, **YouGov Global Travel Profiles** and **YouGov DestinationIndex**. As a result, access to and sharing of this report and its underlying data are restricted to those within Destination Canada's organization and among organizations with access to the Canadian Tourism Data Collective (CTDC).



# **Syndicated Product Overview**



# YouGov Global Travel Profiles

YouGov Global Travel Profiles (GTP) surveys consumers daily in 30 key travel origin markets, to help travel & tourism organizations identify who is ready to travel when, where they want to go and what kind of trip they are planning.



### **Survey Start in United Kingdom**

October 20, 2020



### **Methodology Notes**

Attitudinal statements are integrated into YouGov Global Travel Profiles platform from another YouGov study. These questions have lower sample sizes than other variables.



### 2023 Base Sizes

Sample distribution: National 18+

Total UK: **26,071** 



# **Syndicated Product Overview**



# YouGov DestinationIndex

**YouGov DestinationIndex** is an always-on destination brand tracker. Daily data enables you to spot sentiment changes in real-time and take action, while measuring and benchmarking performance. Track public perception of Canada and other destinations across 16 brand metrics to track destination brand health, inform strategy and ultimately influence travellers' perception of Canada.



### **Survey Start in United Kingdom**

April 20, 2020



### **Methodology Notes**

Maximum of 30 destinations shown to any panel member at any given time, with sample split accordingly as more than 30 destinations are tracked.

Destinations are added to the tracker on an on-going basis.



### 2023 Base Sizes

Sample distribution: National 18+

Total UK: 13,402 - 18,053



# **Syndicated Product Overview**

# YouGov DestinationIndex



### Engagement: Media & communication metrics

### **Advertising Awareness**

1 Which of the following destinations have you seen an advertisement for in the PAST TWO WEEKS?

### **Aided Awareness**

Which of the following destinations have you ever heard of? Please select all that apply.

### Attention

3 Respondents hearing positive OR negative buzz about the destination.

### Buzz

Over the PAST TWO WEEKS, which of the following destinations have you heard something POSITIVE about (whether in the news, through advertising, or talking to friends and family)? Now which of the following have you heard something NEGATIVE about over the PAST TWO WEEKS?

### Word of Mouth Exposure

Which of the following destinations have you talked about with friends or family in the PAST TWO WEEKS (whether in-person, online, or through social media)?

### Lower funnel metrics

### **Purchase Intent**

Which of the proposed destinations are you most likely to visit?

### Consideration

When you are in the market next to plan a vacation or a fun day out for yourself / your family, which destinations would you consider?

### **Recent Visitor (Current Customer)**

- Which of the following destinations have you visited in the past 12 months?
- Former Visitor (Former Customer)
  Which of the following destinations have you ever visited?



### **Destination / Brand health metrics**

### **General Impression**

Overall, of which of the following destinations do you have a POSITIVE impression? Now which of the following destinations do you have an overall NEGATIVE impression?

### **Visitor Satisfaction**

Of which of the following destinations would you say that you are a "SATISFIED VISITOR"? Of which of the following destinations would you say that you are a "DISSATISFIED VISITOR"?

### Quality

Which of the following destinations do you think have a GOOD QUALITY? Now which of the following destinations represents POOR QUALITY?

### Value

Which of the following destinations do you think represents GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY? By that we don't mean 'cheap,' but that the destinations offer a visitor a lot in return for the price paid. Now which of the following destinations do you think represents POOR VALUE FOR MONEY? By that, we don't mean 'expensive,' but that the destinations do not offer a visitor much in return for the price paid.

### Reputation

Which of the following destinations do you regard as having a GOOD reputation for vacations? Now which of the following destinations do you regard as having a POOR reputation for vacations?

### Recommendation

Which of the following destinations would you

RECOMMEND to a friend or colleague? And which of the following destinations would you tell a friend or colleague to AVOID?

### Index (Overall Destination Health)

16 Average of Impression, Quality, Value, Reputation, Satisfaction & Recommend

# **Key Insights**





### Brits love international travel, but post-pandemic growth is slowing

- More Brits say they prefer vacationing abroad than within the UK
- Roughly half of Brits are planning to travel internationally, near level with the number planning domestic travel
- Incidence of those planning international travel increased for the second consecutive year, albeit at a slower rate



 Understanding the evolving preferences and behaviors of Brits in international travel can inform targeted strategies to capture their interest and enhance Canada's appeal as a top destination



### Economic pressures are impacting Brits' ability to travel abroad

- Brits are planning fewer trips than in years past
- Price of travel and price of accommodation are the most common obstacles preventing travel
- 42% of Brits mention overall value for money as an influence when choosing a destination
- More Brits are booking during off-peak periods



 With fewer trips planned, competition intensifies among destinations to attract British travellers. The increasing trend of Brits booking outside school breaks offers an opportunity for Canada to attract visitors during off-peak periods



### Brits want cultural experiences and city adventures when travelling

- 81% of Brits agree that you can only ever get to know a country by experiencing its culture
- City breaks are Brits' favourite types of trips, while natural beauty is declining as an influence of destination choice



 Highlighting the diverse and enriching city experiences across Canada could emphasize cultural depth and resonate with Brits, aligning with their travel preferences and fostering a strong connection with Canada



### The UK market is becoming more competitive

- Consideration is up for most destinations within the competitive set
- Ad awareness and word of mouth is up for most destinations
- Advertising for the US and Australia was far reaching but ineffective as no key performance metrics increased alongside their increased ad awareness
- More advertising channels are cited as effective for destination marketers to reach British travellers



 In an increasingly competitive market, strategic ad spend and prioritizing conversion tactics are vital to stand out and avoid stagnation in consideration among British travellers





