Winter 2024 MM Travel GY Intelligence

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Methodology

MMGY's *Portrait of American Travelers*® deals exclusively with leisure travel. The travel trend information presented in this report was obtained from surveys of 4,500 U.S. adults in October–November 2024.

This report primarily focuses on active leisure travelers, defined as those who intend to take at least one overnight leisure trip during the next 12 months. There were a total of 3,633 active leisure travelers. At the bottom of each slide, the Base will detail the audience represented in the data.

Respondents were selected randomly and participated in a 20-minute online survey. The sample has been balanced by statistical weighting to ensure the data is representative of all leisure travelers in America.

The five generations of adults surveyed are defined below. Due to the small number of Silent/GI respondents, we did not include their individual results in this report.

The error interval of the statistical estimates appearing in this report (for n=3,633) is +/- 1.68% at the 95% level of confidence. Please note, not all charts sum to 100% due to rounding.

Generation	Age	% of Respondents
Gen Zers	18–25	13%
Millennials	26-41	30%
Gen Xers	42–57	26%
Boomers	58–76	29%
Silent/GI	77+	2%





Key Insights

Travel Outlook

- American travelers are itching to travel more, with survey results showing larger budgets, an increase in trips and traveler sentiment at its second highest since July 2022.
- American travelers are planning to spend more on vacations (\$5,051) and take more trips (an average of 4.1) in the next 12 months compared to any time in the past two years.
- Larger travel budgets are partially due to travelers simply choosing to spend more (30% vs. 25% in 2023), as opposed to higher travel prices necessitating larger budgets.
- Furthermore, 8 in 10 (79%) travelers are planning a getaway in the next 12 months, a 7% increase from Q4 '23.
- Demand for travel is reaching its highest rate in almost four years, eclipsing the post-COVID "revenge travel" boom as Americans continue to devote larger proportions of their disposable incomes to vacations.

Where People Want to Visit (Domestic Destinations)

- Following Hurricane Helene, destinations across Florida saw a significant decrease in travel interest compared to Q4 '23.
- Likewise, Texas saw a drop in interest, with Corpus Christi and Houston seeing significantly fewer travelers expressing interest.
- Alternatively, New York City and destinations across Hawaii and California saw significant increases in intent.

Online Travel Agencies (OTAs)

- OTAs are primarily, and increasingly, used for comparing prices and availability (73%), particularly among older generations.
- Younger travelers are motivated by this comparison feature but also find the user experience and familiarity with OTAs through advertising to be significant motivators for use.



Key Insights

Online Travel Agencies (cont.)

 Three-quarters (77%) of American travelers are planning to use OTAs, although concerns that they will be unable to collect loyalty points or have difficulty canceling/changing bookings have increased compared to 2023.

Brand Loyalty

- There has been significant growth in brand loyalty across active leisure travelers, with airlines and hotels seeing extensive growth in their loyalty programs.
- For airline loyalty programs, the ability to earn redeemable loyalty points has become **as important** as previous positive experiences, highlighting just how critical these programs are for driving repeat business.
- Large hotel brands are gaining a larger share of the market, with Marriott and Hilton seeing significantly more booking consideration than smaller brands.
- Hotel booking consideration has also seen significant growth from 2023, indicating that the benefits from their loyalty programs are playing a pivotal role in driving growth for these businesses.

Brand Loyalty (cont.)

- The importance of hotel and airline loyalty programs is underpinned by the growth in members across both sectors.
- There was a 6% growth in hotel loyalty program members from 2023 (51% to 57%); airlines saw an even larger growth of 8% from 2023 (47% to 55%).
- Furthermore, Millennials and Gen Xers showed the largest increase in loyalty program membership, with growth in hotel loyalty among Gen X members up 16% from 2023 and up 11% for Millennials. This difference is even more pronounced among airline loyalty program members, with the number of Gen X subscribers increasing 18% from 2023 and Millennials increasing 16%.
- Finally, there was a 10% growth in airline and hotel loyalty program subscriptions among leisure travelers with HHIs of \$100K+.



Key Insights

Social Media

- Social media plays a powerful role in influencing travel purchases among American leisure travelers who follow celebrities or influencers, with 41% of this group reporting that a post from a celebrity or influencer has at least partially shaped purchase decisions.
- Travelers are looking for authentic stories and pictures from real travelers across social media. Authentic images resonate the most with American leisure travelers, with 54% valuing this content from destination pages.
- This is linked to the shrinking perception of travel content as authentic, with an 11% drop from 2023 in travelers perceiving content from influencers as authentically representing destinations (72% to 61%).
- Furthermore, content creators and travel influencers are significantly more influential than celebrities when it comes to travel decisions, with over half (51%) of travelers saying they had been influenced "a great deal" or "somewhat" by influencers compared to 41% by celebrities.

Vacation Motivators and Activities

- Older generations find traveling to see or spend time with family a particularly strong motivation, while younger Americans enjoy experiencing diverse cultures and sampling the cuisines available.
- Overall, scenic or natural locations are the top priority across all generations, with visiting national parks among the top activities for all generations.
- Solo travel is also becoming more important, with 27% of Americans planning a solo vacation in the next six months compared to 23% in 2023.

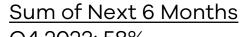
International Travel Intentions

- Demand for international travel in the next six months grew 6% from Q3 (29% to 35%), while demand for international travel in the next two years increased 4% (80% to 84%), over the same period.
- Interest in international travel over the next six months is at its highest since 2020, with far more travelers than in previous years planning holidays between November and April. The low-cost and less-crowded nature of off-peak vacations continues to become more attractive to American leisure travelers.





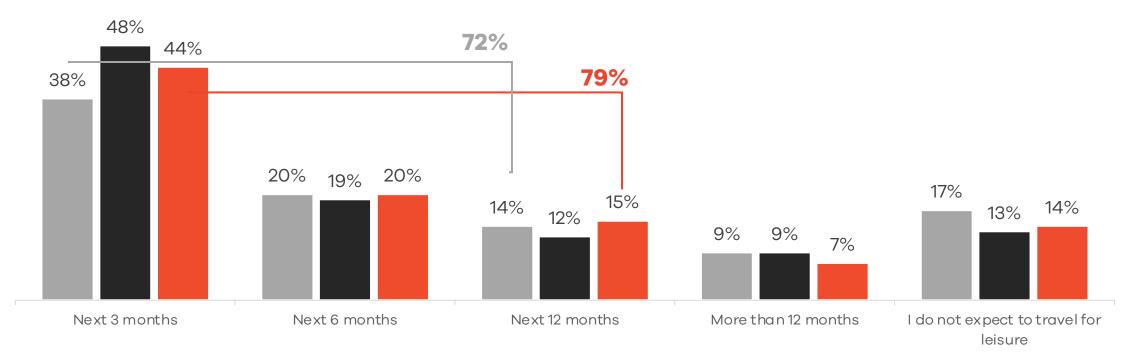
Travel intentions for Q4 2024 have increased from the previous year, with Americans expressing a strong interest in traveling over the next 12 months.



Q4 2023: 58% Q4 2024: 64%

Earliest Expect to Take Next Vacation

■ Q4 '23 ■ Q3 '24 ■ Q4 '24

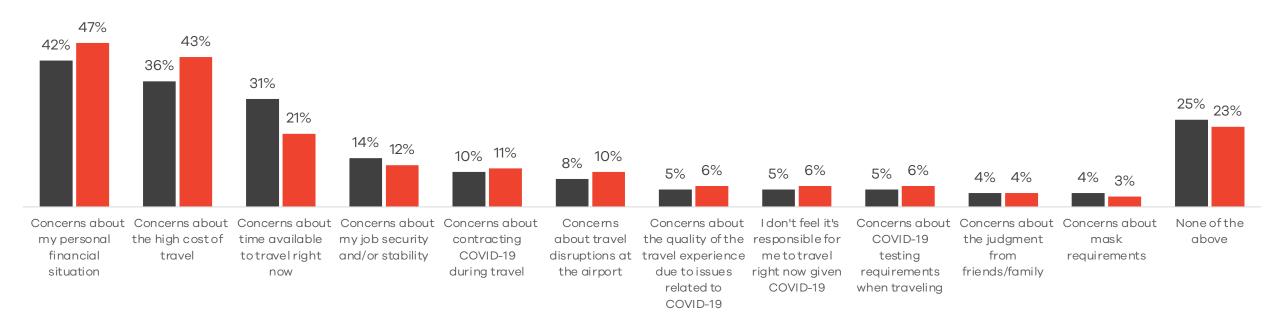




Financial concerns have increased from the previous quarter, but Americans are significantly less concerned about time available for travel.

Reasons for Not Traveling During the Next Six Months

Q3 '24 Q4 '24

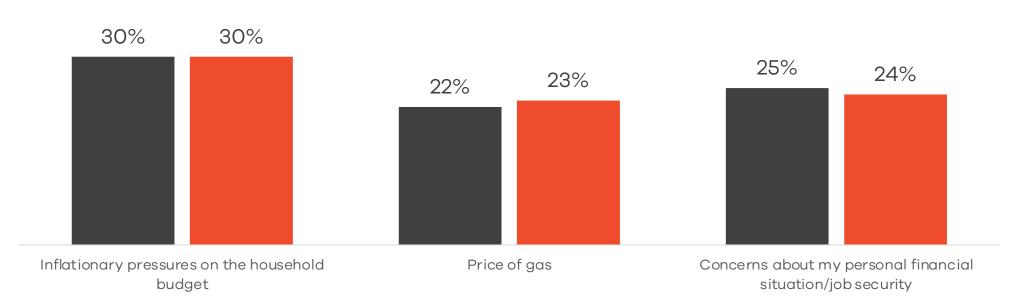




Financial concerns continue to have a similar impact on American travelers in the fourth quarter.

Financial Impacts on Leisure Travel in the Next Six Months

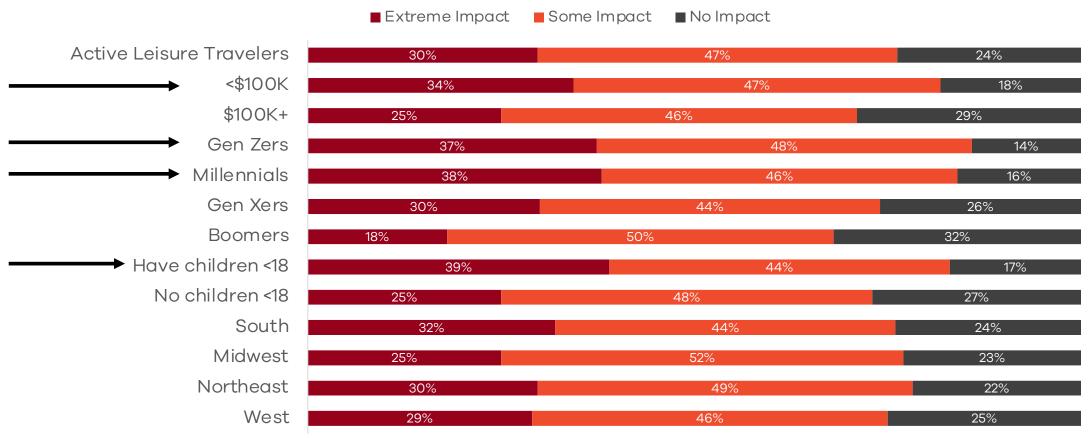






Inflationary pressures have the most significant impact on Gen Zers, Millennials, those with lower household incomes, and families.

Extent to Which Inflationary Pressures Will Impact Travel During the Next Six Months

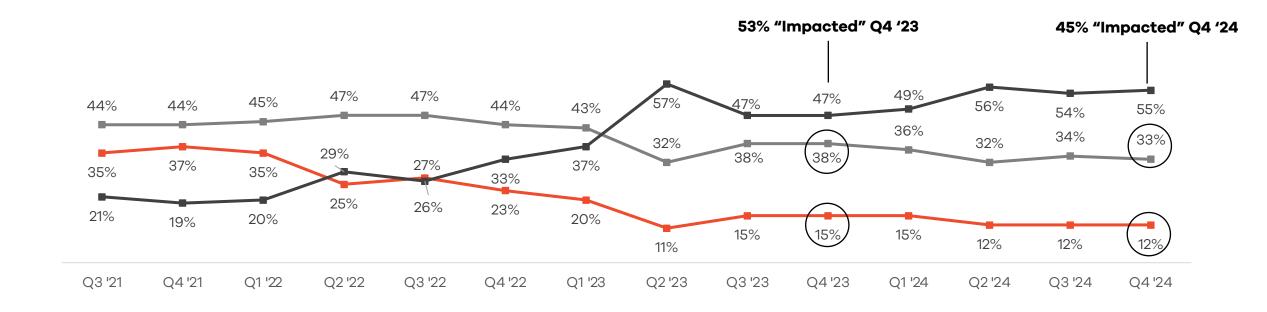




The reported impact of COVID-19 continues to decrease year over year.

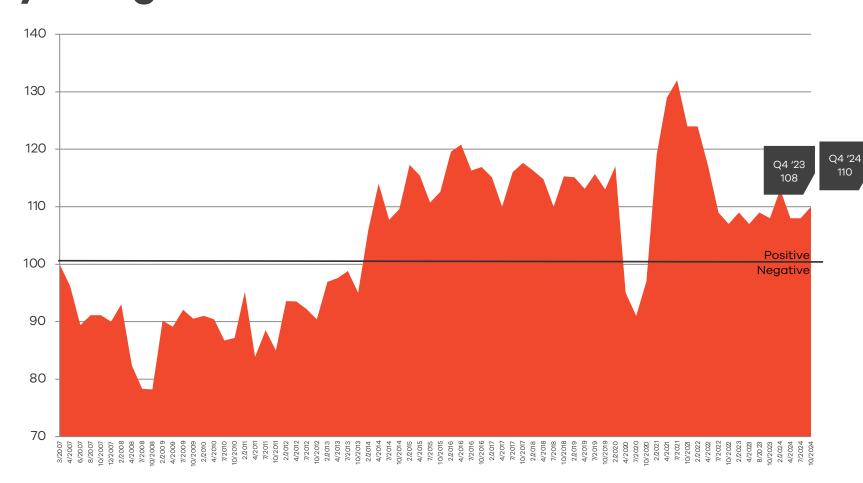
Extent to Which COVID-19 Concerns Will Impact Travel Plans







Traveler Sentiment IndexTM (TSI): increased slightly from one year ago.

