

Most Googled destinations in 2013

By Frances Cha, CNN

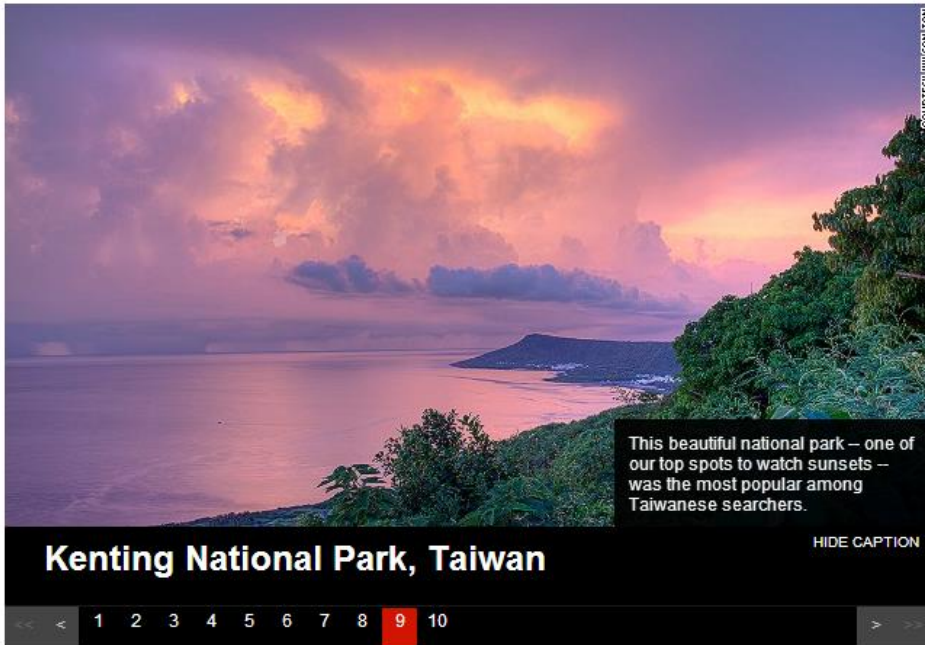
updated 4:30 AM EST, Wed December 18, 2013

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This beautiful national park — one of our top spots to watch sunsets — was the most popular among Taiwanese searchers.

Kenting National Park, Taiwan

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STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Google's year-in-review Zeitgeist list reveals most searched and trending destinations by country
- Mexico topped U.S. searches for destination wedding locations
- Local search info has most value for travelers



(CNN) — One country's dusty backyard is another country's dream vacation, according to Google's 2013 year-in-review list.

Published Tuesday, the Zeitgeist charts reveal the hottest travel destinations by country.

The data is divided into two kinds of lists. The first reflects the "trending" destinations -- those that show the greatest growth in searches when compared to last year -- while the second shows rankings of topics with the largest total search volumes.

Google is the world's most popular search engine, with 71% of the global search engine market share.

The roundup yielded some surprising results -- Macau was the most searched destination in India this year, for example.

In Australia the top destination was Disneyland, despite the fact that the closest Magical Kingdom is an ocean away in Hong Kong.

London topped the destination searches in the United Arab Emirates, while those in the UK were planning trips to Rome and New York.

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Video game worlds we want to visit

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These magical worlds may exist only in the virtual gaming world, but who wouldn't want to actually go?

Glamorous Christmas store windows

updated 10:29 PM EST, Tue December 10, 2013



Department stores in London, Paris and New York spent all year preparing these magical displays.

Cool hotel perks in Latin America

updated 10:51 AM EST, Tue December 10, 2013



Pillow menus, Wi-Fi included in room charge, made-to-order omelets at the breakfast buffet -- these are the ho-hum trappings hotels are offering these days to get your business.

Zeitgeist also analyzed the top destination wedding and honeymoon searches coming from the United States.

American couples wanted to head to the warm waters of Mexico, Bahamas and Kauai for their weddings, while New Zealand topped their honeymoon searches. Croatia rounded out the top 10 honeymoon list.

True value

"This info is gold if you want to really know what the local hotspots are," says Google spokesperson Joyce Hau.

"For instance, what island destination is the most popular amongst Thais in Thailand? Hint: it's not Koh Samui."

It's actually Koh Larn.

Despite having only a 3% market share in China, Google's study also looked at search queries there. Hangzhou and Suzhou were declared of greatest interest to travelers.

China will soon become the world's largest domestic travel market and account for 40% of all outbound Asian travelers according to a new study by the Boston Consulting Group.

Highlights for the most searched destinations around the world are below. You can see the full lists at [Google Zeitgeist](#).

