



Q3 Tourism Review

July – September

2022

Kiribati Domestic Market

14773

maritime pax

28.4% ↑

compared to 11508 in
Q2 2022

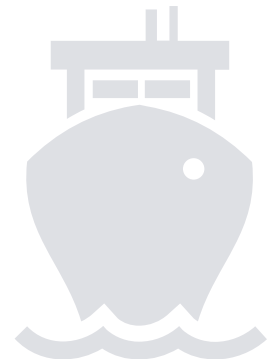
Abaiang

most visited island
(3892 pax)

The recorded number of passengers travelling via sea transport for this quarter was **14773**. This was a sustained increase in sea travel of 28.4% following an increase also in the previous quarter.

Although there was an increase of travellers this quarter, this figure could be significantly higher since there was no data available on the Line and Phoenix islands. September data was also unavailable.

Abaiang continued to be the most visited island by boat with **3892** pax given its close proximity to the capital of Tarawa.

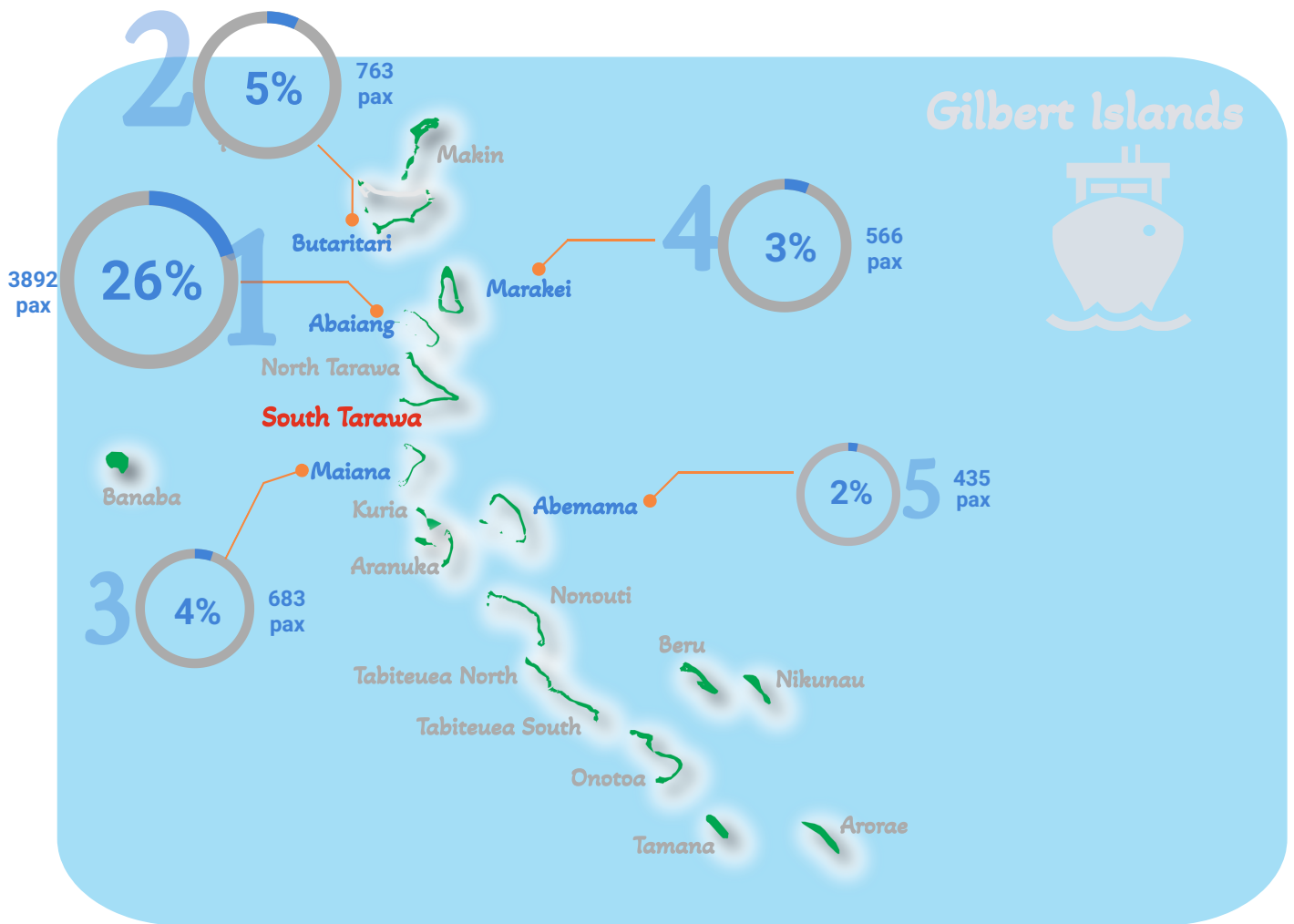


pax - passengers

Q2 - second quarter (April - June 2022)