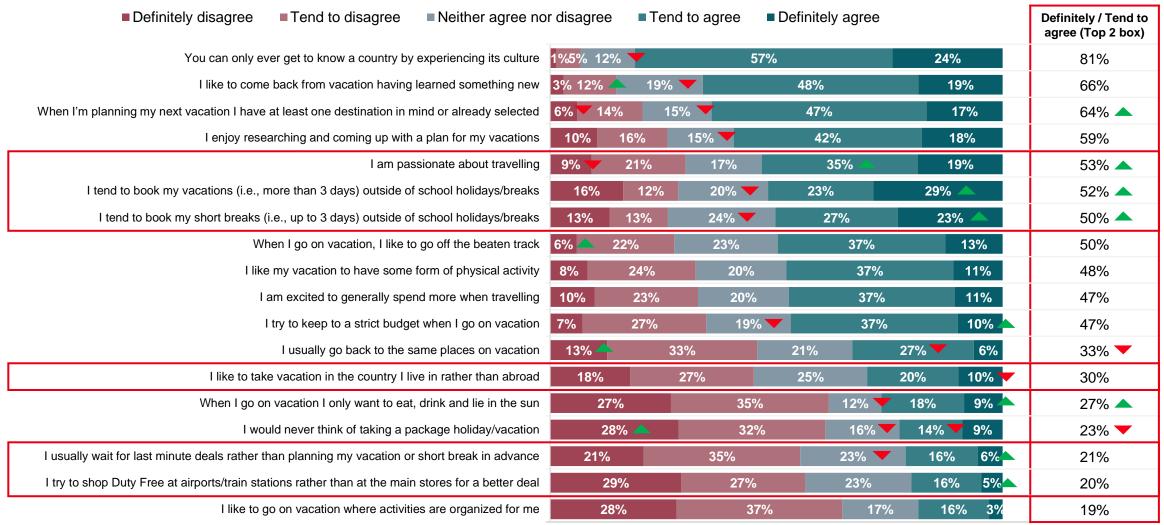
# United Kingdom Market Overview



# **Attitudes Towards Travel**



There is an increase in passion for travel and booking trips outside of school holidays/breaks, and a shifting preference from domestic to international travel; however, Brits are also becoming increasingly cautious about spending by adhering to a budget, waiting for last minute deals and shopping at Duty Free

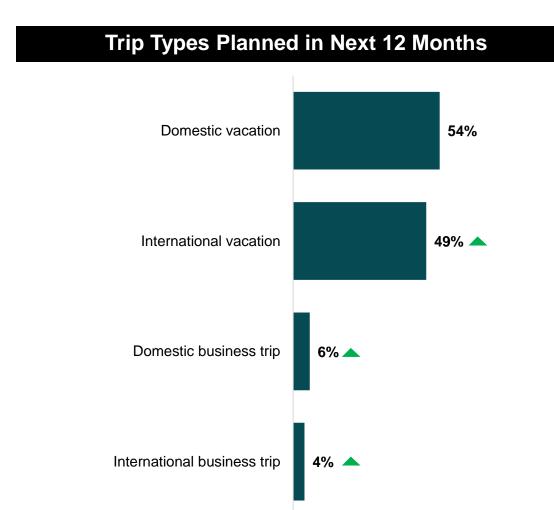


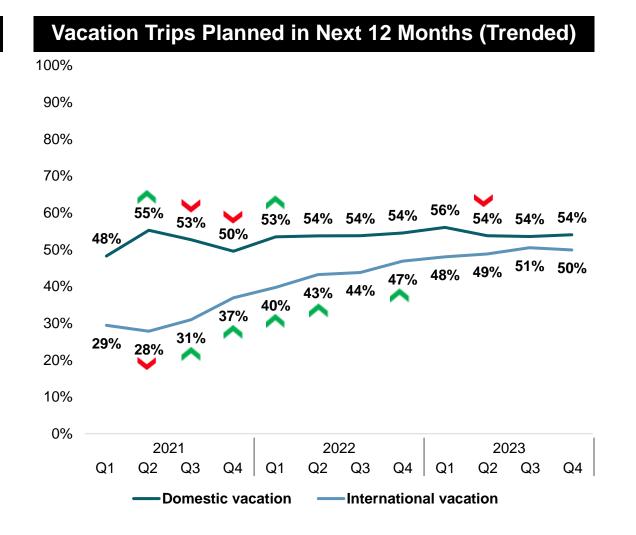


# **Trip Types Planned in Next 12 Months**

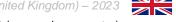


The incidence of those planning international vacations has increased for the second consecutive year to further close the gap with domestic vacations, albeit at a decelerated rate in the latter half of 2023. Planned business travel also experienced growth in 2023





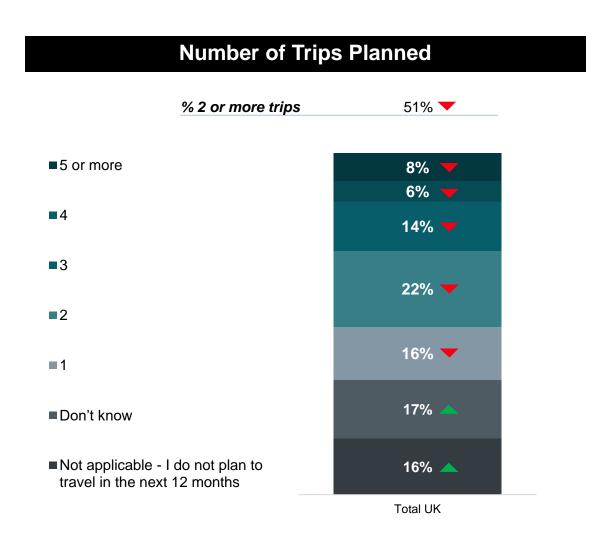


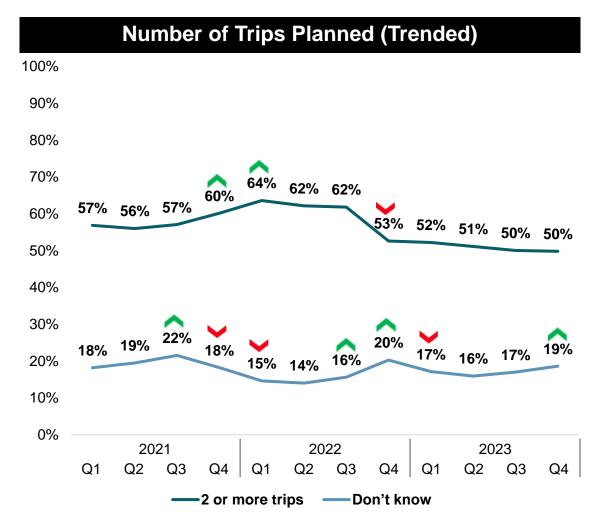


# **Number of Trips Planned in Next 12 Months**



Despite the rise of international travel intentions, Brits are planning fewer trips than in years past possibly driven by inflation