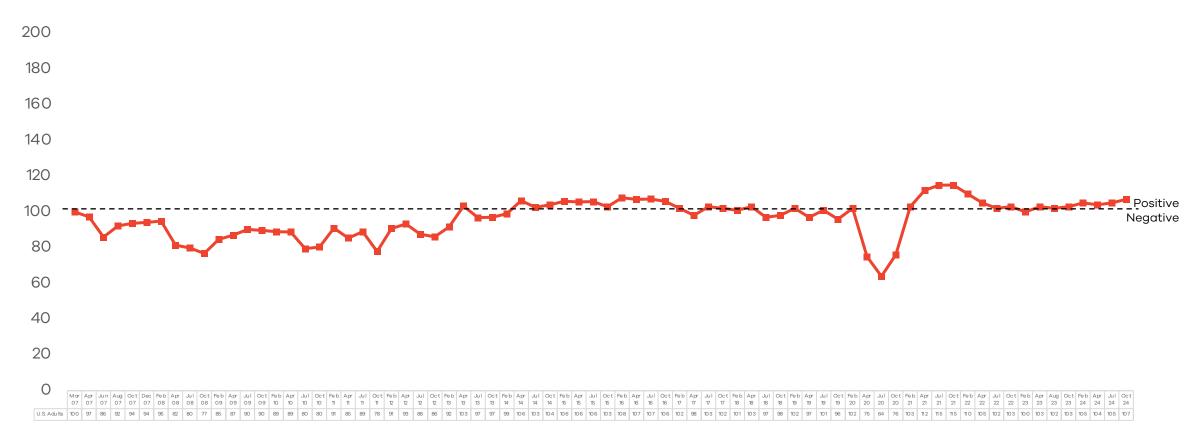


The Traveler Sentiment IndexTM (TSI) consists of six variables, including interest in travel, time available for travel, personal finances available for travel, affordability of travel, quality of service and safety of travel. It provides a glimpse into how U.S. adults are feeling about travel this year compared to the same time a year ago. MMGY Travel Intelligence has calculated and reported the TSI quarterly since March 2007; therefore, we are able to compare the indices to February 2020 (pre-pandemic levels) to track how the traveler mindset has changed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.



raveler Sentiment Index TM

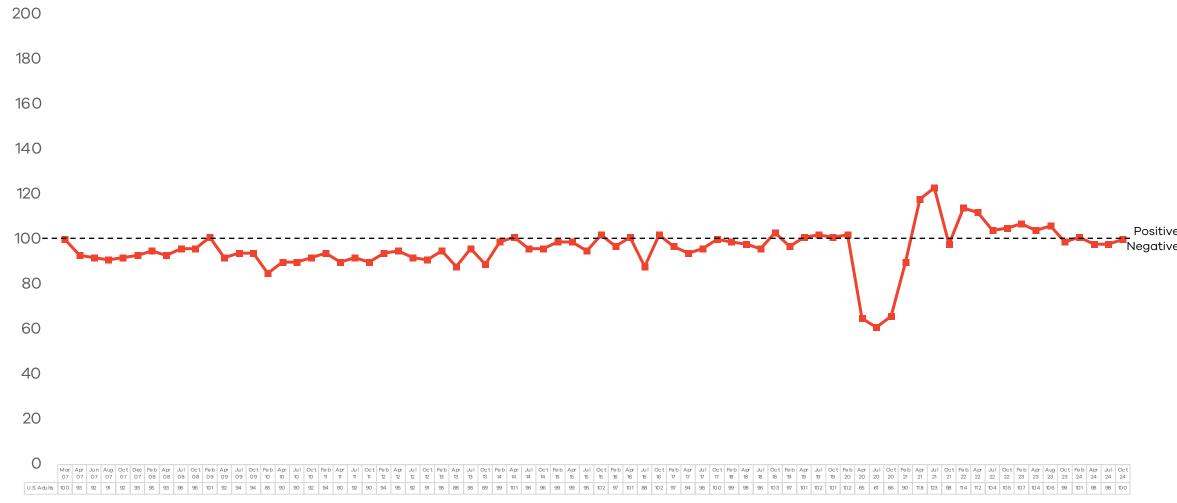
Index 1: Interest in Travel



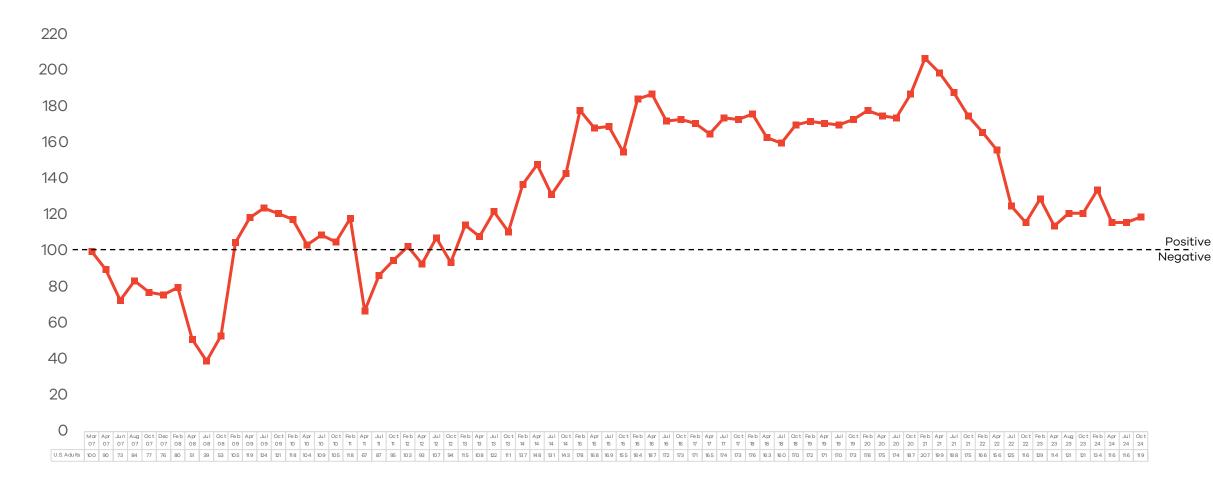


raveler Sentiment IndexTM

Index 2: Safety of Travel

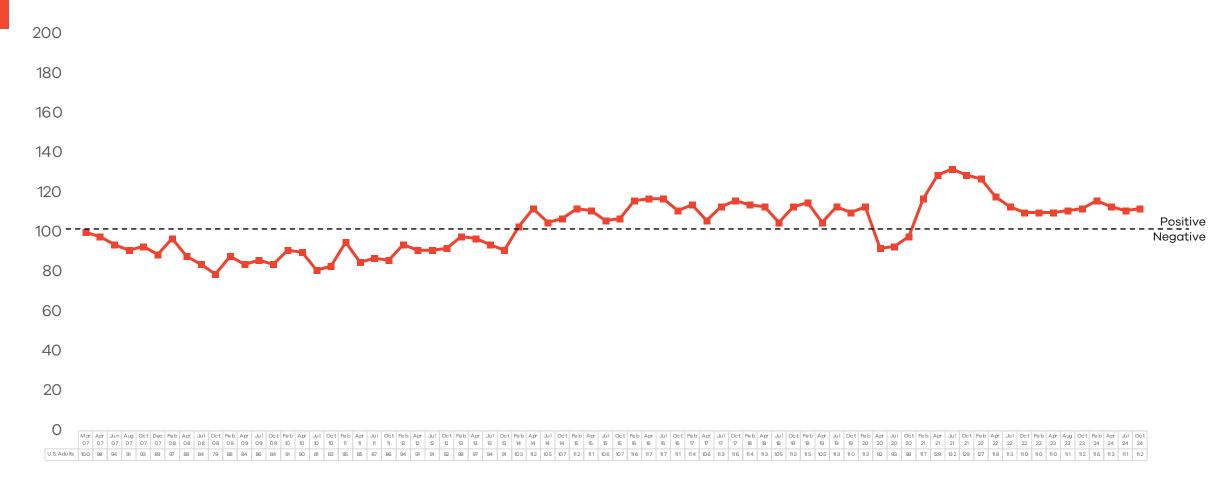


Index 3: Perceived Affordability of Travel



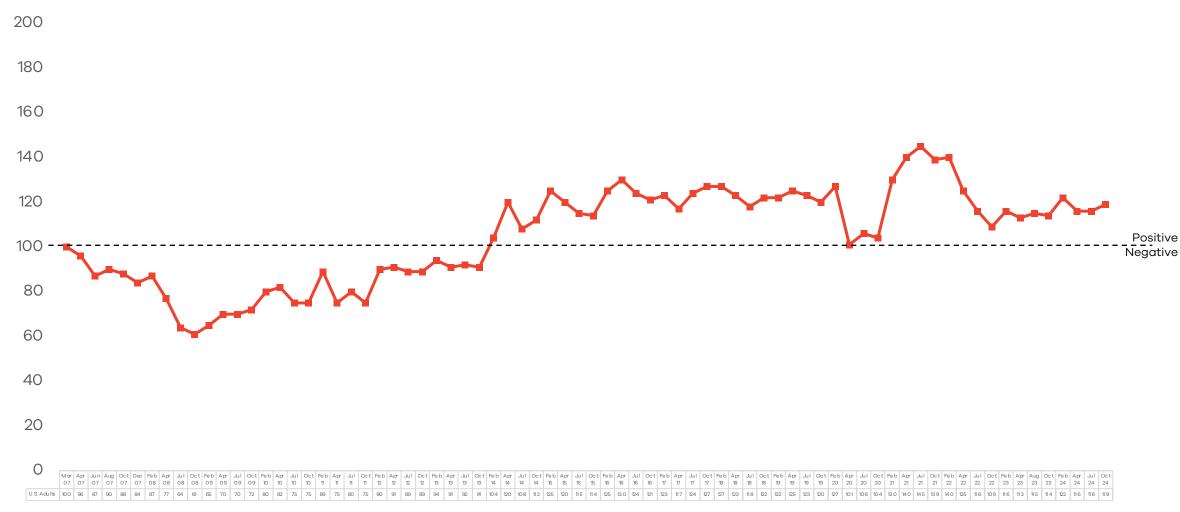


Index 4: Time Available for Travel





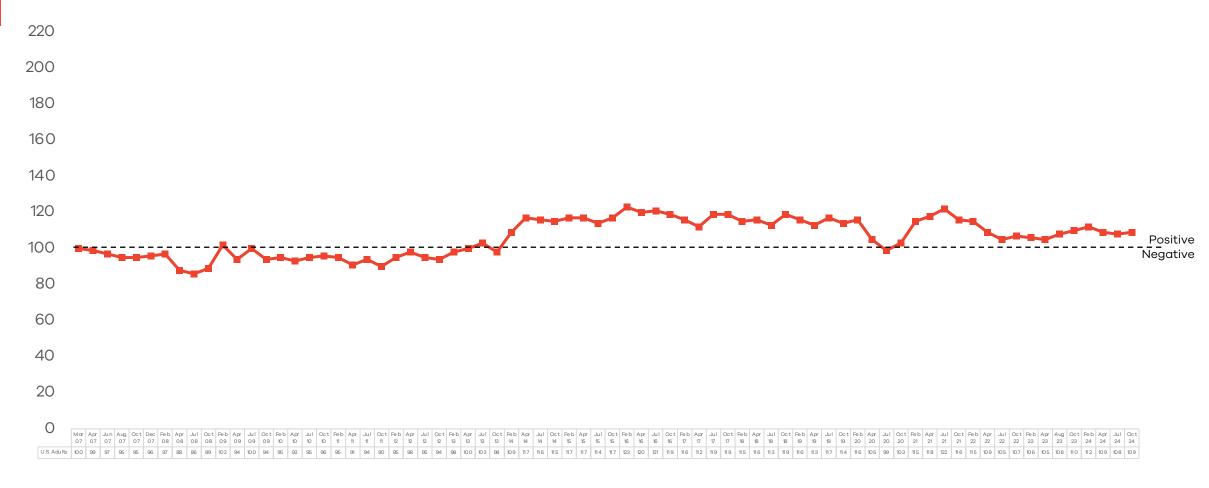
Index 5: Personal Finances Available for Travel





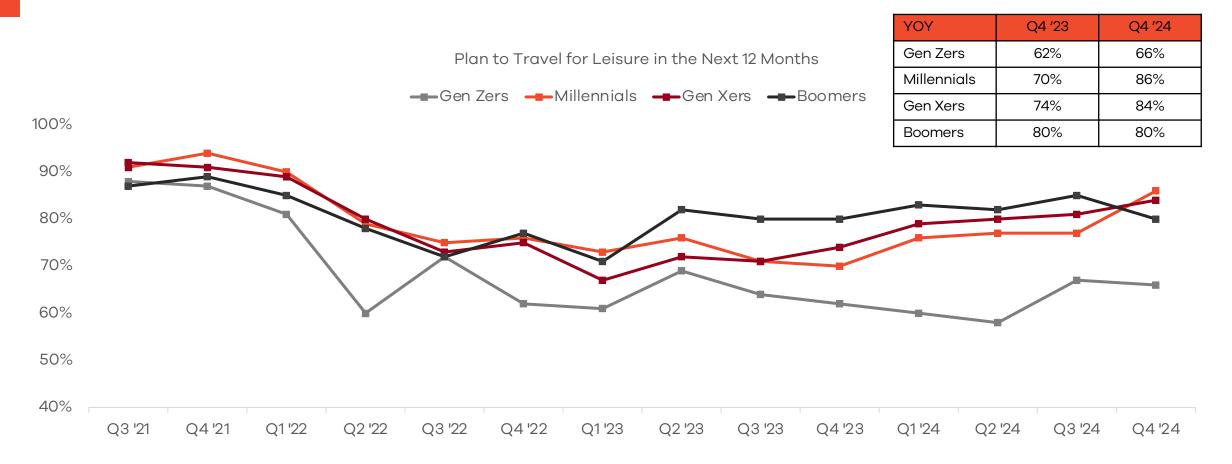
raveler Sentiment Index TM

Index 6: Quality of Service





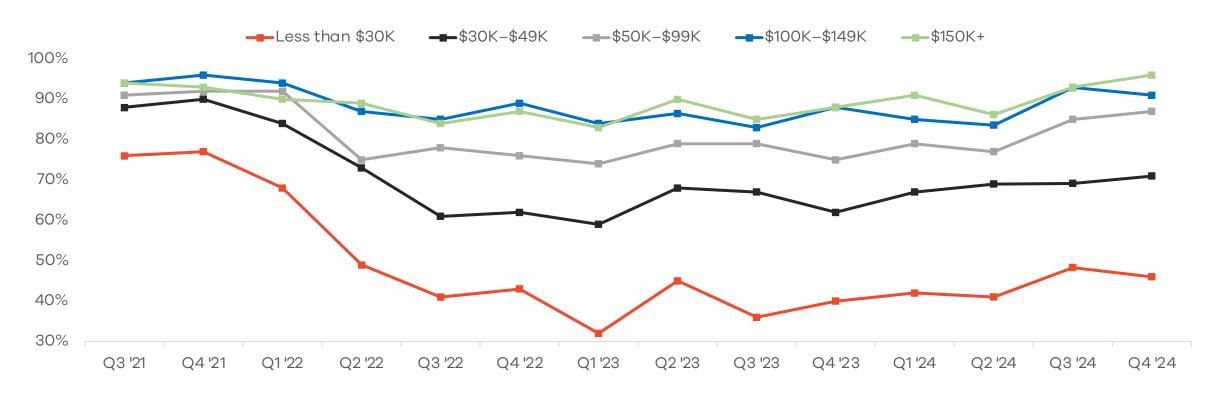
Millennials and Gen Xers have seen significant increases in their intent to travel over the next 12 months.