MICT - Ministry of Information, Communications & Transport

Kiribati Domestic Market Maritime



Gilbert islands

Island	Pax
Abaiang	3892
Butaritari	763
Maiana	683
Marakei	566
Abemama	435

Table 1: Most visited outer islands (by ship & speed boat) in Q3 2022

Source: MICT - Marine Division


Notes;

- Maritime data is only based on vessels departing Betio and Bairiki ports only.
- Smaller vessels departing from other locations on South Tarawa are not included.
- Data unavailable for Line and Phoenix islands.
- Marine data unavailable for month of September

Kiribati Domestic Market **Air**

A total of **4215** air pax was recorded over this quarter. This shows an increase of **33.6%** in the number of air passengers compared to the previous quarter. This increase was the direct result of the addition of a 19-seater Vikings Twin Otter 400 series aircraft which began operations in July.

4215
air pax

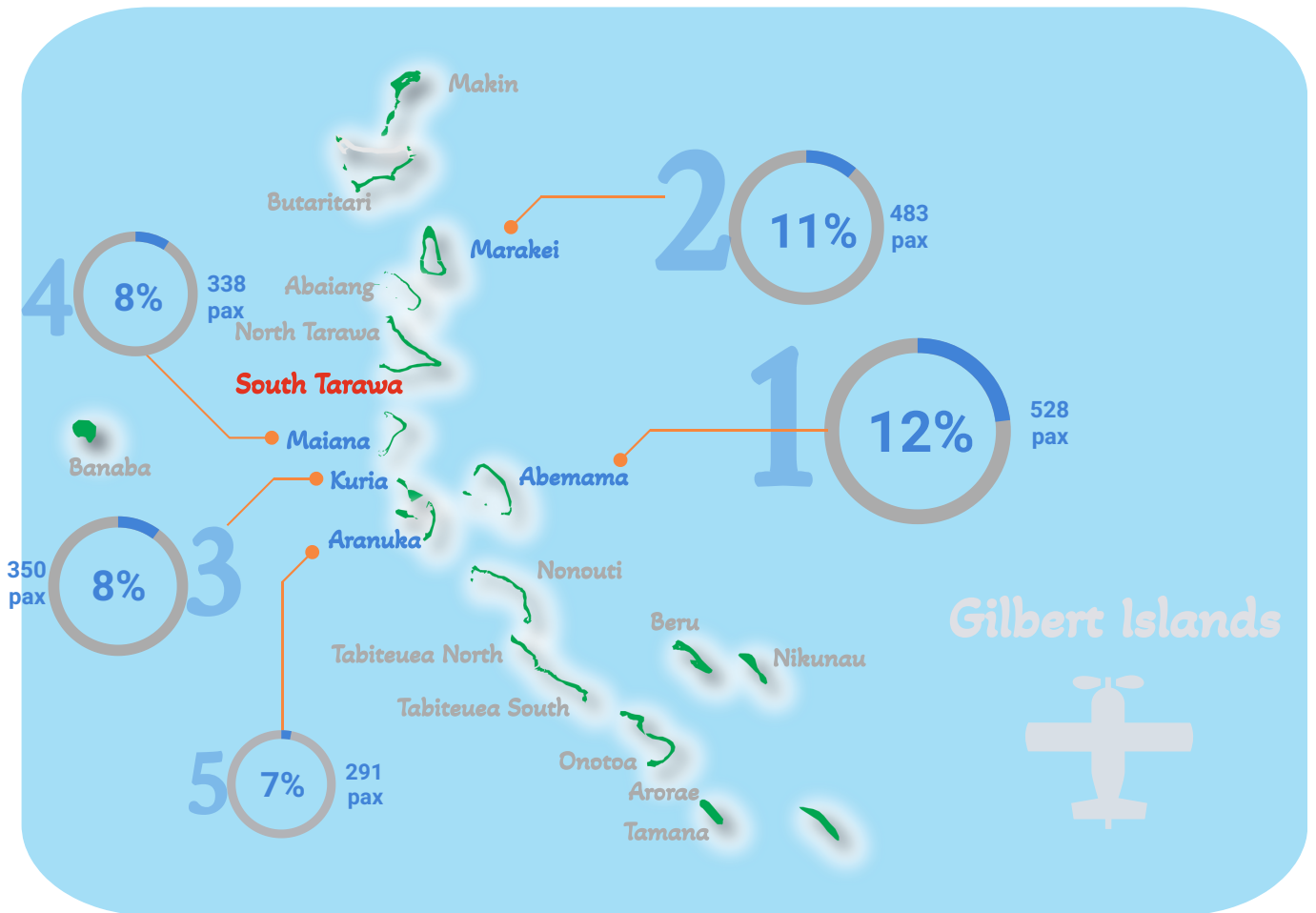
33.6% 
compared to Q2 2022

Source: Air Kiribati Limited

Note - air transport data is based only on flights out of Bonriki International Airport. Kiritimati domestic flights were suspended in Q4 2020.

The most visited island for this quarter was Abemama with **528** pax while the least visited was Arorae with only 86 pax. Of the islands visited during this quarter, the top five were Abemama, Marakei, Kuria, Maiana and Aranuka (table 2). With consistent flight schedules coupled with the opening of island borders, outer island travel is projected to increase into the next quarter.