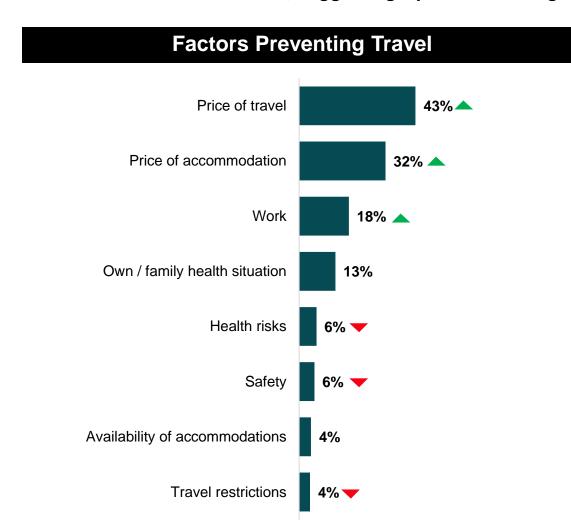


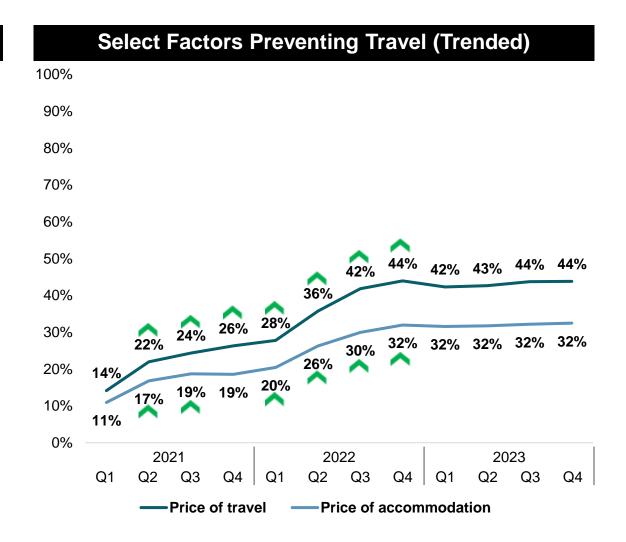


# **Factors Preventing Travel**



Inflation has driven travel and accommodation costs higher pushing it to become major travel obstacles; however, mentions for both plateaued over the course of 2023, suggesting a potential easing of these challenges





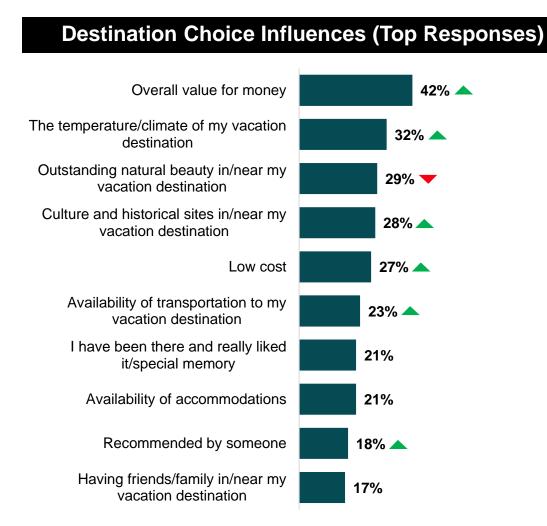


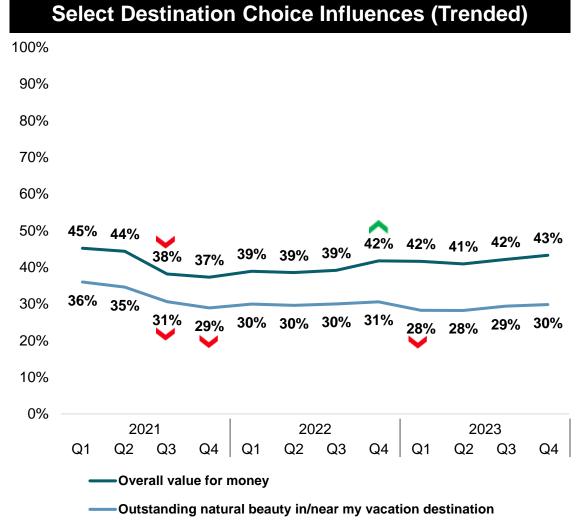


# **Destination Choice Influences**



Similarly, overall value for money and low cost are high on the list of destination choice influences, ranking first and fifth, respectively. Mentions of outstanding natural beauty as an influence are down for the second straight year



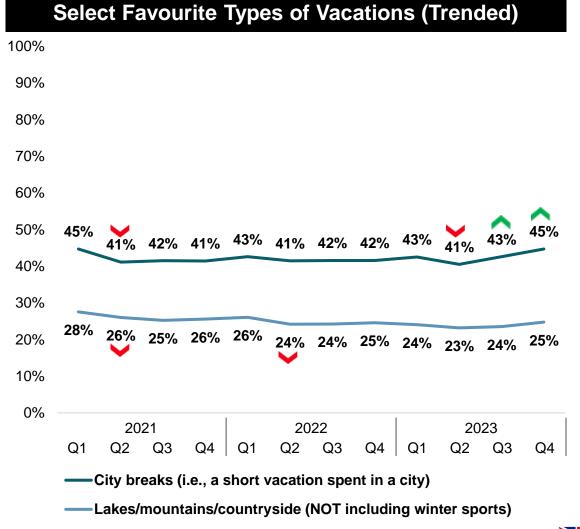


# **Favourite Types of Vacations**



Brits' favourite types of vacations are city-focused, relaxing, or a combination of the two, potentially driven by the UK's proximity to Europe providing plenty of options for both city and beach trips

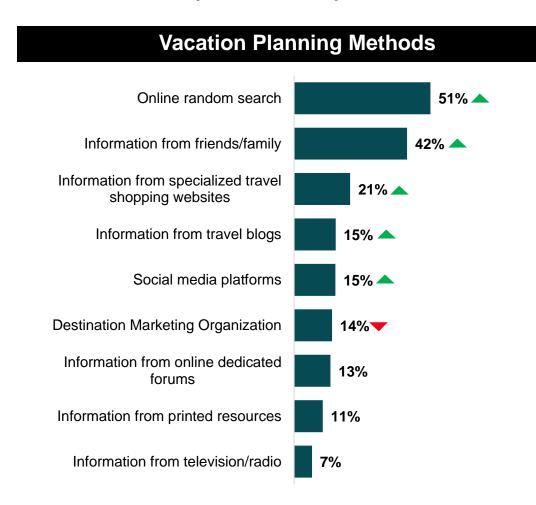
### **Favourite Types of Vacations (Top Responses)** City breaks (i.e., a short vacation spent 43% in a city) Combined relaxing and 41% sightseeing/activity vacations Beach (relaxing) 39% 📥 Visit friends and family 35% Culture and history 29% Lakes/mountains/countryside (NOT 24% 🔻 including winter sports) Activities (e.g., walking and hiking, 18% cycling, health and fitness etc) Camping/caravanning 15% Multi-centred vacations Cruise Vacation at a theme park Spa vacation/health spa vacation