In comparison to Q4 2023, plans for leisure travel have risen across all household income levels.







American travelers expect to take more vacations and spend more on those vacations than any time in the past two years.

Leisure Travel and Spending During the Next 12 Months





Airline travel and larger vacation budgets are top factors leading to increased spending compared to Q4 2023.

63%

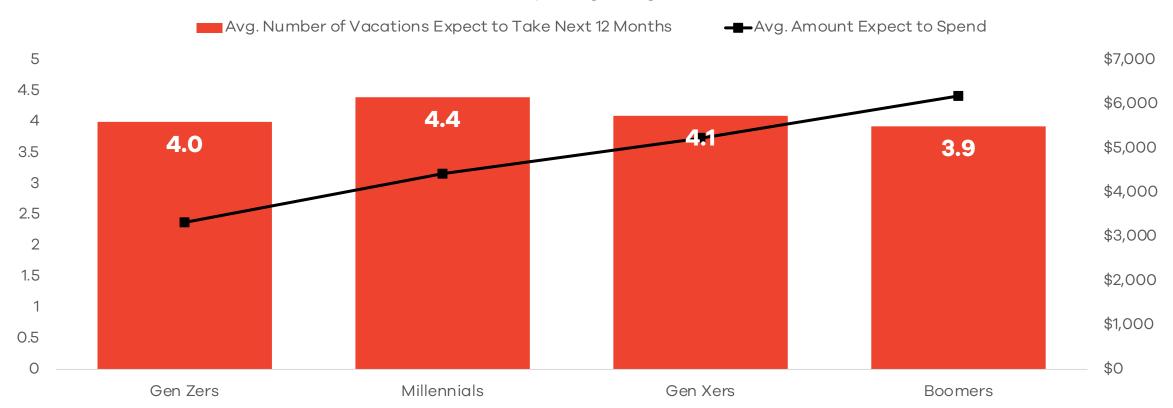
of active leisure travelers plan to spend more on travel in the next 12 months than they have spent in either of the past two years.

Factors That Have Contributed to Increase in Travel Budget	Q4 '23	Q4 '24
I expect to spend more because I expect the attractions, food and beverages in vacation destinations to cost more now than they did a few years ago.	56%	57%
I expect to spend more because vacation lodging/accommodations seem to cost more now than they did a few years ago.	52%	52%
I expect to spend more because the price of gas is higher now than it was the past few years.	44%	38%
I expect to spend more because airline travel seems to cost more now than it did a few years ago.	38%	43%
I expect to spend more because I have more reasons I need to travel (e.g., special events, family visits, etc.) in the next 12 months than I have in recent years.	30%	31%
I expect to spend more because I simply have more money available in my budget and this is how I choose to spend it.	25%	30%



Boomers are planning to spend the most on overnight leisure travel in the next 12 months, while Millennials are planning to take the most trips.

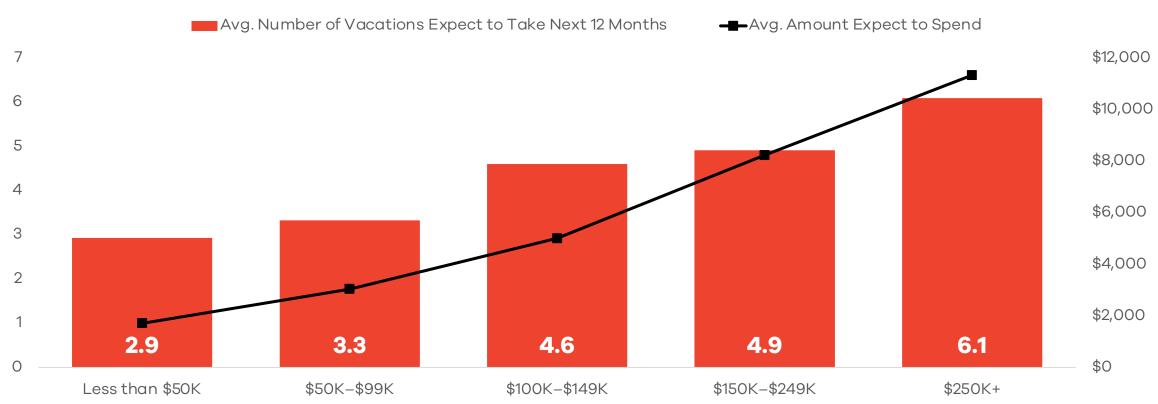
Leisure Travel and Spending During the Next 12 Months





Travel intentions and vacation spending increase with household income.

Leisure Travel and Spending During the Next 12 Months

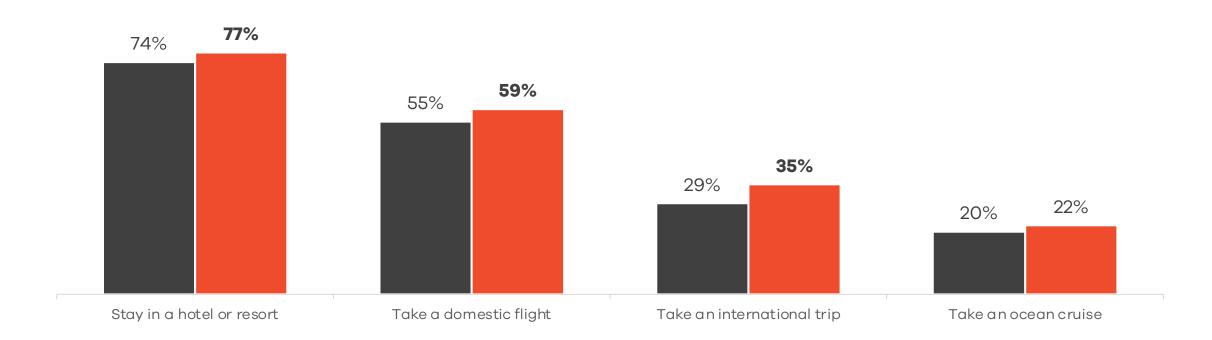




American travelers are significantly more likely to stay in a hotel or resort, take a domestic flight, and/or travel internationally in the next six months compared to the previous quarter.

Likely to Do in the Next Six Months

■ Q3 '24 ■ Q4 '24







States Interested in Visiting During the Next Two Years

Rank	Destination	% Interested
1	Hawaii	68%
2	Florida	64%
3	California	59% 🛦
4	Colorado	57%
5	New York	55% 🛕
6	Alaska	54%
7	Texas	47%
8	Nevada	46%
9	Arizona	45%
10	North Carolina	43%
11	Tennessee	42%
12	Maine	40%
12	Georgia	40%
14	South Carolina	39%
14	Washington	39%
16	Montana	37%
17	Massachusetts	36%
17	Louisiana	36%
19	Oregon	34%
20	Utah	31%

Rank	Destination	% Interested
20	Pennsylvania	31%
20	New Mexico	31%
23	Vermont	30%
23	Virginia	30%
25	Wyoming	29%
26	Michigan	28%
27	Maryland	27%
27	New Hampshire	27%
27	New Jersey	27%
30	Connecticut	26%
31	Rhode Island	25%
32	Illinois	24%
33	Wisconsin	23%
34	West Virginia	22%
34	Kentucky	22%
34	Alabama	22%
34	South Dakota	22%
38	Minnesota	21%
38	Idaho	21%
40	North Dakota	20%

Rank	Destination	% Interested
40	Missouri	20%
42	Mississippi	19%
42	Ohio	19%
42	Delaware	19%
45	Oklahoma	17%
45	Arkansas	17%
47	Nebraska	16%
47	Indiana	16%
47	Kansas	16%
50	lowa	14%

- Displayed a statistically significant increase compared to Q4 2023
- Displayed a statistically significant decrease compared to Q4 2023



Destinations Interested in Visiting During the Next Two Years

Rank	Destination	% Interested
1	Island of Hawaii	61%
2	Maui, HI	60% 🔺
2	Honolulu, HI	60% 🛦
4	Las Vegas, NV	57%
5	Kauai, HI	56%
6	Florida Keys/Key West, FL	55%
7	New York City, NY	52% 🛕
8	Orlando, FL	49%
8	New Orleans, LA	49%
10	Lanai, HI	48%
10	San Diego, CA	48% 🛕
12	Niagara Falls, NY	47%
12	Nashville, TN	47%
14	San Francisco, CA	46% 🔺
15	Los Angeles, CA	45% 🛕
15	Miami, FL	45% 🛕
17	Washington, D.C.	44% 🛕
17	Denver, CO	44%
19	Tampa/St. Petersburg/Clearwater, FL	43%
20	Napa Valley, CA	42%
20	Boston, MA	42% 🔺
20	Palm Beach, FL	42%
23	Myrtle Beach, SC	41%

Rank	Destination	% Interested
23	Charleston, SC	41%
25	Palm Springs, CA	39%
25	Aspen, CO	39%
25	Seattle, WA	39%
25	Phoenix/Scottsdale, AZ	39%
25	Fort Lauderdale, FL	39% 🔻
25	Austin, TX	39%
25	Hilton Head Island, SC	39%
32	Sedona, AZ	37%
32	Panama City Beach, FL	37%
32	St. Augustine, FL	37%
32	Daytona Beach, FL	37%
36	Dallas, TX	36%
36	San Antonio, TX	36%
36	Fort Myers/Sanibel/Captiva, FL	36%
39	Outer Banks, NC	35%
39	Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge, TN	35%
41	Chicago, IL	34%
41	Charlotte, NC	34%
43	Portland, OR	33%
43	Houston, TX	33%
43	Anaheim, CA	33%
43	Atlanta, GA	33%

Rank	Destination	% Interested
43	Jackson Hole, WY	33%
43	Sonoma County, CA	33%
49	Tucson, AZ	32%
49	Virginia Beach, VA	32%
49	Vail, CO	32%
49	Santa Fe, NM	32%
49	Asheville, NC	32%
54	Salt Lake City, UT	31%
55	Philadelphia, PA	30%
55	San Jose, CA	30%
57	Albuquerque, NM	28%
58	Park City, UT	27%
58	Raleigh/Durham, NC	27%
60	Winston-Salem, NC	26%
60	Greenville, SC	26%
62	Corpus Christi, TX	25%
63	Wilmington, NC	24%
63	Branson, MO	24%
65	St. Louis, MO	22%
66	Minneapolis, MN	21%
66	Shreveport, LA	21%
68	Detroit, MI	20%
68	Kansas City, MO	20%
70	Ann Arbor, MI	19%
71	Cleveland, OH	18%

Data in bold indicates a statistically significant difference from Q4 2023.

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)





Top 10 Destinations of Interest by Generation

Destinations shaded in black occur in the top 10 for all generations.

	Gen Zers
1	Los Angeles, CA
2	Island of Hawaii
3	Las Vegas, NV
3	New Orleans, LA
3	Miami, FL
6	New York City, NY
7	Honolulu, HI
7	Orlando, FL
9	Maui, HI
10	Niagara Falls, NY
10	San Francisco, CA

	Millennials
1	Honolulu, HI
1	Maui, HI
3	Island of Hawaii
4	Las Vegas, NV
4	New York City, NY
6	Kauai, HI
7	Orlando, FL
7	Florida Keys/Key West, FL
9	Los Angeles, CA
9	Miami, FL

	Gen Xers
1	Honolulu, HI
1	Maui, HI
1	Island of Hawaii
4	Las Vegas, NV
5	Kauai, HI
6	Florida Keys/Key West, FL
7	New York City, NY
8	Orlando, FL
8	Lanai, HI
10	Niagara Falls, NY

	_
	Boomers
1	Island of Hawaii
2	Maui, HI
3	Honolulu, HI
4	Kauai, HI
5	Florida Keys/Key West, FL
6	Las Vegas, NV
7	Nashville, TN
8	New Orleans, LA
9	Lanai, HI
10	New York City, NY





Online Travel Agency Usage

of active leisure travelers visit at least one OTA website or app on a regular basis when researching or booking travel.

More younger travelers and travelers with kids visit OTAs when researching and booking travel.

Gen 7ers: 86%

Millennials: 87%

Gen Xers: 79%

Boomers: 63%

Have Kids in Household: 88%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 72%

Less Than \$100K: 76%

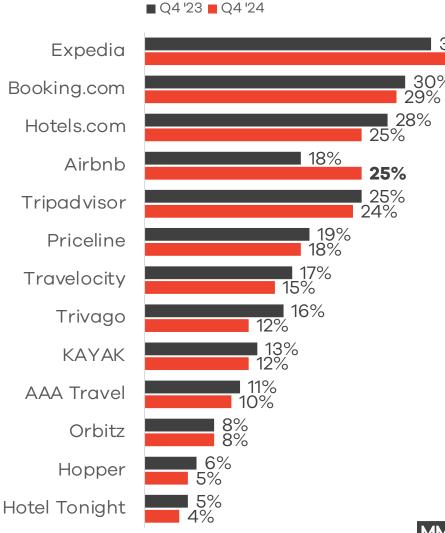
\$100K or More: 78%

Key results in red.

Data in bold indicates a statistically significant difference from Q4 2023.

