



12 June 2013

MEDIA RELEASE:

UPTURN IN DOMESTIC HOLIDAY TRAVEL

Domestic overnight holiday travel recorded solid growth during the March quarter 2013, the latest *National Visitor Survey* has found.

The publication, released today by Tourism Research Australia (TRA) shows that overall domestic overnight trips were up one per cent to 19.8 million for the March quarter and two per cent to 74.6 million for the year, while visitor nights increased four per cent to 84.3 million for the quarter and two per cent to 285 million for the year.

Results for the March quarter 2013 show the number of overnight trips for holiday increased by six per cent, nights by 12 per cent and expenditure by 10 per cent.

"These results represent the strongest growth in holiday trips and nights since the March quarter of 2008," said Dr Jago, Chief Economist and General Manager of TRA.

"Results were also positive for overall domestic overnight trip expenditure with growth of three per cent to \$13.3 billion for the March quarter and one per cent to \$50.3 billion for the year ending March 2013."

Other key findings from the report for the year ending March 2013 include:

- Overnight trips to visit friends and relatives increased four per cent while expenditure increased seven per cent and visitor nights one per cent.
- There was a turnaround in the relative performance of domestic overnight interstate and intrastate travel. Interstate trips were up three per cent whereas the previously stronger performing intrastate market had growth of one per cent in trips.
- The domestic overnight drive market recorded growth of three per cent. In contrast, a decline in business patronage contributed to falls of one per cent in domestic overnight trips where air transport was used and visitor nights spent in hotel and motel accommodation.
- Domestic day trips increased two per cent to 171 million and day trip expenditure six per cent to \$18.1 billion.

The full *National Visitor Survey March 2013* publication can be accessed at: www.tra.gov.au.

Media contact:

tourism.research@ret.gov.au

02 6243 7745