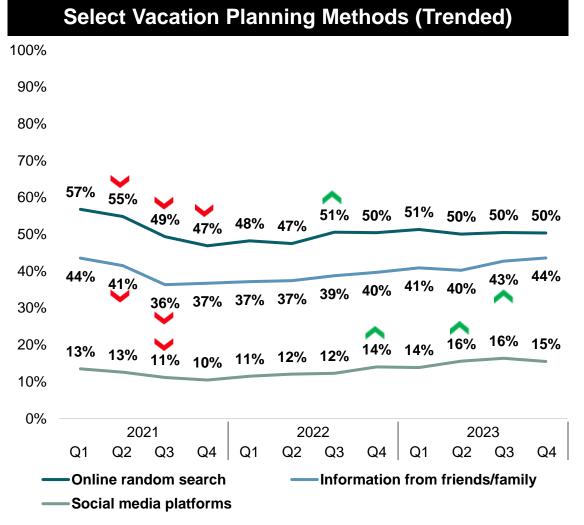


# Vacation Planning Methods



Many vacation planning methods are up year-over-year likely driven by renewed interest in travelling internationally and looking for the best value for money. Social media platforms rank well behind both online random search and information from friends/family





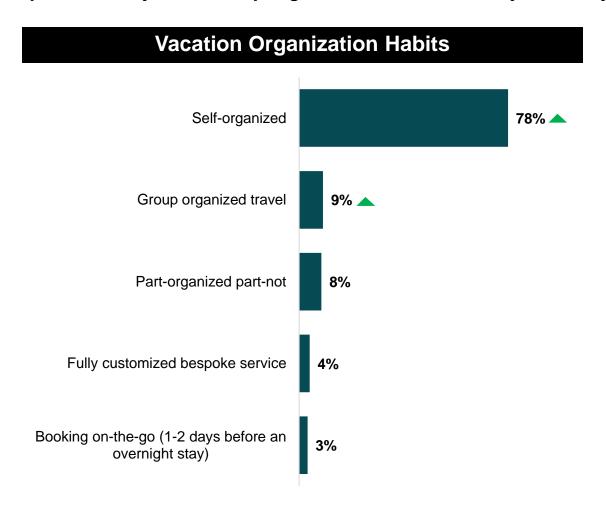


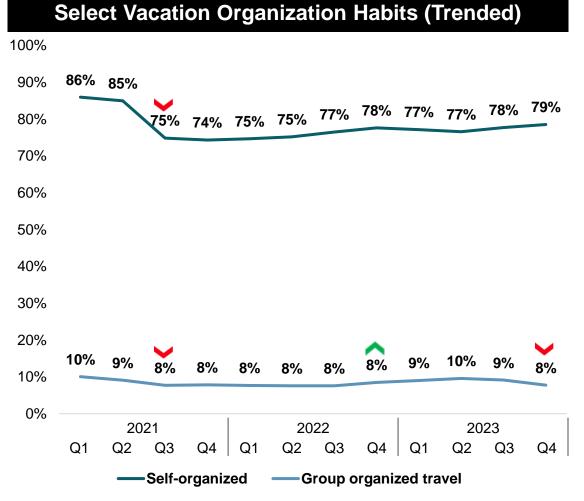


# **Vacation Organization Habits**



While self-organization has increased since last year and remains the dominant vacation organization method, scores are down compared to early 2021. Group organized travel increased year-over-year, but less than one in ten rely on it





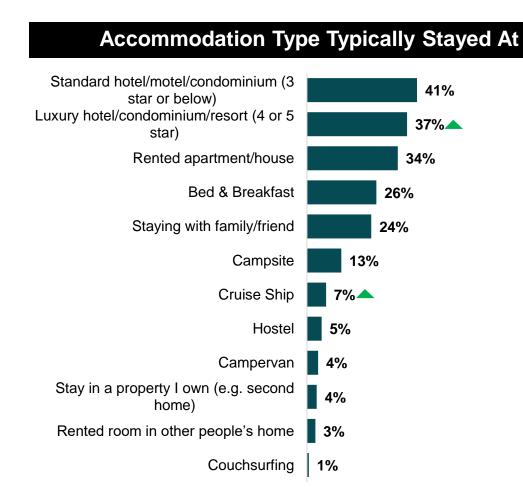


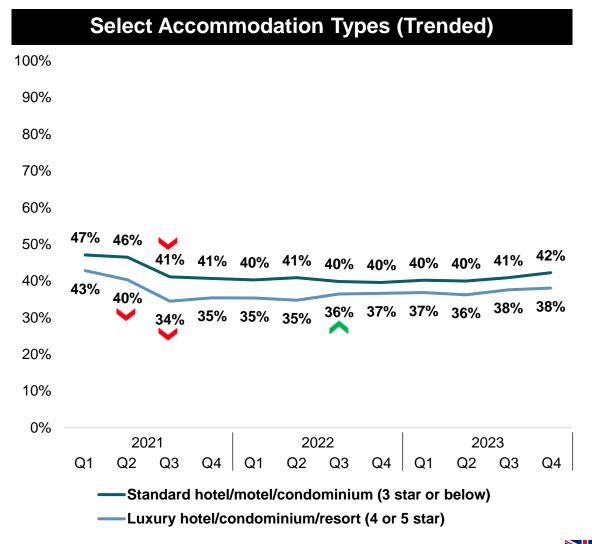


# **Accommodation Type Typically Stayed At**



Although the cost of accommodation remains a significant travel obstacle, Brits increasingly mention stays at luxury hotels, indicating a perception that these establishments offer experiences justifying their higher costs