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)

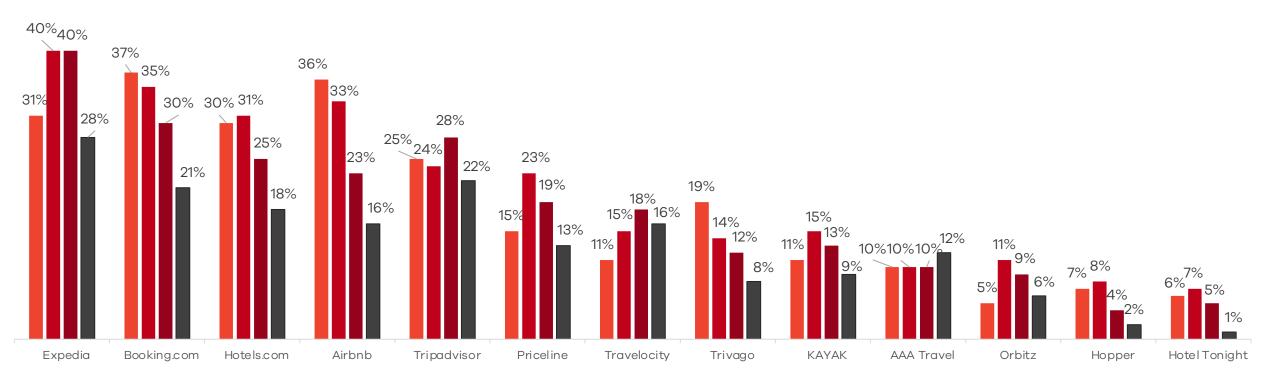
OTAs Visited When Researching or Booking Travel



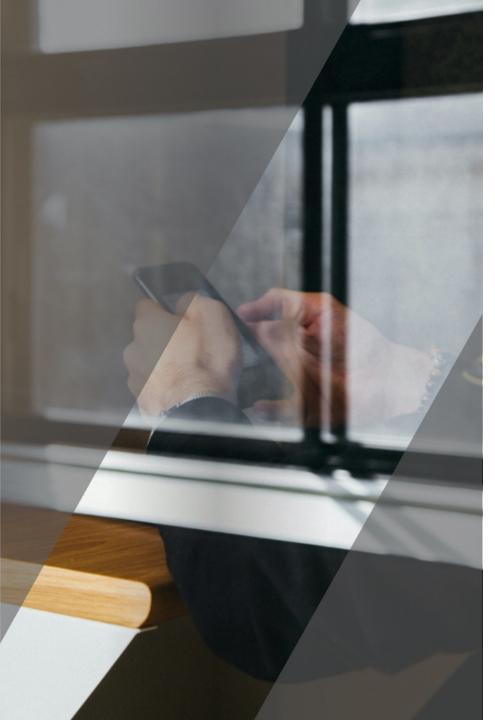
Online Travel Agency Usage by Generation

Expedia is the top platform for Millennials and Gen Xers, while Gen Zers use Booking.com and Airbnb more than any other generation. Boomers are the least likely to use online travel agencies overall.



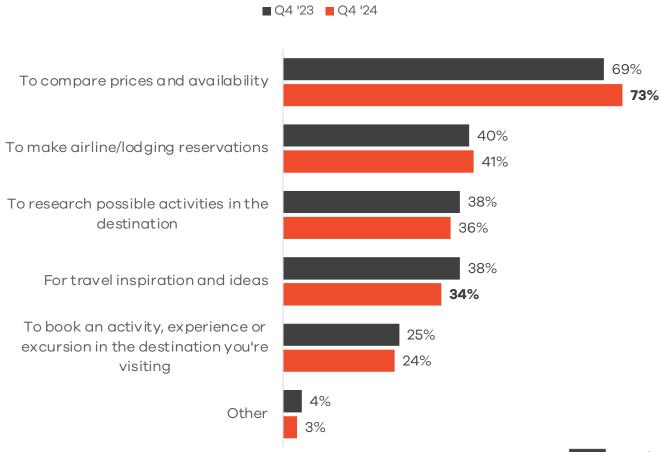






Significantly more active leisure travelers are using OTAs to compare prices and availability in 2024.

Reasons to Visit an Online Travel Agency Website/App



Data in bold indicates a statistically significant difference from Q4 '23.

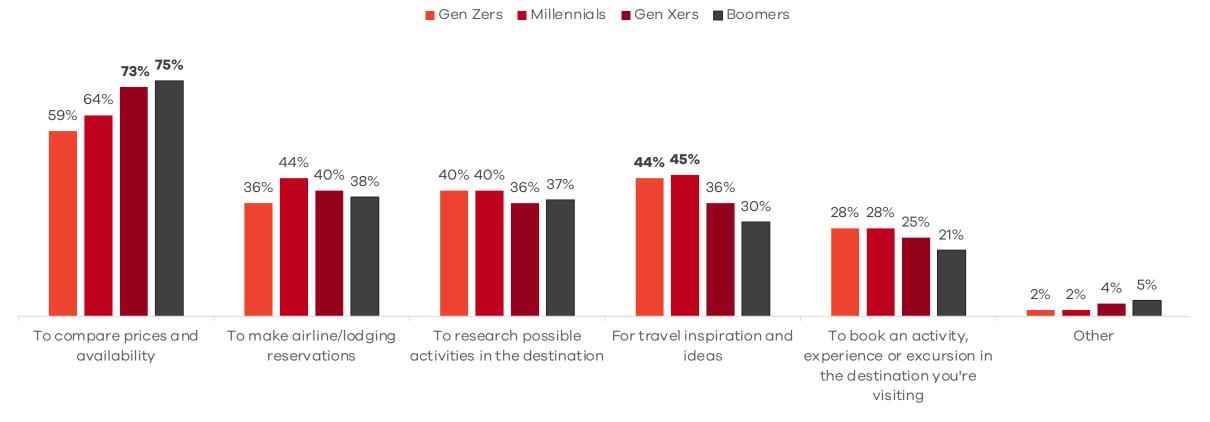
Base: Active leisure travelers who use OTAs (n=2,872)

Source: MMGY's 2024 Portrait of American Travelers® "Winter Edition"



Younger generations are most likely to visit OTAs for travel inspiration and ideas than older travelers.

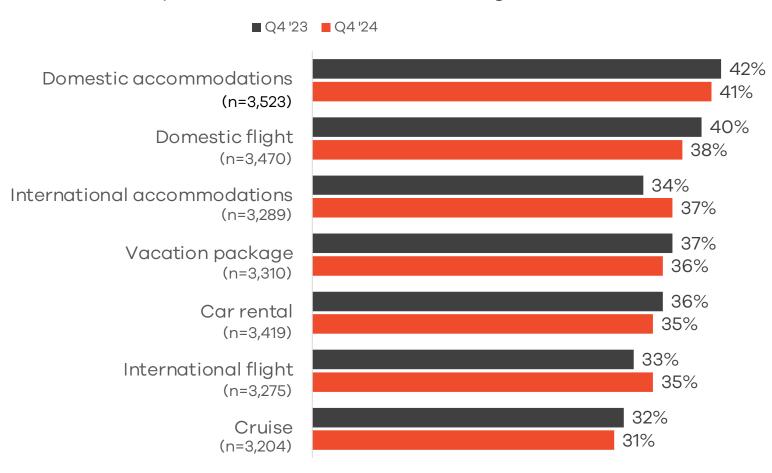
Reasons to Visit an Online Travel Agency Website/App





OTAs are most frequently used to book domestic accommodations and domestic flights.

Likely to Use an OTA to Book the Following





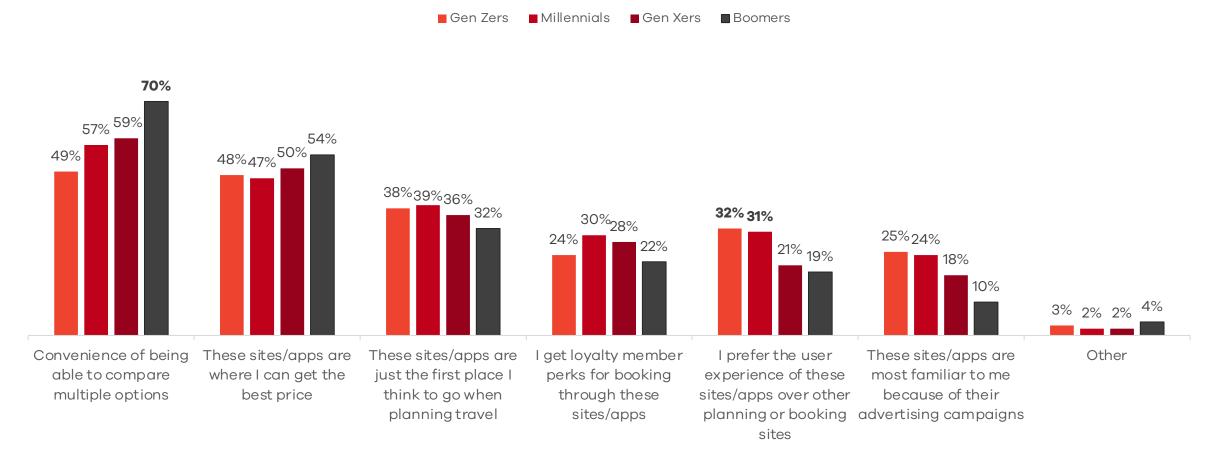
Reasons for Booking Using an OTA

	Q4 '23	Q4 '24
Convenience of being able to compare multiple options	60%	59%
These sites/apps are where I can get the best price	53%	50%
These sites/apps are just the first place I think to go when planning travel	37%	36%
I prefer the user experience of these sites/apps over other planning or booking sites	28%	26%
I get loyalty member perks for booking through these sites/apps	26%	27%
These sites/apps are most familiar to me because of their advertising campaigns	24%	19%
Other	2%	2%



Older generations are more likely to book through OTAs for convenience and lower prices, while younger generations are more influenced by the user experience and familiar advertising campaigns.

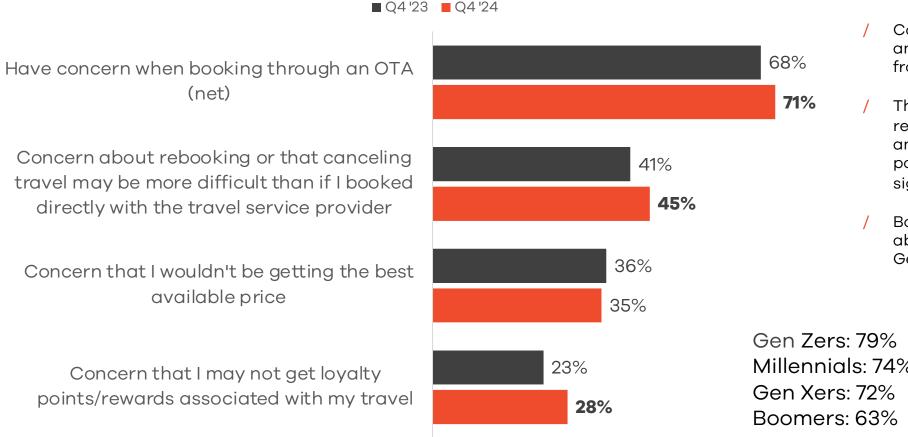
Reasons for Booking Using an OTA





Seven in 10 (71%) active leisure travelers have at least one of the following concerns when booking with an OTA.

Concerns When Booking With an OTA



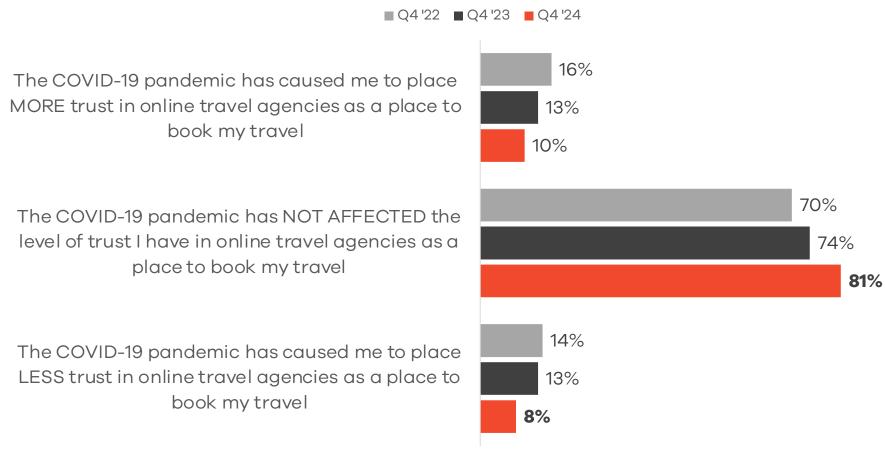
- Concerns around booking through an OTA have increased 3% overall from 2023.
- The difficulties of canceling or rebooking travel through an OTA and concerns around loyalty points have seen a statistically significant increase from 2023.
- Boomers are the least concerned about booking with an OTA, while Gen Zers are the most concerned.

Millennials: 74%



The pandemic continues to become less relevant to travelers' decision-making, especially in relation to OTAs.

Impact of COVID-19 on Trusting OTAs







Marriot International and Hilton Worldwide have seen significant increases in consideration from 2023.

Hotels Would Consider Booking Within Next Two Years	Q4 '23	Q4 '24
Hilton Worldwide (Net)	65%	71%
Hilton	47%	54%
Hilton Garden Inn	31%	37%
Hampton	31%	32%
DoubleTree	23%	23%
Marriott International (Net)	61%	65%
Marriott	49%	55%
Sheraton	21%	23%
Fairfield Inn	17%	18%
Ritz-Carlton	13%	16%
Gaylord Hotels	6%	6%
Choice Hotels (Net)	38%	36%
Comfort Inn	30%	27%
Radisson	16%	15%
Other hotels		
Holiday Inn	40%	40%
Hyatt	29%	36%
Best Western	29%	28%
Wyndham	26%	28%
Disney Hotels and Resorts	14%	18%
Four Seasons	15%	17%
Red Lion Hotels	7%	5%
None of the above	5%	4%

- **Hilton Worldwide and Marriott** International have grown their market **share.** With a 6% and 4% growth in consideration from 2023, these hotels and their subsidiaries are the top choice for two-thirds of active leisure travelers.
- **Hyatt and Disney Hotels and Resorts** have seen significant increases in interest from 2023. These brands have seen a 7% and 4% increase in interest from 2023, with other hotels outside of Hilton and Marriott struggling to grow their consideration among active leisure travelers.

Data in bold indicates a statistically significant difference from Q4 '23.

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)



American Airlines, United and British Airways have all seen significant increases in booking consideration from 2023.

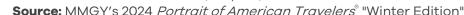
Airlines Would Consider Booking Within Next Two Years	Q4 '23	Q4 ' 24
American Airlines	52%	56%
Delta	50%	53%
United	46%	50%
Southwest	47%	48%
JetBlue	23%	24%
Alaska Airlines	17%	20%
British Airways	12%	16%
Frontier Airlines	14%	13%
Spirit Airlines	13%	13%
Air Canada	10%	11%
Virgin Atlantic	9%	11%
Lufthansa	8%	11%

- / Similar to the hotel chains, the biggest airlines have seen the biggest growth in consideration.

 American Airlines and United have both seen significant increases in booking consideration, with smaller airlines struggling to replicate these high levels of growth.
- / Traveler loyalty to airlines is at a three-year high. Leisure travelers will enjoy the benefits that come with brand loyalty, especially air miles, and look to book with the same brand wherever possible and practical.



Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)





% Agree: Consider Myself to Be Loyal To ...