Kiribati Domestic Market Air



Gilbert islands

Island	Pax
Abemama	528
Marakei	483
Kuria	350
Maiana	338
Aranuka	291



AKL - Air Kiribati Limited

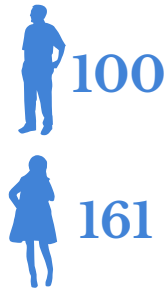
Table 2: Most visited islands by air in Q3 2022

Source: AKL

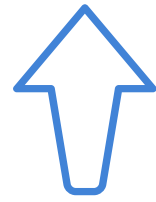
Supply

261

Directly employed in
tourism



11%



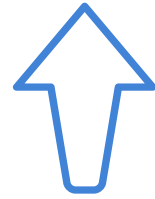
Increase in number of hotel workers

556

Rooms



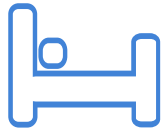
5%



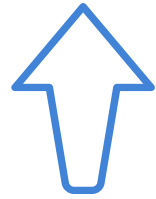
Increase in number of hotel rooms

927

Beds



3%



Increase in number of hotel beds

Number of accommodations increased to 58 properties in this quarter.

This was a results of 4 new properties being surveyed over this quarter. Two properties on Tarawa reopened when the international travel resumed on 8 August. These were Betio Lodge in Betio and Eniita Lodge in Temwaiku. Another two additional properties from Onotoa island were recently after being surveyed.

International Arrivals

Arrival by air with POV

Nationality	Work	Holiday	VFR	Others	Total
Pacific Islands	129	32	9	2	172
Australia	121	22	5	5	153
New Zealand	44	12	1	2	59
USA	36	15	2	1	54
Europe	12	3	2	1	18
China	15	0	2	0	17
Other Countries	10	1	1	0	12
Japan	7	1	0	0	8
UK	7	0	0	0	7
Asia	4	0	0	3	7
India	4	0	0	0	4
TOTAL	390	86	22	14	512

