## The Role of Airports in **Extending Seasonality**

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WORLD TOURISM ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURE & HERITAGE







## Why Extend Seasonality?





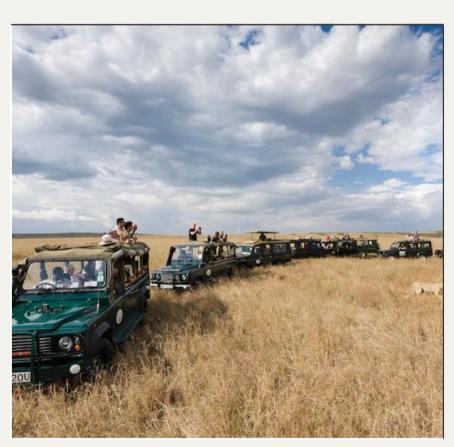
SUMMER 2023



BARCA '22













### More Flights...



## Aircraft fleet size will double by 2040











### More Slot Constraints...



In 2019, 104 of the 204 Level 3 airports worldwide were in Europe.

Source: ACI Europe







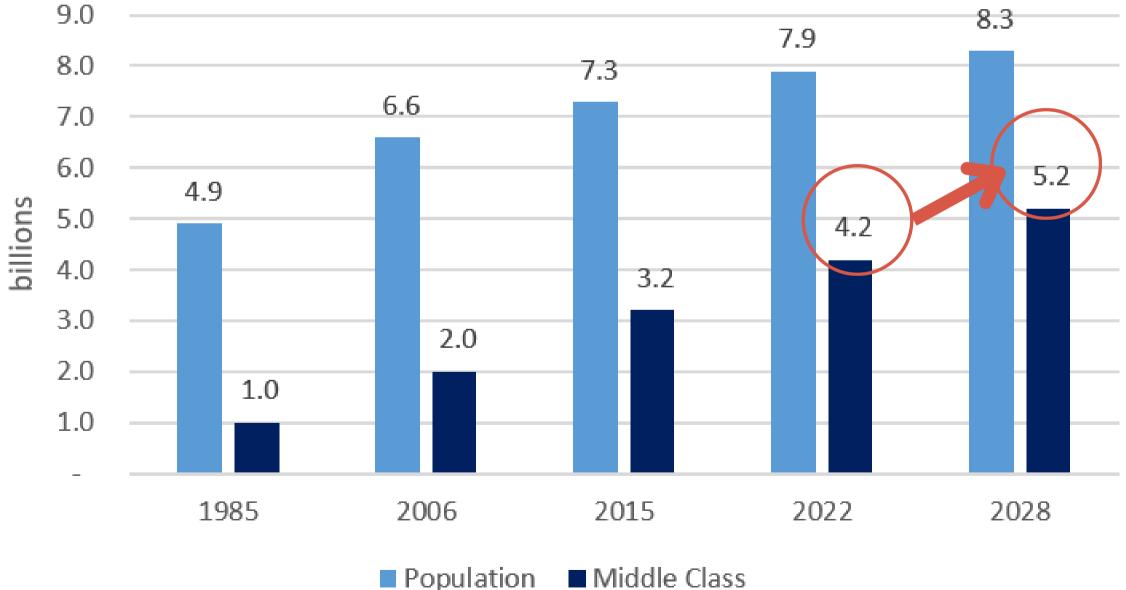
#### 54% of global slot constrianed airports are in Europe.

#### (Most are not slot constrained during low season periods)

### More Travellers...

#### Another 1bn will join Middle Class by 2028

#### **Global Population and Numbers of MIddle Class**













## Mostly From Asia

### 88 percent of the next billion entrants into the middle class will be in Asia

By 2030, Asia could represent 2/3 of the global middle class population.



BROOKINGS

Source: Brookings Institute









## They Will Travel



residents.