44%

a Hotel Brand (compared to 43% in Q4 '23 and 44% in Q4 '22) an Airline (compared to 44% in Q4 '23

and 45% in Q4 '22)

26%

a Cruise Line (compared to 27% in Q4 '23 and 30% in Q4 '22)

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)

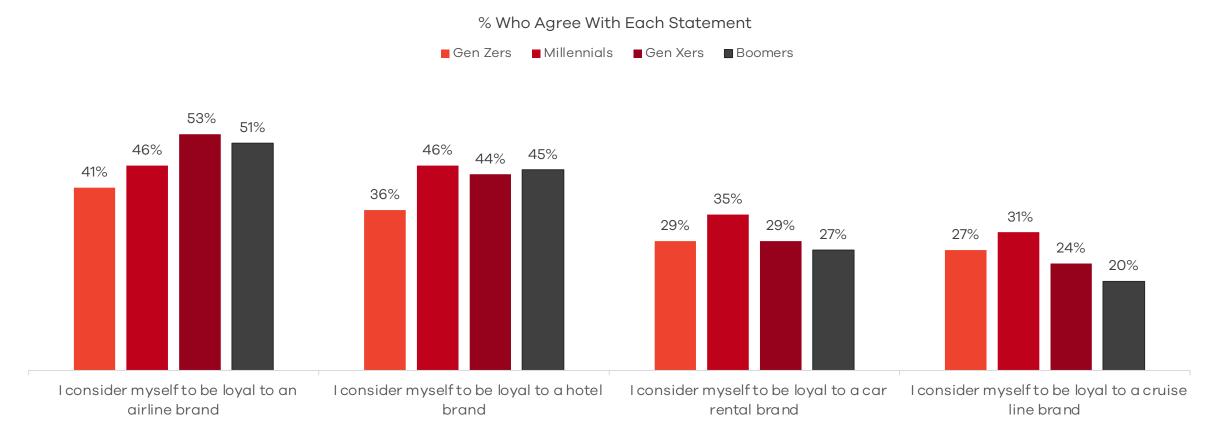
Source: MMGY's 2024 Portrait of American Travelers® "Winter Edition"

30%

a Car Rental Brand (compared to 32% in Q4 '23 and 31% in Q4 '22)



Gen Zers are the least loyal to most brands, while Millennials are the most loyal to hotel and car rental brands.





Hotel Loyalty Programs

of active leisure travelers are active members of a hotel loyalty program.

Gen Zers: 36%

Millennials: 57% (+11% from 2023) Gen Xers: 63% (+16% from 2023)

Boomers: 61%

Have Kids in Household: 59%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 56%

Less Than \$100K: 42%

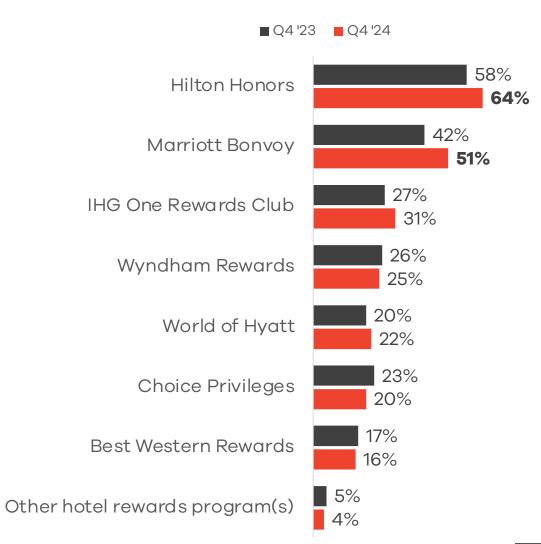
\$100K or More: **71%** (+10% from 2023)



Key results in red.

Data in bold indicates a statistically significant difference from Q4 '23.

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633); Active leisure travelers who are members of a hotel loyalty program (n=2,173)

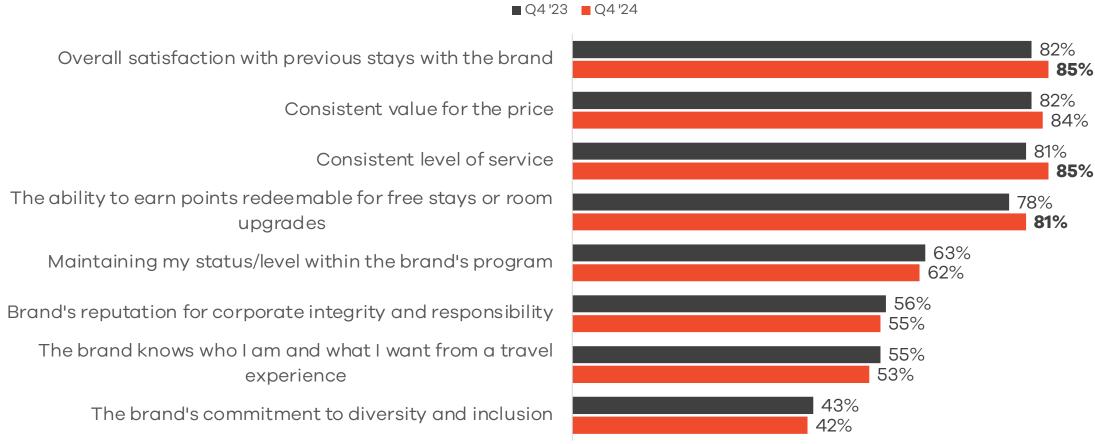


Member Of ...



Overall satisfaction with previous stays, consistent levels of service and the ability to earn points have become significantly more important for travelers compared to 2024.

Influential to Hotel Brand Loyalty





Airline Frequent Flyer Programs



of active leisure travelers are active members of a frequent flyer program.

Gen Zers: 36%

Millennials: **54%** (+16% from 2023)

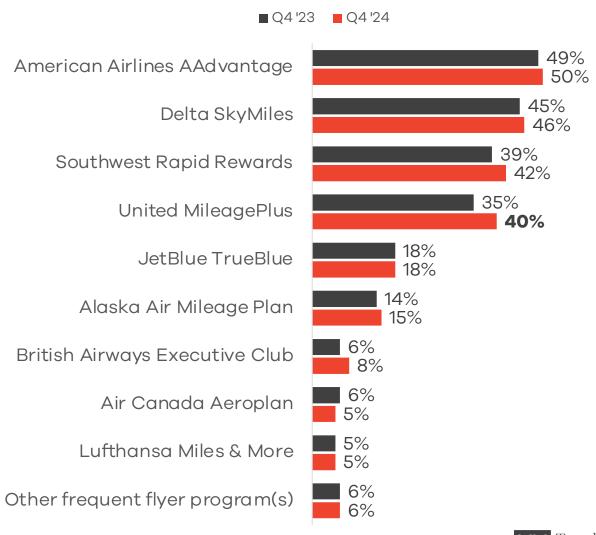
Gen Xers: 59% (+18% from 2023)

Boomers: 62%

Have Kids in Household: 53% (+11% from 2023)

Don't Have Kids in Household: 56% (+7% from 2023)

Less Than \$100K: 38% (+6% from 2023) \$100K or More: **71%** (+10% from 2023)



Member Of ...

Key results in red.

Data in bold indicates a statistically significant difference from Q4 '23.

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633); active leisure travelers who are members of a frequent flyer program (n=1,977)



The ability to earn redeemable points has become significantly more important in 2024 and drives airline loyalty to the same extent as satisfaction with previous flight experiences.

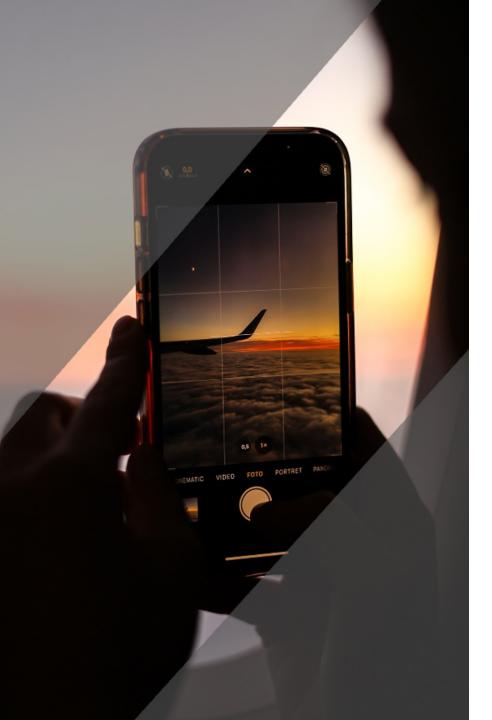
Influential to Airline Loyalty





Base: Active leisure travelers who are members of a frequent flyer program (n=1,977)





Almost 9 in 10 (89%) active leisure travelers have a personal page or profile on social media.



of active leisure travelers have a personal page or profile on social media.

Gen 7ers: 99%

Millennials: 97% Gen Xers: 91%

Boomers: 76%

Have Kids in Household: 97%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 85%

Less Than \$100K: 90%

\$100K or More: 88%

More older travelers are joining younger travelers on social media, with an increase of 3% and 5% in the number of Gen Xers and Boomers with a personal page from 2023.

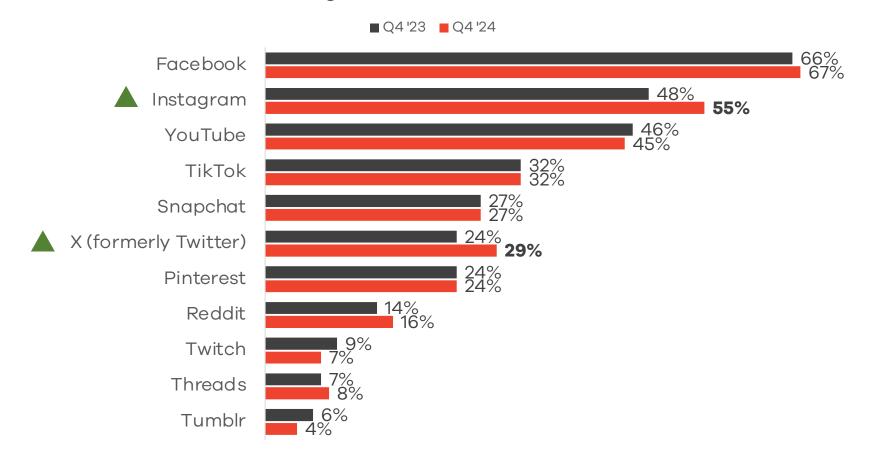
Key results in red.

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)



Instagram and X both saw significantly more active leisure travelers with personal pages compared to 2023.

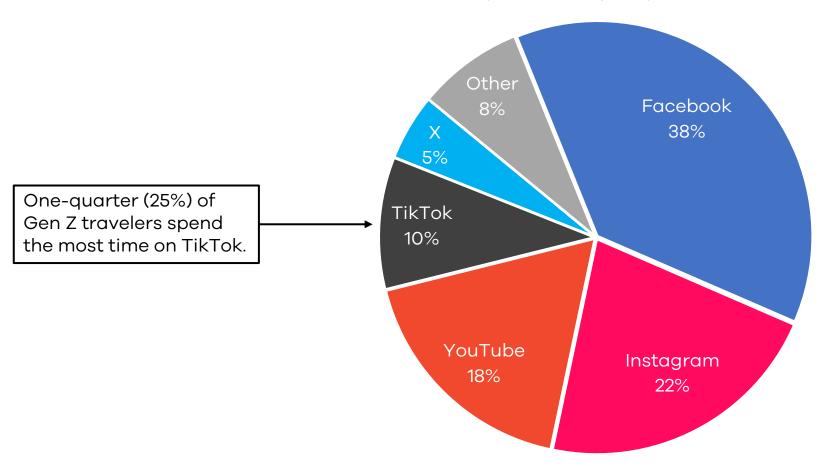
Personal Page/Profile on Social Media Network





Active leisure travelers spend the most time on Facebook, followed by Instagram and then YouTube.

Which social media platform do you spend the most time on?



Other	%
Snapchat	2%
Pinterest	2%
Reddit	2%
Twitch	1%
Threads	0%
Tumblr	0%
Other	1%



Most Popular Social Media Networks by Generation

/ Facebook's popularity can be seen among Boomers, Gen Xers and Millennials, but it does not rank among the top three for Gen Zers.

Top three networks for each generation are shaded.

Personal Page/Profile on Social Media Network	Gen Zers	Millennials	Gen Xers	Boomers
Instagram	78%	74%	54%	28%
YouTube	71%	57%	45%	22%
TikTok	66%	43%	30%	8%
Snapchat	58%	42%	22%	5%
Facebook	50%	70%	75%	64%
X (formerly Twitter)	47%	36%	31%	13%
Pinterest	35%	30%	26%	14%
Reddit	27%	25%	15%	3%
Twitch	21%	12%	4%	0%
Threads	12%	13%	9%	2%
Tumblr	10%	6%	3%	0%



Just under 6 in 10 (59%) active leisure travelers are planning to use social media sites less in the upcoming year.



of active leisure travelers plan to use at least one of the social media sites they are currently using less in the upcoming year.

Gen Zers: 77% Millennials: 66%

Gen Xers: 55%

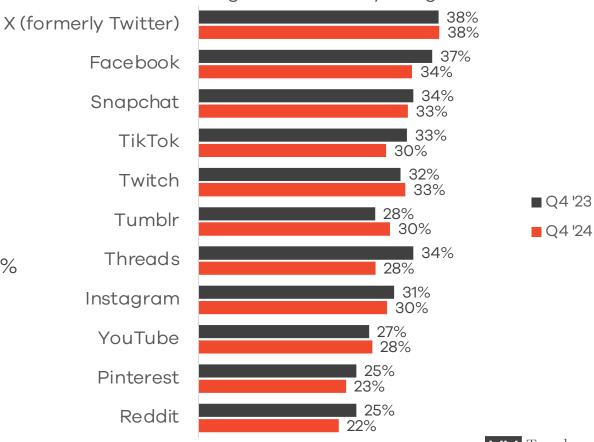
Boomers: 45%

Have Kids in Household: 68%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 54%

Less Than \$100K: 58% \$100K or More: 60%







Base: Active leisure travelers who have a page/profile on social media or who responded (n=3,246) **Source:** MMGY's 2024 *Portrait of American Travelers*® "Winter Edition"

Around 15% of active leisure travelers who do not use YouTube or Facebook currently plan to do so over the next year.

48% 41% V Q4 '24

of active leisure travelers plan to use a social media platform over the next year that they are not currently using.