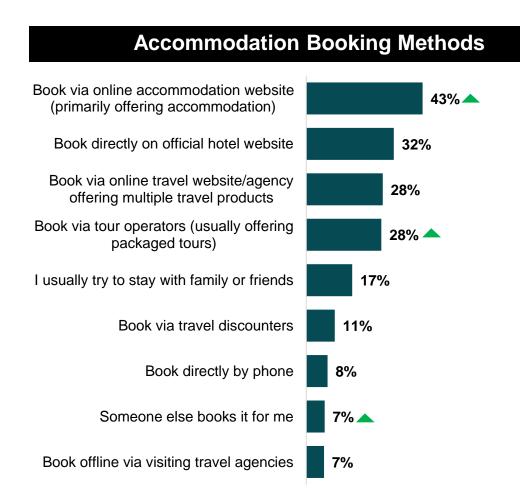


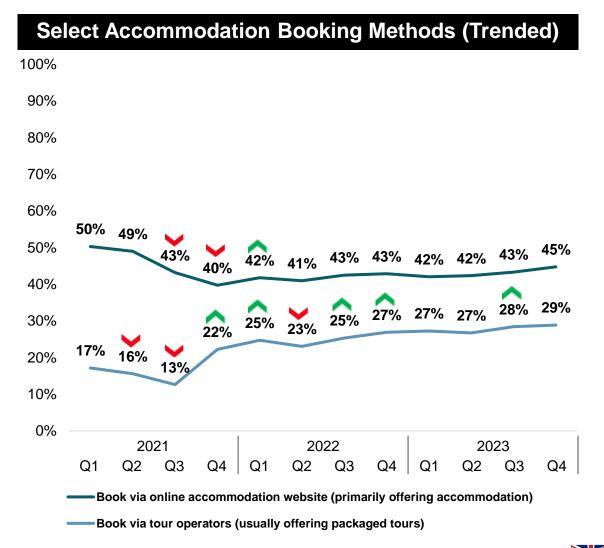


# **Accommodation Booking Methods**



Booking via online accommodation websites and tour operators is up year-over-year

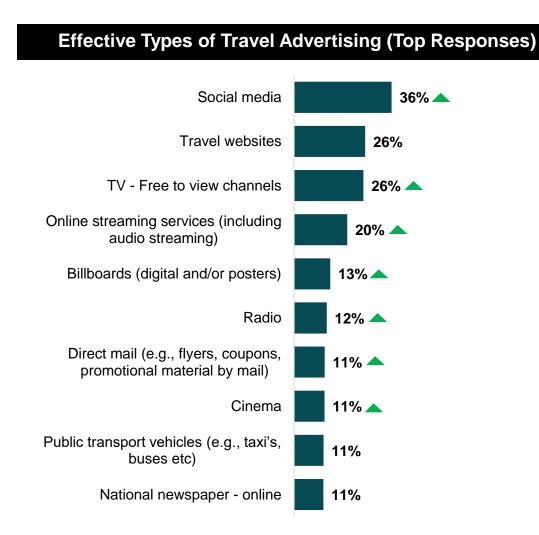


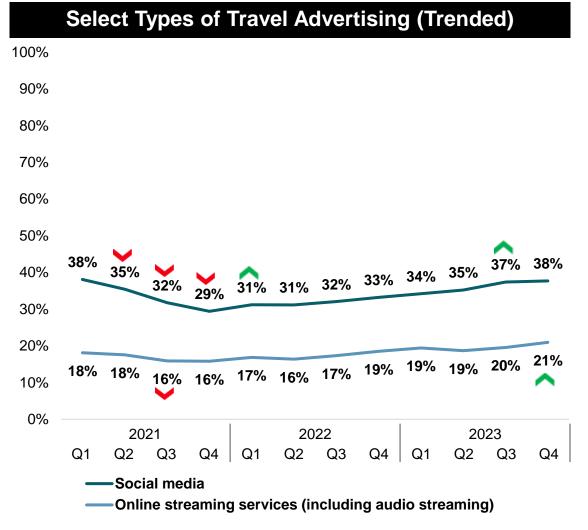


# **Effective Types of Travel Advertising**



Brits highlight more channels as effective in capturing their interest and engagement.







# Performance of Canada in 2023 vs. Competitors



## **Performance Scorecard for Canada**



### Metric **Definition Question Text** The degree to which consumers feel they know and Overall, of which of the following destinations do you have a Total POSITIVE impression? / Now which of the following understand a brand, beyond just being aware of its existence. **Impression** destinations do you have an overall NEGATIVE impression? Total impression = positive + negative impression When you are in the market next to plan a vacation or a fun The number of consumers who would consider the destination Consideration day out for yourself / your family, which destinations would when they are next in market to plan a vacation. you consider? **Positive** How likely consumers are to recommend a destination to a Which of the following destinations would you RECOMMEND to a friend or colleague? Recommend friend or colleague. Average of Positive Impression, Positive Reputation, Positive Destination Overall measure of a destination's brand health across Quality, Positive Value, Positive Satisfaction, Positive **Health Index** several key destination health metrics. Recommend **Positive** Which of the following destinations do you regard as having a How much consumers like and respect a destination. GOOD reputation for vacations? Reputation Over the PAST TWO WEEKS, which of the following destinations have you heard something POSITIVE about How much positive news coverage consumers are hearing **Positive Buzz** (whether in the news, through advertising, or talking to friends about a destination. and family)? Which of the following destinations have you seen an Ad Awareness How much advertising consumers have seen for a destination. advertisement for in the PAST TWO WEEKS? Which of the following destinations have you talked about with **Word of Mouth** How much consumers are talking about a destination. friends and family in the PAST TWO WEEKS (whether inperson, online, or through social media)?

# Performance Scorecard for Canada



Canada performed well in the UK market in 2023, ranking 1st (out of 9 destinations) in two of eight key performance metrics and in the top three in all eight metrics. Scores also increased in three metrics, most notably consideration

**Total Impression** 

**56%** 

Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> (out of 9)

Consideration

19%

Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> (out of 9)

**Positive Recommend** 

26%

Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> (out of 9)

**Destination Health Index** 

31%

Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> (out of 9)

**Positive Reputation** 

43%

Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> (out of 9)

**Positive Buzz** 

12%

Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> (out of 9)

**Ad Awareness** 

4%

Ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> (out of 9)