Source: MFAI

Table 3: Inbound passengers by air between July - September 2022



MFAI - Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Immigration

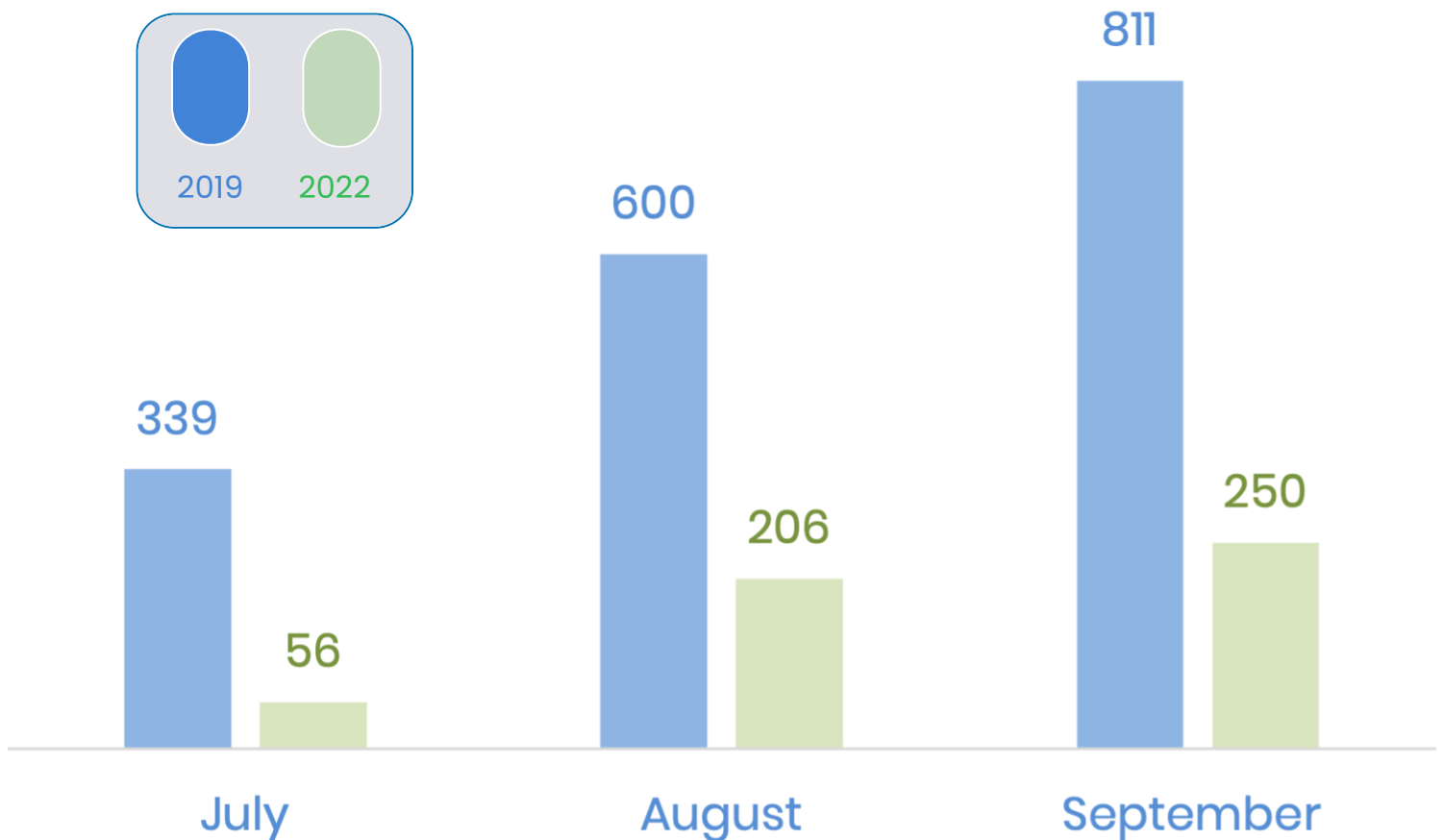
POV - Purpose of visit

512 visitors arrived into Kiribati over this quarter. With the international border reopening for Tarawa welcoming the first commercial flight on 8 August, this led to a 700% increase in arrivals compared to the previous quarter which recorded on 64 visitors.

Pacific Islanders topped the number of arrivals into Kiribati this quarter. Of these, Fijians were the most with 125 followed by Solomon Islands with 19 visitors crossing our borders.

International Arrivals

Comparison with 2019 visitor arrivals



The above graph is a comparison of this quarter's arrivals with pre-pandemic arrivals over the same period (i.e, Q3 2022 vs Q3 2019).

It is shown through these graphs that Kiribati visitor arrivals are steadily increasing and are at 29% pre-pandemic levels.

In Q3 2019, Tarawa had 1750 visitors.

Notes;

It should be noted that Kiritimati borders are still **closed** therefore the above comparison is only of the Tarawa arrivals.

International Departures

A total of **1584** passengers departed Kiribati for various reasons. 71% of these were Kiribati nationals. The main purpose for outbound travel for Kiribati residents were for Work (50%); VFR (20%) and Holiday (8%).

Nationality	Holiday	Work	VFR	Education	Others	Total
Kiribati	91	562	227	85	156	1121
Pacific Islands	5	36	9	1	100	151
Australia	10	58	1	3	44	116
NZ	5	22	2	0	31	60
USA	5	23	5	0	15	48
Asia	4	11	0	0	14	29
China	2	5	3	0	11	21
Japan	0	4	0	0	7	11
Europe	1	6	3	0	0	10
Others	1	2	2	0	4	9
UK	0	4	0	0	2	6
India	0	2	0	0	0	2
Total	124	735	252	89	384	1584

Source: MFAI

Table 4: Outbound passengers by air between July – September 2022

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