Gen Zers: **53%**Millennials: **48%**

Gen Xers: 40%

Boomers: 26%

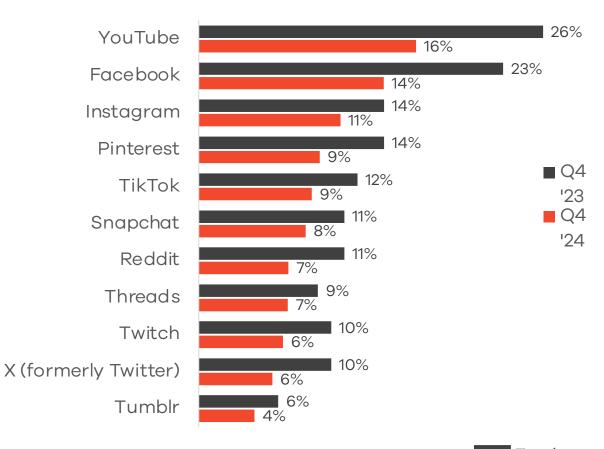
Have Kids in Household: 54%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 33%

Less Than \$100K: 44%

\$100K or More: 38%

% Planning to Use Social Media Platform Over the Next Year (Among those not currently using each)

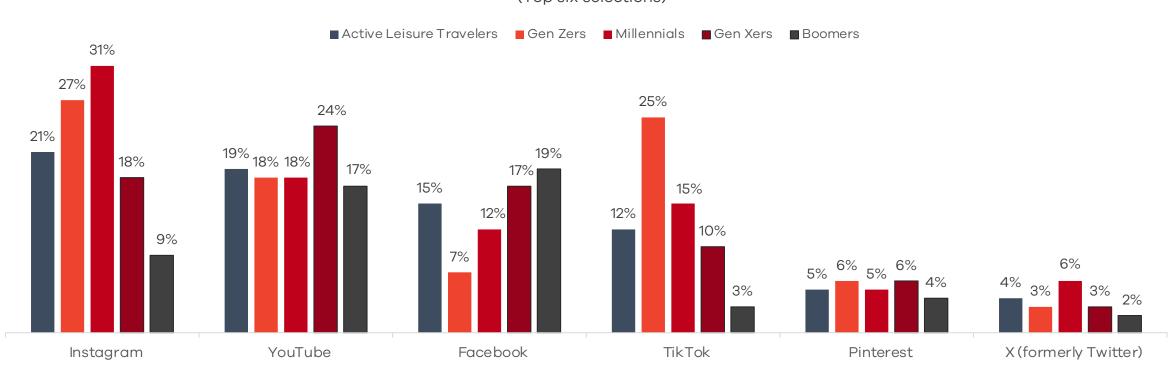






Instagram and TikTok are considered the best platforms for travel inspiration among Gen Zers, while Gen Xers and Boomers utilize Facebook over any other platform.

Best Social Media Site/App for Travel Inspiration (Top six selections)







Social media has influenced the vacation choices of half (49%) of all active leisure travelers.

4 6 % Q4 '23

49% A

of active leisure travelers have selected a vacation destination or travel service provider based at least partially on information, photos or videos viewed on social media.

Gen Zers: **66%** Millennials: **61%**

Gen Xers: 48% Boomers: 26% Have Kids in Household: **65%**

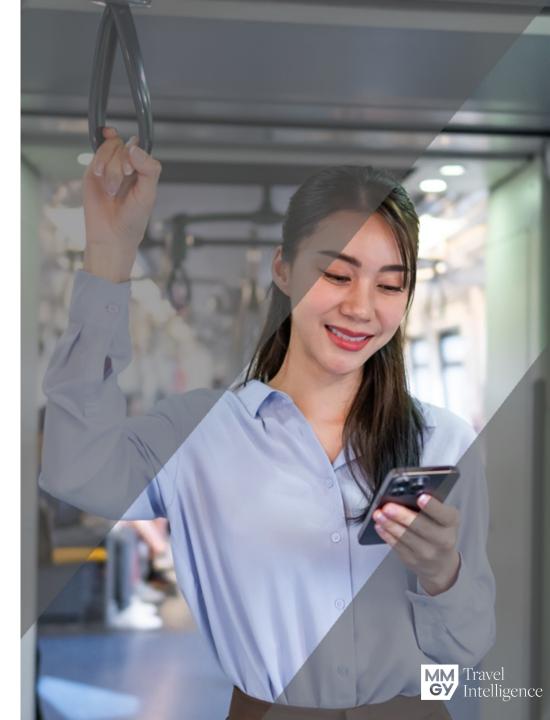
Don't Have Kids in Household: 41%

Less Than \$100K: 46% \$100K or More: 53%

/ Gen Z travelers and those with kids in the household are most likely to select a vacation destination based on social media. Parents of children with social media profiles are even more likely to be influenced by social media.

Key results in red.

Base: Active leisure travelers who have a page/profile on social media or who responded (n=3,246) **Source:** MMGY's 2024 *Portrait of American Travelers*® "Winter Edition"



Vacation Destinations on Social Media

of active leisure travelers follow a vacation destination on social media.

More younger travelers, travelers with higher incomes and travelers with kids follow a vacation destination on social media.

Gen 7ers: 35%

Millennials: 43%

Gen Xers: 31%

Boomers: 11%

Have Kids in Household: 48%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 21%

Less Than \$100K: 25% \$100K or More: **36%**

Travel Destinations ■ Q4 '23 ■ Q4 '24 Authentic images of the destination 52% taken by other travelers 54% 53% Beautiful pictures taken by professional photographers in the destination 49% Insider information/access from the 47% destination 48% 49% Stories from/about fellow travelers 46% 44% Special offers/promotions from travel service providers in the destination 45% 37% Influencer experiences 38% 23% Contests/sweepstakes 24% None of the above

Valued Content on Social Media From

Key results in red.

Base: Active leisure travelers who have a page/profile on social media or who responded (n=3,246);

those who follow a vacation destination on social media (n=969)

Travel Service Providers on Social Media

28% 28% Q4 '23 Q4 '24

of active leisure travelers follow a travel service provider on social media.

/ Significantly more travelers value special offers/promotions from travel service brands, more so than any other content.

Gen Zers: 33%

Millennials: 40%

Gen Xers: 27%

Boomers: 10%

Have Kids in Household: 45%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 19%

Less Than \$100K: 21%

\$100K or More: 34%

Key results in red.

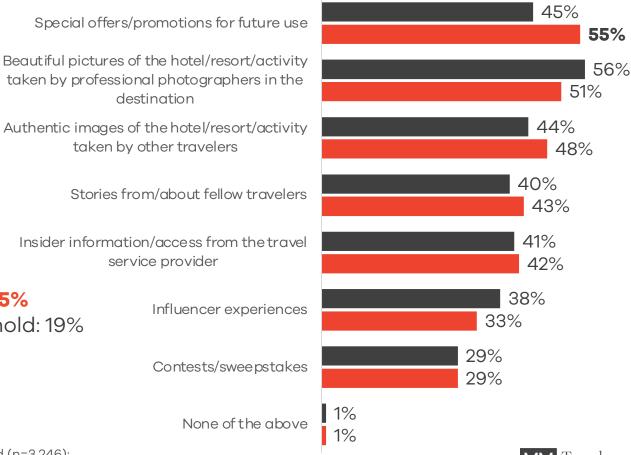
Data in bold indicates a statistically significant difference from Q4 '23.

Base: Active leisure travelers who have a page/profile on social media or who responded (n=3,246);

those who follow a travel service provider on social media (n=885)

Source: MMGY's 2024 *Portrait of American Travelers*® "Winter Edition"

Valued Content on Social Media From Travel Service Brands ■ Q4 '23 ■ Q4 '24



Half of all active leisure travelers with social media follow celebrities and influencers/content creators.



of active leisure travelers follow a <u>celebrity</u> on social media.

Gen Zers: 79% Millennials: 69%

Gen Xers: 45%

Boomers: 13%

Have Kids in Household: 66%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 40%

Less Than \$100K: 49%

\$100K or More: 49%

50 % Q4 '24

of active leisure travelers follow an <u>influencer</u> or <u>content creator</u> on social media.

Gen Zers: 80%

Millennials: 68%

Gen Xers: 45%

Boomers: 15%

Have Kids in Household: 66%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 41%

Less Than \$100K: 48%

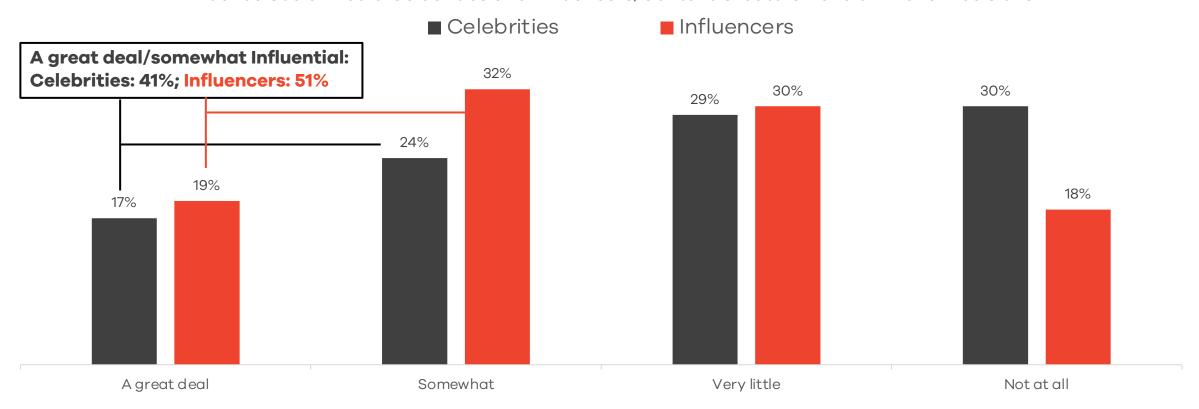
\$100K or More: 51%

/ More younger travelers and travelers with kids in the household follow a celebrity or influencer/content creator on social media.



Over half (51%) of active leisure travelers reported that influencers have at least somewhat of an influence on their travel decisions, compared to 4 in 10 (41%) who said celebrities were influential.

Influence Social Media Celebrities and Influencers/Content Creators Have on Travel Decisions

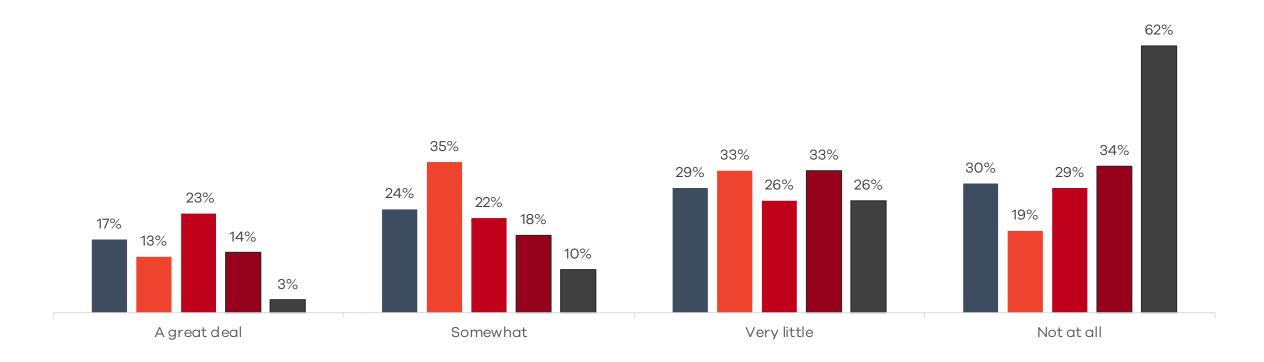




Gen Zers and Millennials are significantly more influenced by social media celebrities in their travel decisions than other generations.

Influence Social Media Celebrities Have on Travel Decisions





Source: MMGY's 2024 Portrait of American Travelers® "Winter Edition"

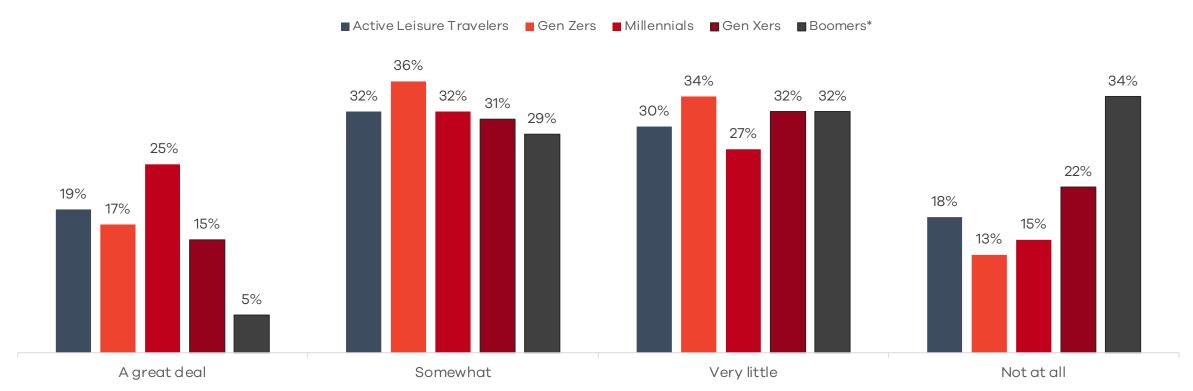
Base: Active leisure travelers who have a page/profile on social media and who follow a celebrity (n=1,657)



^{*} Small sample size – interpret with caution.

Influencers and content creators are significantly more influential on older generations compared to celebrities but have the most influence on younger leisure travelers.

Influence Social Media Influencers and Content Creators Have on Travel Decisions





^{*} Small sample size – interpret with caution.



Compared to 2023, 11% fewer leisure travelers perceive influencer content to authentically represent destinations.

Q4 '23

61% Q4 '24

of active leisure travelers perceive the content influencers share to be authentic representations of the travel destinations they visit.

> Gen Zers: 57% Millennials: 61% Gen Xers: 63%

Boomers*: 62%

Have Kids in Household: **68%**Don't Have Kids in Household: 55%

Less Than \$100K: 62% \$100K or More: 60%

Travelers with children in the household are most likely to perceive content from influencers as authentic representations.

Base: Active leisure travelers who have a page/profile on social media and who follow an influencer/content creator (n=1,668)



^{*} Small sample size – interpret with caution. Key results in red.

Over 4 in 10 (41%) travelers have been influenced to make travel purchases following a post from social media personalities.

4 3 Q4 '23

41% Q4 '24

of active travelers who follow a celebrity or influencer on social media have made a travel purchase based at least partially on a post by a celebrity or influencer.