In 2017, this figure was 145m. (+1,380%)

This will exceed 400m by 2030

Source: COTRI The China Outbound Tourism Research Institute







#### At the start of the 21st Century, 10.5m overseas trips were made by Chinese



#### **Environmental pressures** increasing...

#### Airline loses Dutch 'greenwashing' case

**KLM** 

COMPANIES TECH MARKETS CLIMATE OPINION WORK & CAREERS LIFE & ARTS HTSI

The Big Read Airlines ( + Add to myFT

#### Flight shame: can airlines ever reduce their emissions?

Facing a potential c







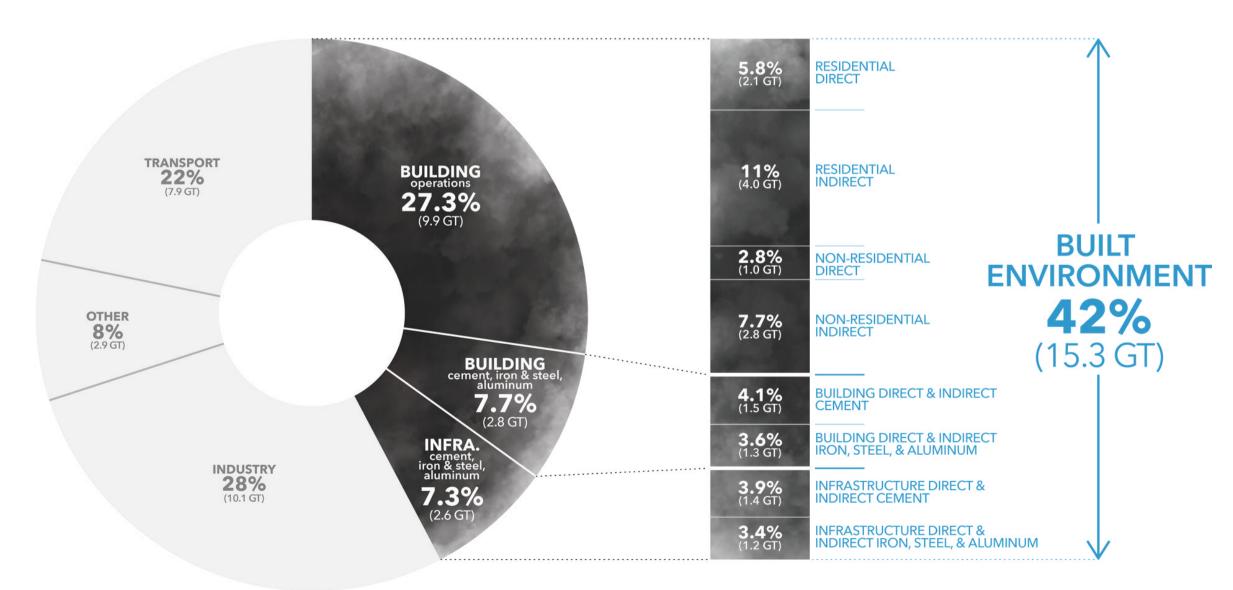


#### FINANCIAL TIMES



#### **Environmental pressures** increasing...

TOTAL ANNUAL GLOBAL CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS Direct & Indirect Energy & Process Emissions (36.3 GT)



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#### The built environment is responsible for <u>42%</u> of annual global CO2 emissions. Most hotels are 20-**30% occupancy in** low season months..

## Building new infrastructure which sits under-used for 6+ months a year is highly unsustainable!









### **Requirements for Extending Seasonality**

- Engage Local communities Do they want this & will they support this? - Airport, Airlines, Local Business, Community Groups etc
- Incorporate Local, Authentic and Cultural Heritage elements tangible and intangible
- Identify seasonal strengths/offering and traveller tribes -**Segmentation & creating Persona's**
- Market Low-Season Brilliance: Showcase unique low-season offerings with captivating visuals and stories EG Tahiti
- **Baby Steps...EG Rhodes, BGI, TFS**
- Track Success, Refine Strategy: Monitor progress towards goals like local engagement and traveller satisfaction



#### **Characteristics of Low Season Travellers**

- Appreciate <u>Cultural Heritage</u> tangible and intangible
- Engage with locals to truly understand destination
- Travel when others don't...
- Prefer <u>unique experiences</u>...
- The antithesis of "Fair weather travellers"
- Spend with <u>local</u> businesses
- More <u>considerate</u> and <u>appreciative</u> of local customs & traditions
- Reduce <u>economic leakage</u>
- Spend more time and money in destinations
- Fill empty hotel beds and empty seats...

#### The only way to responsibly increase tourism in future years





## Thank You

#### lowseasontraveller.com routesonline.com wtach.org thesunprogram.com