Most searched destinations

Australia (search volume)

1. Disneyland
2. Dubai
3. China
4. London
5. Malaysia
6. Koh Samui
7. Phuket
8. Cambodia
9. Antarctica
10. Mecca

India (search volume)

1. Macau
2. Maldives
3. Mauritius
4. Bali
5. Boston
6. Dubai
7. Amsterdam
8. Singapore
9. Bangkok
10. Philippines

New Zealand (search volume)

1. Australia
2. Fiji
3. Vanuatu
4. Sydney
5. Bali
6. Mexico
7. Brisbane
8. Vietnam
9. New Caledonia
10. London

7 tips for successful solo travel

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"To awaken quite alone in a strange town is one of the pleasantest sensations in the world."

10 best places for Christmas

updated 7:50 PM EST, Fri December 13, 2013



Any old city can string up a few lights downtown and call it a celebration. From Finland to Mexico, Northern Lights to sunny skies, these places do Christmas better than the rest.

Final flight: DC-10 is retired

updated 8:51 PM EST, Thu December 5, 2013



Biman Bangladesh Airline will take star-crossed airliner on its last joy ride.

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Whistler, Chamonix, Aspen -- the best known winter sports resorts have become that for a reason.

Ranked: World's top cruises

updated 3:53 AM EST, Wed December 11, 2013



For would-be cruisers who just can't deal with choice overload, U.S. News and World Report has ranked the best cruise lines and ships by category.

Insider guide: Best of Budapest



More than just the merger of Buda and Pest, the Pearl of the Danube is also the cultural crossroads of Europe's east and west.

10 most dramatic ice skating rinks

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The best places to indulge our second-favorite thing to do with ice.

Is this Africa's most pristine place?

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Only 800 people a year are allowed to visit Namibia's bleak but beautiful Skeleton Coast, littered with whale bones and crumbling shipwrecks.

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United Arab Emirates (search volume)

1. London
2. Singapore
3. Madrid
4. Barcelona
5. Thailand
6. Doha
7. Beirut
8. Sydney
9. Cannes
10. Paris

United Kingdom (trending)

1. Rome
2. New York
3. Amsterdam
4. Palma
5. Magaluf
6. Bangkok
7. Sydney
8. Bruges
9. Venice
10. Mauritius

China (search volume)

1. Hangzhou
2. Suzhou
3. Jiuzhaigou
4. Wuzhen
5. Beijing
6. Yunnan
7. Tibet
8. Hong Kong
9. Shanghai
10. Taiwan

U.S. searches for destination wedding locations (trending)

1. Mexico
2. Bahamas
3. Kauai
4. Caribbean
5. Jamaica
6. Italy
7. Las Vegas
8. Florida
9. Costa Rica
10. Bermuda

U.S. searches for honeymoon locations (trending)

1. New Zealand
2. Cancún
3. Maldives
4. Bali
5. Thailand
6. Belize
7. St Lucia
8. Tahiti
9. Caribbean
10. Croatia

Top domestic travel destination searches, by search volume

1 **Billie Jean King**

2 **Harvard**

3 **Toronto Mayor Ro...**

4 **Wall Street**

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Thanks to science, there are more baby pandas



Twentieth Century Fox theme park announced

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Lonny Magazine



Japan (top Japanese destinations by Japanese users)

1. Disneyland
2. Universal Studios Japan
3. Tokyo DisneySea
4. Sky Tree
5. Isejingu (Ise Shrine)
6. Tokyo Dome
7. Fujikyuu Highland
8. Huis Ten Bosch
9. Izumo Taisha
10. Ooedo Hot Springs

Malaysia

1. Genting Highlands
2. Langkawi
3. Gold Coast Morib
4. Pulau Perhentian
5. Penang
6. Pulau Tioman
7. Port Dickson
8. Melaka
9. Kuching
10. Pulau Redang

Philippines

1. Sky Ranch Tagaytay
2. Movenpick Resort Cebu
3. Tubbataha Reef
4. Pico de Loro
5. Tugawe Cove Resort
6. Potipot Island
7. Amana Waterpark
8. Misibis Bay
9. Nuvali
10. Laiya resorts

Taiwan

1. Kenting
2. National Palace Museum
3. Wuling Farm
4. Yushan
5. Gongyuan
6. Lamay Island
7. Chateau in the Air, Miaoli
8. Jiufen
9. Huashan
10. Alishan

Thailand

1. Lahn Island
2. Asiatique
3. Siam Park
4. Chang Island
5. Accommodation in Hua Hin
6. Samed Island
7. Dream World Theme Park
8. Pattaya
9. Korea
10. Chiang Rai

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