Gen Zers: 46%

Millennials: 47%

Gen Xers: 35%

Boomers: 18%

Have Kids in Household: 51%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 34%

Less Than \$100K: 36%

\$100K or More: **46%**

Higher-income travelers (\$100K+) are 10% more likely to have made a purchase decision based at least partially on a social media post compared to lower-income travelers (<\$100K).</p>

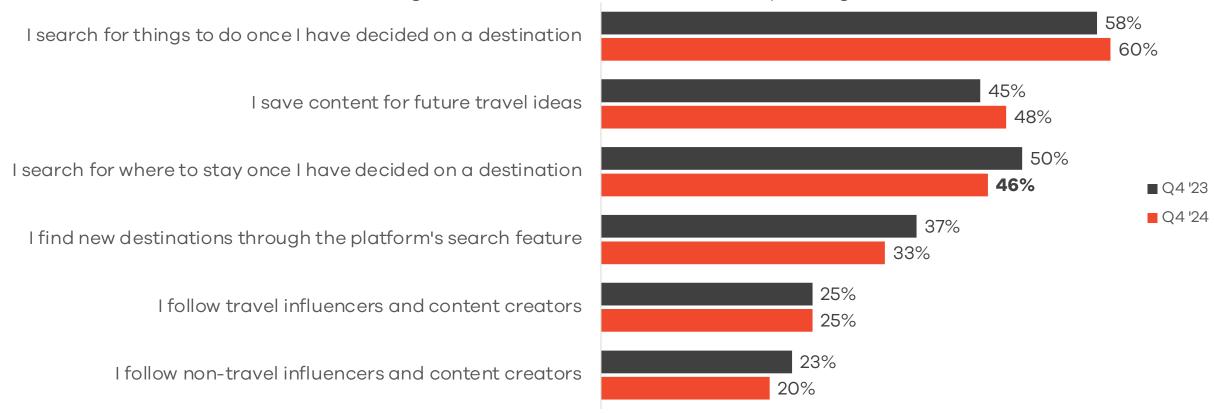
Key results in red.

Base: Active leisure travelers who have a page/profile on social media and follow a celebrity/influencer on social media (n=1,668)



More travelers are using social media in 2024 to save content for future travel ideas (48%) and search for things to do in the destinations they have decided to visit (60%).

How Social Media Is Used for Travel Planning (Among those who use social media for travel planning)





Social Media Agreement Statements

/ Millennials are the most likely to share travel content on social media while traveling, and 39% of Gen Zers seek out "Instagrammable" photo opportunities when exploring a destination.

% Who Agree With Each Statement	Active Leisure Travelers	Gen Zers	Millennials	Gen Xers	Boomers
I like using social media to share my travel experiences.	38%	50%	47%	38%	23%
I am likely to share travel content on social media while traveling.	35%	40%	44%	35%	20%
I seek out "Instagrammable" photo opportunities while exploring a destination.	25%	39%	33%	22%	8%
A destination's "Instagrammability" influences my choice of where to go on vacation.	18%	21%	26%	12%	5%
I post my vacation photos on social media to make my friends jealous.	16%	22%	25%	18%	6%

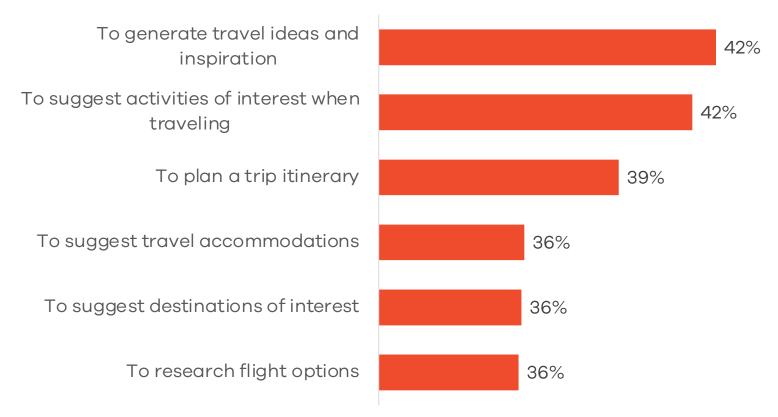




ChatGPT or other AI tools have been used by one-third (32%) of active leisure travelers for planning travel. AI is used most to generate travel ideas and suggest activities of interest.

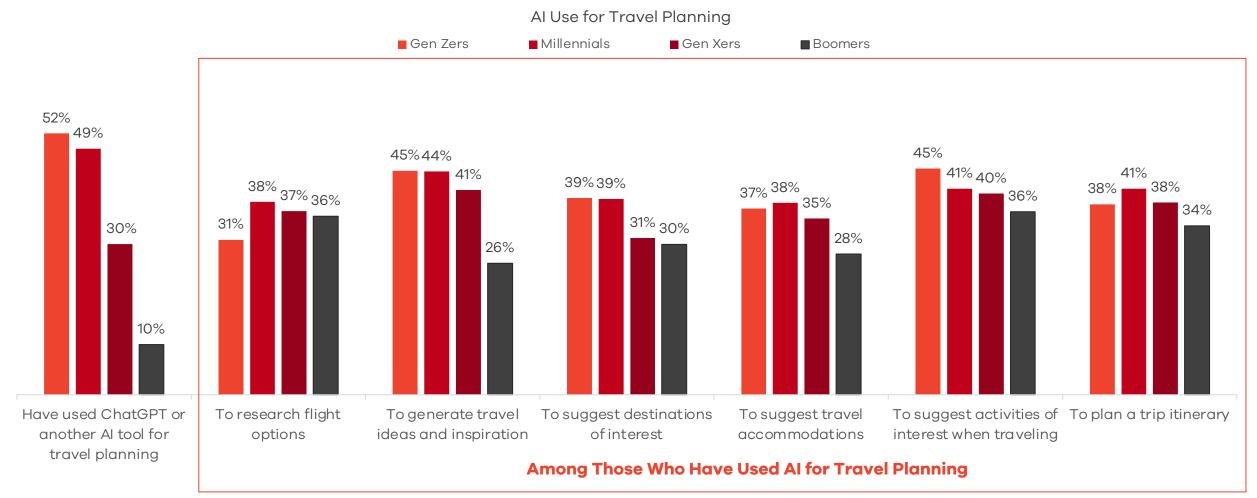
32%

of active leisure travelers have used ChatGPT or another AI tool for travel planning. Al Use for Travel Planning
(Among those who have used Al for travel planning)





Gen Z and Millennial travelers use AI tools the most for their vacation planning.



^{*} Small sample size – interpret with caution.

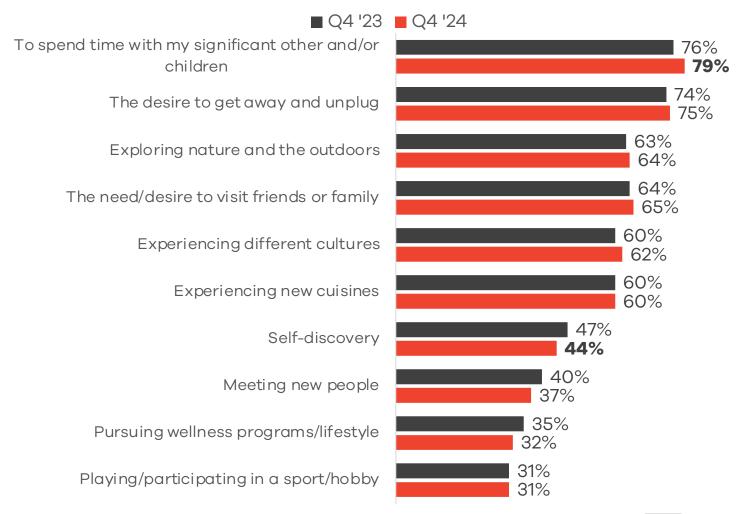
Base: Those who have used ChatGPT or another AI tool for travel planning (Gen Zers: n=240; Millennials: n=529; Gen Xers: n=282; Boomers: n=107) **Source:** MMGY's 2024 *Portrait of American Travelers*® "Winter Edition"





Spending time with family is becoming more motivating for active leisure travelers compared to 2023, while selfdiscovery is significantly less motivating.

Vacation Motivators

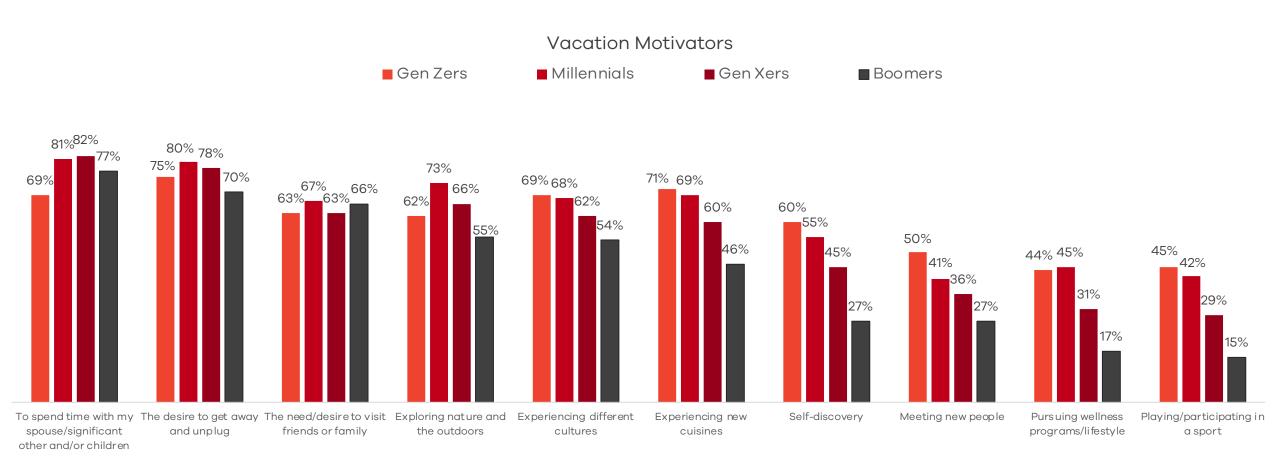


Data in bold indicates a statistically significant difference from Q4 2023.

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)



Older generations are motivated by seeing family and friends, while younger travelers seek immersive cultural experiences and enjoy sampling new cuisines.

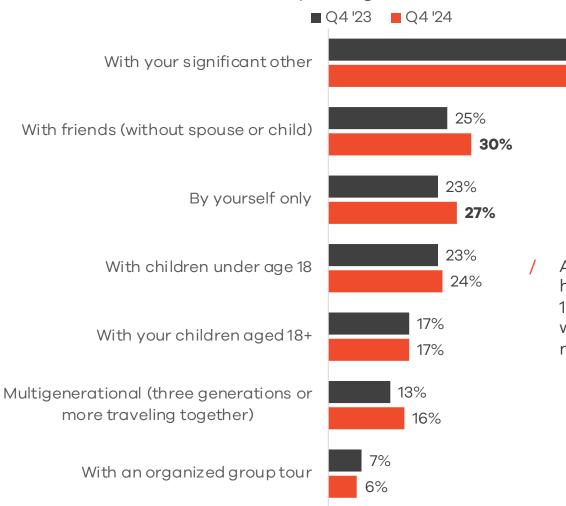






Couples Travel Remains the Most Common Form of Travel.

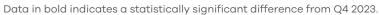
Travel Party During the Next Six Months



Among those who have children under 18, 63% plan to travel with children in the next six months.

65%

66%



Base: Active leisure travelers who intend to travel during the next six months (n=2,980)



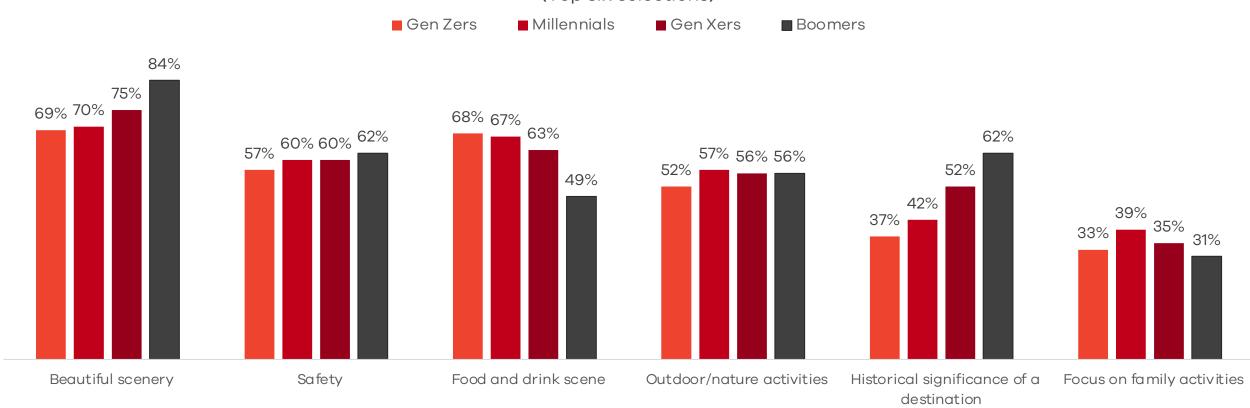
American travelers are craving natural experiences – beautiful scenery and outdoor/nature activities have become significantly more influential in leisure travelers' destination decisions.

Influential When Selecting a Destination (Top 2 Box)	Q4 ′23	Q4 '24
Beautiful scenery	72%	75%
Safety	59%	60%
Food and drink scene	58%	60%
Outdoor/nature activities	50%	55%
Historical significance of a destination	48%	50%
Focus on family activities	34%	35%
A sense of tradition (place family has traditionally visited)	30%	32%
Music scene	28%	25%
The ethnic diversity and multicultural population of a destination	22%	25%
Nightlife/bars	23%	23%
The destination's reputation for environmental responsibility	14%	15%
The destination's commitment to social justice and equality	12%	12%
LGBTQ+ travel offerings	6%	6%



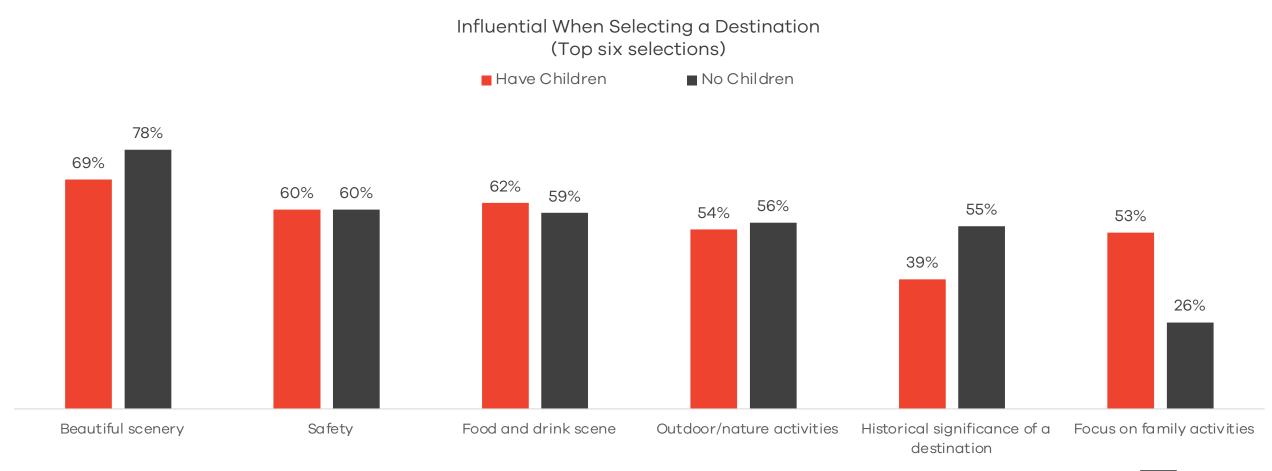
Boomers and Gen Xers are most influenced by beautiful scenery and the historical significance of a destination. Younger travelers find the food and drink scene very influential, while Millennials pay special attention to the family activities available.

