Quarter of travellers would 'consider' trips immediately once bans are lifted

In a survey conducted in April, nearly a quarter of international travellers (22%) said they would consider taking trips by air immediately once international travel bans are lifted, says Swiss research agency m1nd-set.

In the first of three articles, TRBusiness shares the highlights of a m1nd-set presentation made during the **hugely successful TRConnect Covid-19 webinar**, which attracted 899 registrations.

According to research carried out in April amongst 1,500 international travellers – representing over 50 nationalities and all regions of the world – 39% said they would consider travelling by air again in the first three months following a lift of travel bans.

Cumulatively this means that we could see up to 61% of international travellers taking flights in as little three months once airlines are permitted to resume their overseas operations.

BUDGET CUTS, NOT SAFETY, CITED FOR REDUCED BUSINESS TRAVEL

However, 20% did stipulate that it would take up to six months before they would feel comfortable taking international flights. Fourteen percent said it would be after six months and just 6% said they would feel confident making international trips once a whole year had passed after bans had been lifted.

Interestingly 33% of those surveyed said that they would consider travelling less or not at all for business purposes in the six months after travel bans are lifted, citing budget cuts and/or the economic slowdown as the reason.

Other reasons included; 'the share of online meetings will increase' and 'the flight combinations to reach my destination might be less convenient than before, due to lack of flights'.

When asked specifically if they would consider travelling less or not at all for leisure/holiday purposes in the first six months following a lift of travel bans, 41% agreed.

AVOIDING LARGE GATHERINGS

Those surveyed said that the main reasons for this included their preference to avoid crowds or large gatherings at airports, on the plane or at their destination as well to save money in the coming months.

Other reasons for this included a fear of many services, tourism spots and museums being closed and the fear of having less disposable income to spend whilst on holiday.

To read more about this presentation and to watch the entire TRConnect Covid-19 webinar, click here.