**Word of Mouth** 

11%

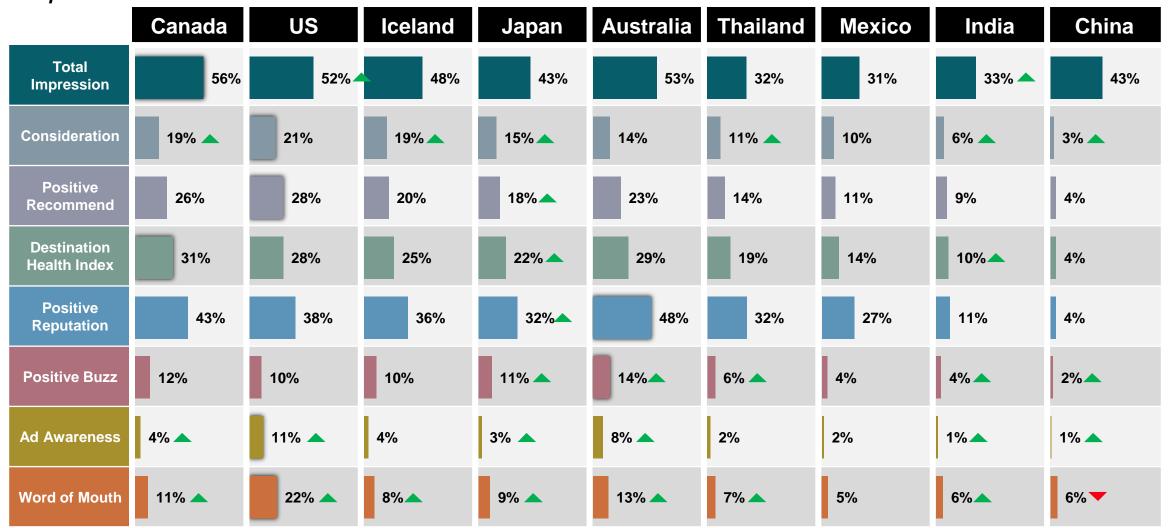
Ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> (out of 9)



# 2023 Annual Scores



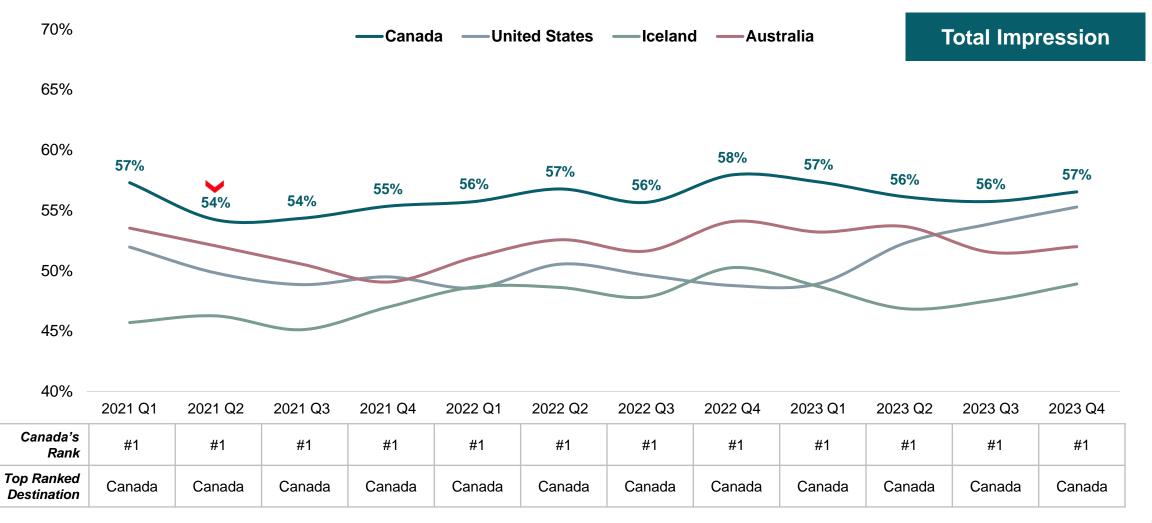
Scores increased for Canada and across the competitive set in 2023. Media metrics (positive buzz, ad awareness and word of mouth) and consideration saw most consistent increases, reflecting growing interest in international travel and a more competitive landscape



# Total Impression: Positive + Negative Impression (Trended)



Canada continues to lead the competitive set for total impression; however, the US has shown significant growth in 2023, closing in on Canada's score