Influential When Selecting a Destination (Top six selections)





Historical significance of destinations and beautiful scenery is more important to travelers without children in the household and, unsurprisingly, a focus on family activities is more important for those with younger kids in the household.





Top Activities of Interest on Vacation

Top Activities of Interest	Q4 ′23	Q4 '24
Beach experiences	55%	58%
Visiting a state or national park	48%	55%
Historical sites	51%	53%
Shopping	46%	48%
Visiting a museum	48%	47%
Visiting a zoo or aquarium	41%	43%
Food tours	35%	37%
Visiting a theme or amusement park	34%	36%
Dining cruise	33%	36%
Visiting notable architectural sites	31%	36%
Attending a concert/music festival	33%	35%
Hiking/climbing/biking/other outdoor adventures	32%	34%
Guided tours to otherwise inaccessible local experiences	28%	33%
Attending a sporting event	25%	30%
Adventure travel (safaris, mountain climbing, trekking, etc.)	24%	28%

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)



Top Activities of Interest on Vacation

Top Activities of Interest (cont.)	Q4 '23	Q4 '24
Nightlife	28%	27%
Cooking, wine or cocktail classes	26%	27%
Casino gambling	30%	26%
Dinner theatre	26%	26%
Spa services (massages, facials, etc.)	25%	25%
Camping	25%	23%
Exploring family's ancestry/past on a heritage vacation	22%	22%
Attending performing arts events	20%	22%
Water sports (waterskiing, boating/rafting)	19%	22%
Film/art festivals	20%	19%
Snow skiing/snowboarding	11%	13%
Scuba diving	12%	12%
Playing golf	12%	12%
Surfing	9%	7%
Playing tennis	9%	6%





Visiting a state or national park is a top activity for all generations, seeing a 7% overall increase in interest year over year.

Top five vacation activities for each generation are shaded in black.

Interest in Vacation Activities	Gen Zers	Millennials	Gen Xers	Boomers
Beach experiences	58%	56%	61%	60%
Visiting a state or national park	47%	50%	56%	61%
Shopping	59%	48%	50%	43%
Historical sites	40%	45%	51%	69%
Visiting a zoo or aquarium	46%	44%	43%	41%
Visiting a museum	43%	43%	46%	53%
Visiting a theme or amusement park	48%	41%	38%	25%
Hiking/climbing/biking/other outdoor adventures	34%	41%	37%	28%
Food tours	44%	40%	36%	32%
Adventure travel (safaris, mountain climbing, trekking, etc.)	40%	35%	28%	19%
Dining cruise	35%	35%	36%	36%
Nightlife	44%	34%	27%	15%
Attending a concert/music festival	39%	33%	36%	34%
Cooking, wine or cocktail classes	30%	33%	25%	21%
Attending a sporting event	24%	33%	32%	30%



Adventure activities, including scuba diving and surfing, are more popular among Gen Z travelers than any other generation.

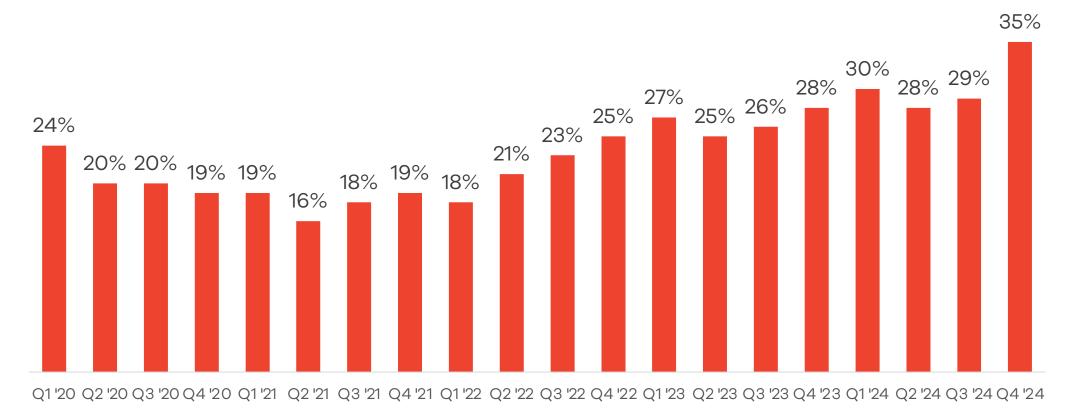
Interest in Vacation Activities (cont.)	Gen Zers	Millennials	Gen Xers	Boomers
Visiting notable architectural sites	26%	31%	37%	42%
Spa services (massages, facials, etc.)	29%	31%	25%	17%
Camping	27%	29%	26%	12%
Guided tours to otherwise inaccessible local experiences	29%	28%	31%	42%
Water sports (waterskiing, boating/rafting)	29%	27%	24%	12%
Dinner theatre	32%	24%	25%	25%
Attending performing arts events	23%	23%	19%	24%
Casino gambling	22%	22%	31%	29%
Exploring family's ancestry/past on a heritage vacation	25%	21%	22%	22%
Film/art festivals	33%	20%	16%	14%
Snow skiing/snowboarding	22%	18%	13%	5%
Scuba diving	20%	15%	12%	5%
Playing golf	12%	12%	10%	13%
Surfing	17%	10%	7%	2%
Playing tennis	10%	9%	6%	2%





Likelihood to take an international trip in the next six months rose significantly in Q4 2024.

Likely to Take an International Trip During the Next Six Months (Among those who intend to take a leisure trip in the next six months)







Measured interest in international travel is up slightly from one year ago.

8 0 % Q4 '23

84%

of active leisure travelers are interested in traveling internationally during the next two years.

Gen Zers: 90% Millennials: 90%

Gen Xers: 84%

Boomers: 74%

Have Kids in Household: 86%

Don't Have Kids in Household: 83%

Less Than \$100K: 75% \$100K or More: **92%**

Younger generations, travelers with higher incomes and travelers with kids are more interested in traveling internationally.

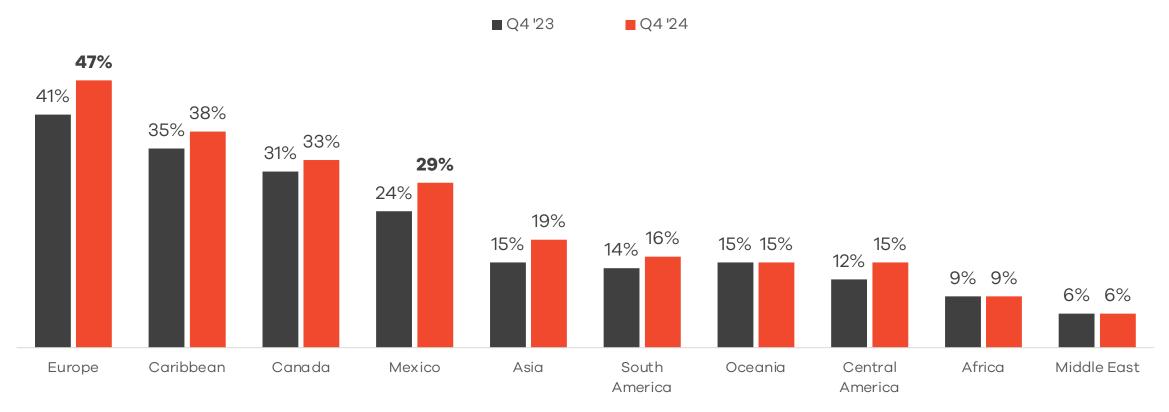
Key results in red.

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)



Europe and Mexico both saw a significant increase in interest from 2023. Interest in the Caribbean and Canada was also high.

Interest in Visiting International Destinations During the Next Two Years (Among those interested in at least one international destination)

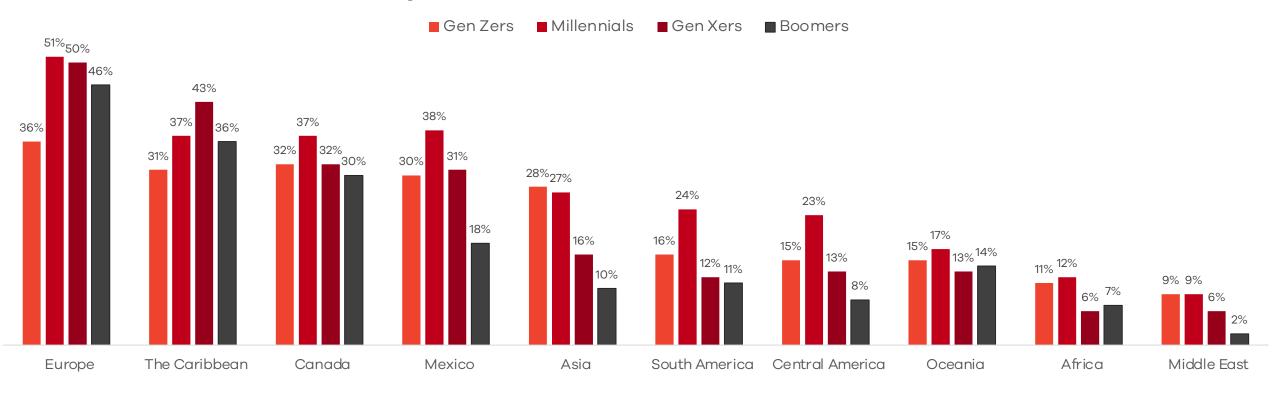




Europe was the top destination for all generations.

/ Younger travelers, particularly Millennials, prefer to visit less popular destinations, while older travelers prefer to visit more familiar locations, including Europe and the Caribbean.

Interest in Visiting International Destinations During the Next Two Years (Among those interested in at least one international destination)



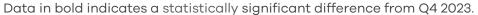


Destinations of Interest in the Caribbean, Mexico and Canada During the Next Two Years

Caribbean Destinations Interested in Visiting During the Next Two Years	Q4 ′23	Q4 '24
The Bahamas	56%	59%
U.S. Virgin Islands	47%	50%
Puerto Rico	39%	39%
Aruba	31%	38%
St. Maarten/St. Martin	29%	38%
Jamaica	40%	35%
Cayman Islands	37%	34%
Dominican Republic	27%	32%
Barbados	29%	29%
British Virgin Islands	26%	28%
Bermuda	27%	26%
Antigua	21%	23%
Cuba	14%	14%
Other	3%	3%

Mexican Destinations Interested in Visiting During the Next Two Years	Q4 ′23	Q4 ′24
Cancun	56%	59%
Mexico City	36%	43%
Los Cabos/Cabo San Lucas	38%	42%
Puerto Vallarta	35%	36%
Cozumel	34%	33%
Riviera Maya	23%	33%
Guadalajara	18%	17%
Other	5%	7%

Canadian Destinations Interested in Visiting During the Next Two Years	Q4 '23	Q4 '24
Toronto	55%	58%
Vancouver	54%	51%
Niagara Falls	45%	46%
Montreal	45%	49%
Quebec	40%	40%
Victoria	24%	25%
Ottawa	19%	16%
Banff	20%	25%
Whistler	14%	16%
Other	4%	5%



Base: Active leisure travelers interested in visiting the Caribbean (n=1,345); Mexico (n=1,080); Canada (n=1,281)





Traveler Personas

Percent Who Self-Identify With Each Descriptor

	Q4 '23	Q4 '24
Beach lover	49%	48%
Foodie	41%	43%
Pet lover	42%	39%
Family traveler	38%	38%
Travel bargain hunter	28%	31%
Sports fan/enthusiast	30%	30%
Outdoor adventurer	29%	30%
Moderate (politically)	21%	25%
Concert/festival enthusiast	23%	24%
All-inclusive resort enthusiast	21%	24%
Theme park enthusiast	23%	24%
World traveler	20%	24%
Conservative (politically)	25%	22%
Environmentally conscious	18%	22%
Cruise lover	21%	21%
Liberal (politically)	18%	20%
Luxury traveler	18%	19%
Wine enthusiast	19%	19%
Cocktail enthusiast	16%	18%
Video game enthusiast	16%	16%
Recreational cannabis user	13%	12%
Golf enthusiast	10%	8%
Social justice activist	8%	8%
Ski/snowboard enthusiast	6%	7%
Road warrior (business travel)	6%	5%

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)



Respondent Demographics

	Active Leisure Travelers	Gen Zers	Millennials	Gen Xers	Boomers
Male	50%	47%	48%	50%	54%
Female	49%	48%	50%	50%	46%
Other	1%	5%	2%	0%	0%
Gen Zers	13%	100%	-	-	-
Millennials	30%	-	100%	-	-
Gen Xers	26%	-	-	100%	-
Boomers	29%	-	-	-	100%
Household income (median)	\$103.7K	\$76.8K	\$111.8K	\$124K	\$95.6K
Have children under 18 at home	32%	26%	60%	37%	4%
White	77%	60%	71%	78%	89%
Hispanic	17%	14%	23%	19%	10%
African American/Black	13%	24%	17%	10%	6%
Asian	8%	11%	9%	10%	3%
Native American	2%	3%	3%	2%	0%
Pacific Islander	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%
Other	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%

Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)



Respondent Demographics

	Active Leisure Travelers	Gen Zers	Millennials	Gen Xers	Boomers
Married/living together	64%	38%	66%	69%	71%
Never married	22%	59%	29%	14%	7%
Divorced/separated/widowed	14%	4%	5%	17%	22%
4 years or less of high school	31%	53%	28%	27%	28%
1–3 years of college	28%	24%	21%	29%	36%
4 years of college	26%	15%	33%	28%	23%
Some graduate school	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%
Graduate/professional degree	12%	5%	16%	13%	11%
Employed (full time or part time)	64%	68%	86%	77%	29%
Retired	24%	0%	0%	9%	67%
Temporarily unemployed	4%	9%	5%	5%	1%
Homemaker (full time)	6%	3%	8%	9%	2%
Student	3%	20%	1%	0%	0%



Base: Active leisure travelers (n=3,633)