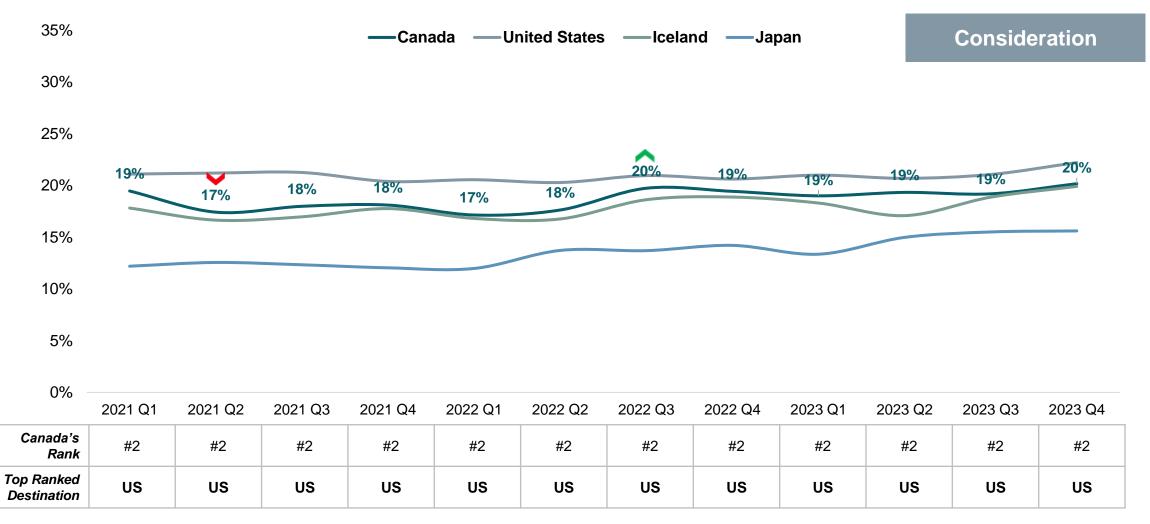




# **Consideration (Trended)**



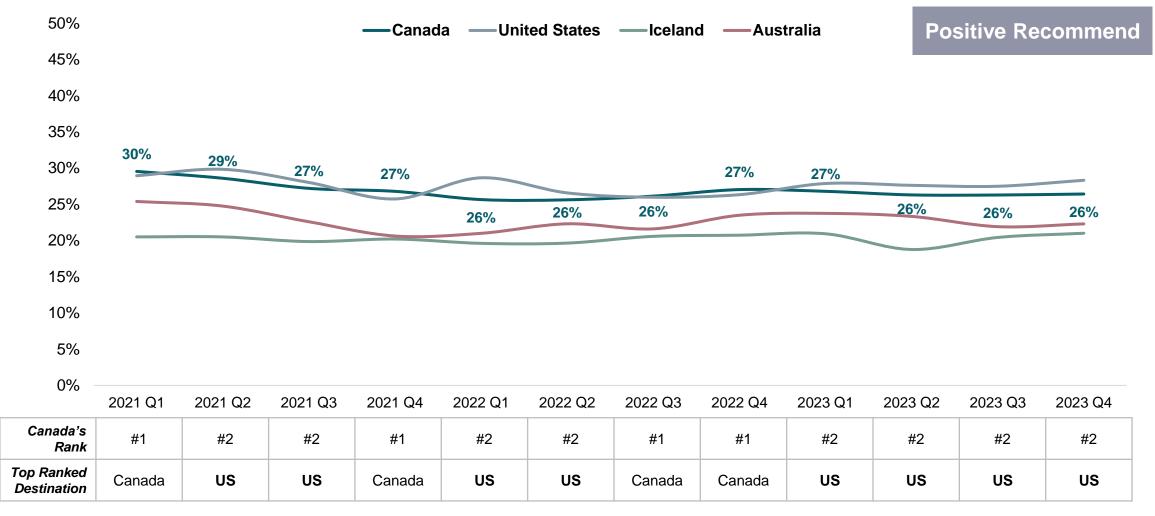
With Canada's year-over-year improvement, it has recovered from losses during the first half of 2022. However, competitors are also seeing year-over-year growth, Canada's plateauing scores may indicate loss of market share



# Positive Recommend (Trended)



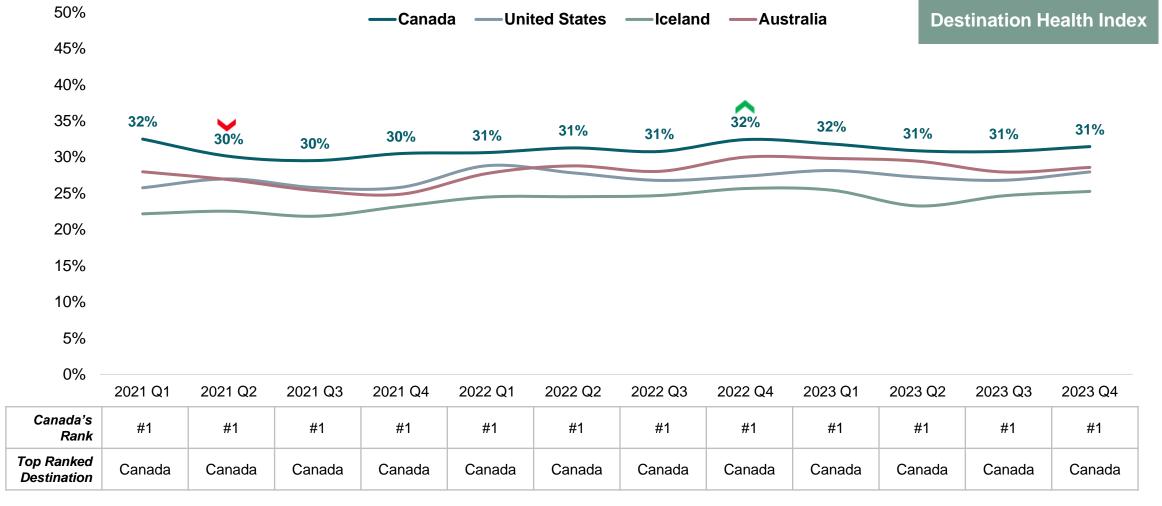
While Canada ranks second in positive recommend, scores are near level with those of the US



# **Destination Health Index (Trended)**



Canada remains the top-ranking destination in overall destination health; however, Japan and India saw notable increases in 2023 suggesting emerging competition that could impact consideration for even the highest-scoring destinations



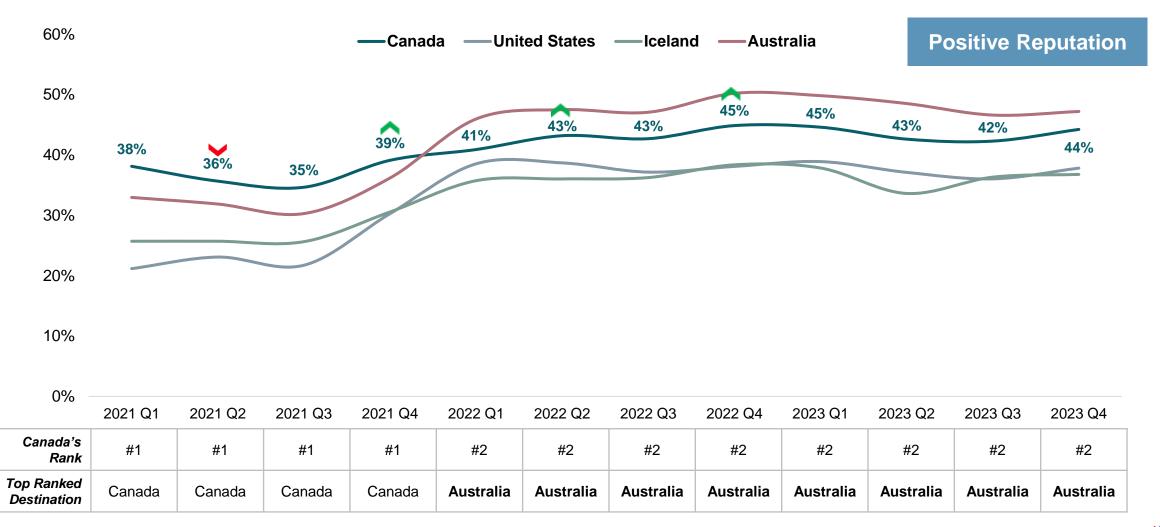




# **Positive Reputation (Trended)**



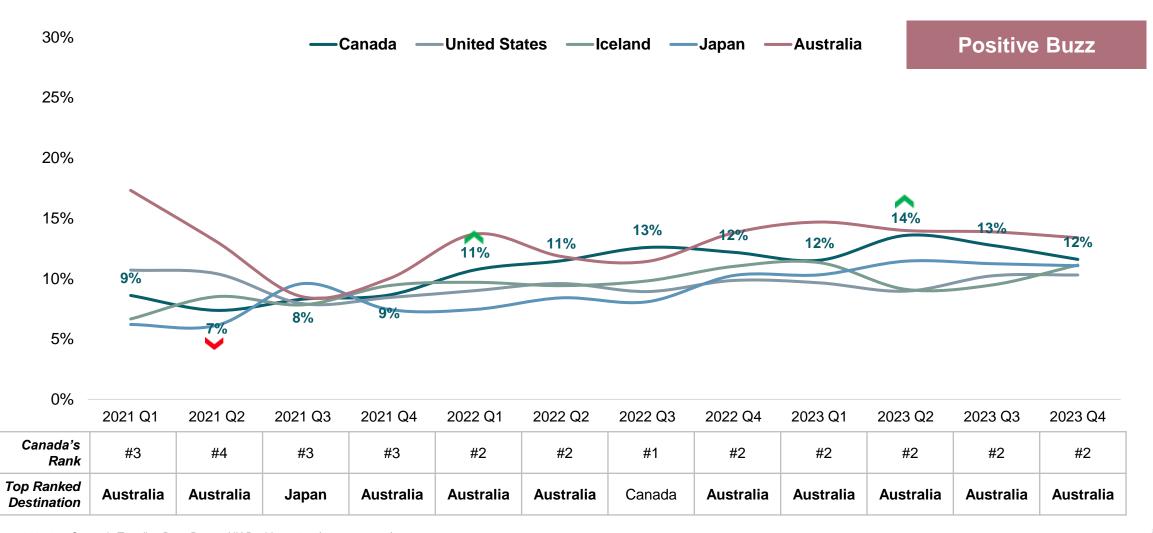
Many destinations experienced significant increases in late 2021 and early 2022 as Canada was overtaken in positive reputation rankings by Australia; Canada failed to regain its top rank as of 2023 Q4



# **Positive Buzz (Trended)**



Sentiment towards Canada and other top-ranked destinations is near level, and all except Australia and the US have experienced growth since early 2021



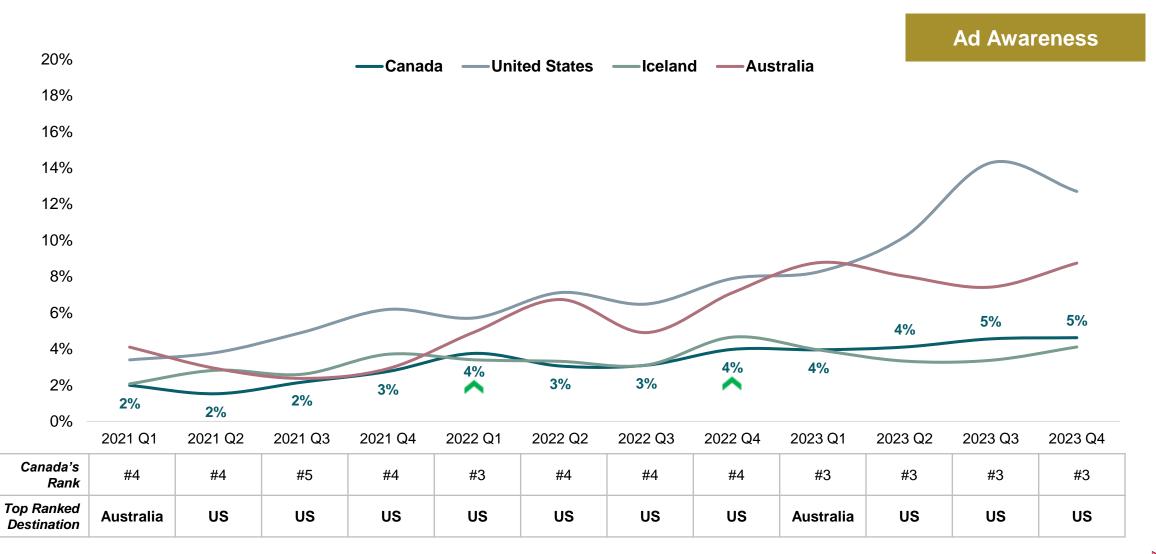




# Ad Awareness (Trended)



Media effectiveness has improved for most destinations but particularly for the US whose ad awareness peaked at 13% in 2023 Q3, almost twice that of the next highest competitor for that quarter

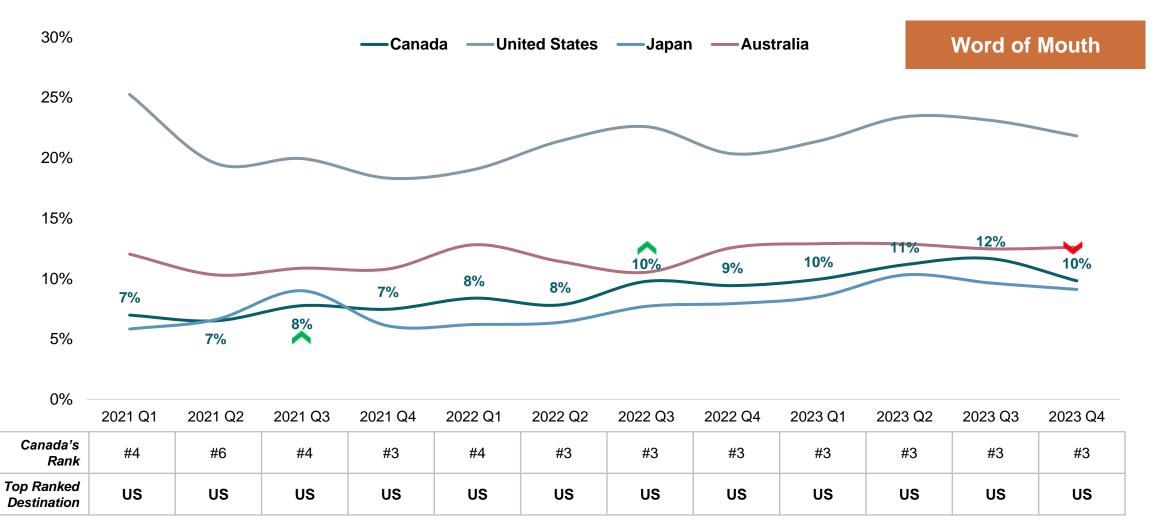




# Word of Mouth (Trended)



The US continues to lead share of voice by a significant margin, potentially influenced by prevalent US advertising. Scores for Canada tend to be highest in Q3s (July, August, September)







# THANK YOU

For any questions, please reach out to research@destinationcanada.com



